

Warren, Ohio

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING WARREN CITY COUNCIL

May 13, 2009

- CALL TO ORDER** The regular meeting of Warren City Council was called to order by Pro-Tem President of Council Robert L. Dean Jr. in Warren City Council Chambers at 7:30 PM, 141 South St. SE, Warren, Ohio.
- INVOCATION/PLEDGE** The meeting opened with prayer lead by 4th Ward Councilman Marti Morn and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ROLL CALL** MEMBERS PRESENT: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Barkley
- OFFICIALS PRESENT** Mayor O'Brien, Law Director Hicks, Treasurer Homlitas, Director Franklin
- DEPARTMENT HEADS** Captain Bowers for Chief Mandopoulos, Chief Nussle, Gary Cicero, Bob Pinti, Frank Tempesta, Bill Totten, Mike Keys, Chris Stephenson, Sal DiLiello, Tom Angelo, Renee Cicero, Lisa Mazzochi, Tom Gaffney
ABSENT: None
- MOTION FOR PRO-TEM** Motion Barkley, second Flask to have Alford Novak serve as Council Pro-Tem for tonight's meeting. VIVA VOCE VOTE: All yes; 0 no's. Motion passed. (Motion was made in the Caucus Room before the Regular Meeting).
- EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBER** Motion Novak, second Morn to excuse Councilman Crouse for good and sufficient reason. Roll Call Vote called for after 'no' vote heard.
- ROLL CALL** YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Barkley
NO: Hartman
- MOTION PASSED** 8 YES; 1 NO. Motion passed.
- MOTION-ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES** Motion Novak, second Dippolito to accept the minutes of the last meeting but dispense with reading of the same. VIVA VOCE: Yes; 0 No. Motion passed.

REPORTS

- MAYOR** MAYOR O'BRIEN: Thank you Mr. President. No report.
- LAW** MR. HICKS: Thank you no report.
- AUDITOR** MR. GRIFFING: Thank you. No report this evening.
- TREASURER** MR. HOMLITAS: Thank you. No report.
- DIRECTOR** MR. FRANKLIN: Thank you Mr. President. No report this evening.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- FIRE** CHIEF NUSSLE: Thank you Mr. President. I just wanted to talk about the fire that occurred April 28, 2009. It occurred approximately 3:30 in the morning where they had three handicapped residents trapped in a second floor and very courageous police officer attempted to rescue them prior to our arrival. What the

number 3 turn did that morning was a miracle. The training paid off. They violated safety SOP's because of the urgency of the situation. All twelve members including the safety officer were committed to a primary search and Assistant Chief Gary McBride summed it up best when he said this was the greatest day in the history of the Warren City Fire Department because we had never rescued four live residents. I can only commend their efforts and I know that we have three or four members from three turn that are in the crowd tonight. Captain Molinatto, Firefighter John McMillen, Firefighter Louie Parker, Firefighter Marc Titus; could you just stand for a moment and be recognized.

You have got to have guts and guts is enough. The efforts of Captain Younkins, Lt. Brown entered the second floor of the home via ladder without the advantage of aid of the hose line with zero visibility and recovered and removed two of the occupants. Their efforts are unparalleled. Words really cannot describe what really happened. I know what happened and I know that firefighters, the camaraderie of firefighting is associated with sports and I'm a die-hard sports fan and I grew up and my hero's were Willie Mays and Mickie Mantle and Terry Bradshaw, but we don't have to look too far to see the real hero's and they're sitting here in this room.

CLERK: Thank you Mr. President. Before I read those I would like to read an e-mail that was sent to me and asked me to read to all Warren City Council Members from Council President Robert Marchese.

Dear Members of Council,

Since Saturday, April 25th I have been recovering from three breaks in my right tibia bone and subsequent hospitalization and surgery at St. Joseph Hospital. Currently, I am recovering at home. Please excuse my absence tonight May 13th. I tentatively hope to return to Council's formal meetings on May 27th or no later than June 10th.

I urge Council to continue the very diligent work that finds our city at its most difficult period in its history. We are challenged to make difficult decisions because residents trust our choices and know that we have an obligation to do what is right for the future.

Please know that I am humbled by the calls, visits and cards received from many city workers; many I have never met before. I truly believe this experience will make me a better person.

Thank you for the work you are doing.

Robert A. Marchese
Warren City Council President.

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SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

C-11-09
5-5-09

Received from Ralph Infante, City of Niles, Ohio Mayor:

The 2008 annual report for Niles-Trumbull Transit System.

REF: All Council Members

A copy of this report is in the Clerk's office.

C-12-09
5-7-09

Received from the Ohio Department of Transportation:

A letter from Director Jolene Molitoris in response to the certified resolution she received from Warren City Council requesting an application be submitted for a federal stimulus grant to fund improvements necessary for a start-up passenger rail service linking Cleveland, Youngstown and Pittsburgh.

She writes the President made it clear that no decisions about where to allocate funds had yet been made. Any region can step up, present a plan and be considered. ODOT will be working closely with colleagues at the Ohio Rail Development Commission to ready a stimulus proposal for the 3-C Corridor and the Ohio Hub so that a clear message can be sent to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation that Ohio is ready for passenger rail.

REF: All Council Members

C-13-09
5-7-09

Received from Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District:

A notice stating the management district is launching a home composting program to enable us to care for the earth in our own backyards and reduce garbage going into landfills. A System Rain Barrel is being offered to residents for this purpose on Saturday, June 13, 2009 between 9AM and 4 PM at the district facility at 5138 Enterprise Blvd., Warren, Ohio.

REF: All Council Members

C-14-09
5-8-09

Received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control:

A transfer of a D1, D2, D3, D3A, D6 liquor license:

TO: D & F Entertainment LLC.
DBA The Dive Bar
948 Mahoning NW
Warren, Ohio 44483

FROM: Uncle Butters LLC
DBA Uncle Butters
948 Mahoning NW
Warren, Ohio 44483

REF: Alford Novak, 2nd Ward Councilman
Legislative Chairman
Police, Fire, Planning, Building, Health and Law
Depts.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS ON FILE IN THE CLERK OF COUNCIL OFFICE.

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM DEAN: We are now ready for our public speakers. We have eight this evening. I would ask when I call your name that you please speak in to the microphone; refrain from any personal direct attacks and extend the usual courtesy.

PUBLIC SPEAKING 7:40 PM

MICHAEL P. LARDIS, 414 Parkman Rd., Warren, Ohio: My name is Michael P. Lardis. I live at 414 Parkman Road, Warren, Ohio. Thank you for this opportunity to present my request to the Warren City Council. Currently the miscreant slumlords who have destroyed our city are prosecuted civilly. I ask the Warren City Law Director to undertake criminal prosecution of the Warren City slumlords which it's common practice in all adjacent Trumbull County municipalities. Thank you.

PORFIRIO C. TORRES III, 870 Packard St., Warren, Ohio: Porfirio Torres, 870 Packard Street. I'm just here to inform council that Warren Boxing Association in conjunction with the African-American Festival is, we're, we're putting on a fight show June 5th, six o'clock. It's in honor of one of our heroes, Bernard Ricks who passed away, what was it about three weeks ago. Yeah, something like that, yeah. He worked for the Sanitation Department and we wanted to honor him. The show is going to be free to the public so when you have something free to the public of course I'm looking for money so basically I'm asking for either leads or checks to help me put on this fight show. We're gonna have twelve bouts to showcase what we do down at the Warren Boxing Association. I believe it's going to be a good time and rain or shine we're gonna have it. So hopefully the forecast will say sunshine so I don't have to order the \$800. tent that we have just to cover the ring. So that's why I'm kind of begging a little bit for some money. Just to help us do it to maybe honor Mr. Ricks and his family for their service to the city. Alright, thank you.

BILL GADD, 1902 Arthur NW, Warren, Ohio: Thank you Mr. President. My name is Bill Gadd, 1902 Arthur Drive. At the Council meeting on April 22nd I stood right here and I told you due to the actions of our city government history would repeat itself. I'm sure you all remember that. Unfortunately it did. Now here we sit three weeks later and yet another meeting of City Council and the staff levels are at exactly where they were. Every elected official in this room needs to go home tonight and ask yourself two questions: the first being, why didn't I act when I was advised that history would repeat itself? The second what can I do to correct this problem before somebody else gets hurt or has to die? I can answer the second question for you. Make your number one priority safety and find the means to bring minimum (inaudible) back up to seventeen firefighters where it belongs. Councilman Dean said and I quote the layoff of eleven firefighters on January 1st is the blame for the length of time it took to get help, you can't just say things just happen. This is what happens. Officers get hurt and eleven year olds get killed. End quote. Sounds to me like Mr. Dean is starting to get it. It's time to quit talking and start acting and fix these problems.

(inaudible) elected officials and mayors to cut funding for fire service but so often the short-sidedness leads to disaster for taxpayers and firefighter service expected to operate as usual without the required personnel. On the light side firefighter (inaudible) back on. They track and report firefighter death and injuries so that we don't make the same mistakes twice. After hearing (inaudible) right here in Warren they published an article on their website. They entitled it 'Fire House Roulette Rolls In To Warren'. Fire House Roulette Rolls In To Warren. On Friday another community with fire service reductions experienced (inaudible) confusions as another fire took lives. This time in Marion, Ohio in an apartment building killed a two year old baby and her five year old brother. However it seems as though that mayor finally gets it, he said and I quote, 'We can talk about budget and job losses all we want, but lets put things in perspective, two very young lives were lost at that fire and that's going to affect that family forever.' End quote. Flint, Michigan firefighters respond to a house fire and while fighting the fire and attempting to reach a trapped man three firefighters suffered second degree burns. The victim died in that fire. A nearby station could have been there much faster but as part of Flint laying off 23 firefighters the nearest station was not manned. It's time to learn from your mistakes. What happens to one department can (inaudible) other departments sooner or later. You have repeatedly been made aware of the safety concerns of your fire department now it's time to do your job and take actions right now to prevent the future loss of life and property to our residents in this city. Thank you.

DEBBIE CLAIR, 222 Marwood SE, Warren, Ohio: My name is Debbie Clair. I live at 222 Marwood SE in Warren. At the recent 'enough' rally in Warren Mayor O'Brien appeared with other politicians complaining about lost jobs. However, when one hundred firefighters marched to City Hall about lost jobs the day before the rally, the Mayor did not appear nor did one elected representative from this city council. Rumor has it the City of Warren is planning on laying off seventeen more firefighters June 1st. I say enough. Why is it always the men and women who protect us who are the first ones to go? It's time to get serious and find out who's essential in this city and who is not. We had a police officer and three victims (inaudible) at the Bonnie Brae fire who are fighting for their lives. How many more innocent children will lose their lives? How many more deaths and serious injury will occur because of the shortages in public safety? Response time is everything. Seconds can mean the difference between life and death. It is a lame excuse to say the Bonnie Brae tragedy occurred because two firemen called off. You could have had two or ten firefighters on a pumper, it still would have taken five minutes to arrive from downtown. If the Atlantic fire station had been open it would have made a huge difference in response time and had a different outcome. Citizens should demand a safe city and if you don't have a strong public safety force, you have nothing. Families will not remain here. Businesses will not come back and start up their businesses. You have gangsters with high powered rifles who have taken over an entire section of the city. It is unacceptable. It is ironic. The politicians in Washington DC this week are honoring fallen officers and those who wear a badge during National Law Enforcement Week, however,

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Barack Obama (inaudible) get benefits for families for fallen officers behalf. These police officers and firefighters, those who are in the face of danger, run toward it while others run away desire better from all of us. And I would suggest to you to sit down and find a way to bring back the police and fire back to full strength and reopen fire stations in this city. Find out where the money went. Find it and get them back to work.

I personally know how fast you can do some things but you wouldn't want to and the only way you can preserve this city, face danger and make tough decisions every day (Timer goes off)

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM DEAN: That is the end of your three minutes and I thank you very much.

LYNN PARKER, 1816 Irene NE, Warren, Ohio: Thank you Mr. President. My name's Lynn Parker, 1816 Irene. I've sat through council meetings for the past year and I've listened to budget hearings and talked to different people in this city; business people and other residents. Certain things come to my attention that should be brought out since nobody else wants to bring it out and that's our Engineering Department; our building inspectors department. We have no standard. What one business is approved to do another business can't do. We've got to get our building inspector, our engineering department to have one standard for every business in this city. You're forcing people to leave. They're not expanding. If people leave the city and don't expand there's no jobs going to come in to this town and people are leaving because there's no work. Our building inspector, if he doesn't like you, you're not going to get a permit. If he gets a bug today, what he told you yesterday makes no difference. And I can name you ten businesses that (inaudible) couldn't come in to this city because of the actions of the engineering and building inspectors areas. Without that money that's why we have firemen and policemen laid off. I don't want to see another fireman laid off. I don't want to see another cop laid off.

Mr. Dean has brought up ways to raise money. Everybody laughed at it. Everybody said no, no, no, but is anybody else on this council coming up with a suggestion to raise money not just work, cut projects but to keep people working. If you gotta raise taxes, you gotta raise taxes. If you gotta tax cigarettes and alcohol, do it. Do something. Don't be afraid because the elections are coming that might mean the difference. If you can raise money, you gotta suggest it. Do something. Don't just sit and stair at the walls. Don't just go home and say oh, that's one for another meeting, next two weeks is another meeting. Look at what we need. We need our police and fire; we need safe streets; we need a clean Warren. We need healthy people to come in and want to work; to want to live here and without that we might as well just all go move to Niles or Bazetta or Howland. We won't have nothing in this city, but we gotta wake up. We've got to get organized. You've got to get a direction. City Council needs to set a direction that they want this city to go. I know the Mayor's office can't do it. The Safety Director can't do it. The treasurer can't do it. But we as residents can help City Council if we show up for meetings and we say we don't want to hear this and we don't want to see it. We want people working (Timer goes off) Thank you.

EDITH SMITH, 1758 Milton St., Warren, Ohio: Good evening. Hope is everyone. Well I'm fine too thank God. What I would like to say, I live at 1758 Milton Street, Warren, Ohio. My problem may seem like very small, but to us it's very, very large and it's about that tree. Mr. Franklin, he told me what the plan was and I certainly appreciate it and I thank him ever so much.

Now the next question, I don't know how true it is, but I understand that the 4th Ward has gotten money for it. I'm not sure, I don't know. But if they have I'd like to know what it will be used for. Can anyone answer that?

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM DEAN: Miss Smith as soon as council is over I'll have Council Member Pugh if he would spend a little bit of time with you along with the Safety Director.

DIRECTOR FRANKLIN: I can probably address it along with the help of Mr. Keys. I believe that's the money Miss Smith is referring to-Thank you Mr. President. Yes, Miss Smith there is some money that's going to be available actually to all the city. The 4th Ward is one of those wards where we're concentrating some of the Neighborhood Stabilization Funds. Mr. Keys can tell you the scope of what that money can be used for. We talked about that and Councilwoman Morn was present at Fife Hall when we talked about it as well. Mr. Keys can probably give a brief description of what that money can be used for.

MR. KEYS-C.D. DIRECTOR: Mr. President. How are you ma'am? The City of Warren has received approximately two million dollars in what's called Neighborhood Stabilization Program money. With that money we're allowed to do three things. We can do demolitions. We can do housing rehab; we can acquire housing and rehab it or we can assist people in purchasing vacant properties. The grant agreements have been signed by the Mayor. They're on their way to Columbus. We'll receive notice from Columbus hopefully in the next week or two and we'll be

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starting the process. The majority of that money and Council's aware of this and for the residents that are here, the majority of that money we're going to use for demolitions. We're going to try to get down as many of the old dilapidated homes in this city as we possibly can until the money runs out. I have set aside some money to assist people that might want to purchase some of these homes and live in them and we will assist them with down payment assistance and closing costs up to five thousand dollars if they would like to buy a vacant house to live in. And that's what we are planning on doing with this wave of money. Now there's a second wave of money that's coming out now we just got the reg's on and we'll be looking to see what we can do with that. But that's what I'm assuming that you are referring to when you say money going into the different areas. That's what it is.

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM DEAN: Miss Smith if you can remain for a few minutes when we're finished, we have a short agenda. We shouldn't be here long and Mr. Keys will be more than happy to talk a little slower to you and explain what he just said.

MISS SMITH: Thank you ever so much. I thank certainly appreciate it.

JOE DEUBLE, 1796 Norwood NW, Warren, Ohio: My name's Joe Deuble. I live at 1796 Norwood NW in Warren. Tonight I want to talk about a few statements that have been made to the press the past few weeks. A statement was made that the Atlantic Street fire station was open three times the prior week, the week prior to the Bonnie Brae fire. In actuality the Atlantic Street station has been open twice the month of April. One time was after the fire. Another statement was made that the safety forces uses 99.3% of the general funds. In reality they use 55% of the general fund. I believe that may have been somebody misspeaking that meant to say the income tax which I understand has now gone up. But these numbers are according to the amended budget. Another statement was that if we brought back all the safety forces there wouldn't be any other city workers. But I just can't believe that 150 safety employees cost the same as 300 other city employees. It can't be true. Knowing everyone that was just in the paper on Monday that if the funding to Packard Music Hall was cut, eliminated, it wouldn't bring back one cop or one fireman and that's ones almost true because it would bring back three.

And then lastly I just have a couple of questions; my first question is, what is the plan? What are we going to do to get out of this mess that we're in? I hear a lot of talking about we're working on this, we're working on that. Well something needs to be done and I think the plan is a good place to start. Secondly I'd like to know what has been done to bring the safety forces back to appropriate staffing levels? From where I see it, nothing's been done, but if there's something in the works, I'd like to know about it and I'm sure the rest of the citizens would. And the last thing that I'm going to leave you with here is a statement that was made that the response time to Bonnie Brae was only a minute difference, only a minute. I'd like everybody in this room to go home tonight and hold your breath for a minute and after you hold your breath for a minute go and take that deep breath and then ask yourself what happens now if nobody comes? Thank you.

LARRY DUEBER, 1747 Estabrook NW, Warren, Ohio: Larry Dueber, 1747 Estabrook on the northwest side of Warren. In response to some of the things mentioned tonight, I know we know the federal stimulus money coming that will help our police department and there were questions for a time that would any of that, any money be available for our fire department. And we heard yesterday that a possibility strongly exists that there will be funds available for the fire department that will help. The only problem will be it's not, this is temporary money, it's not going to be permanent to fund these departments beyond a couple years, so that's something you would have to work on. So that is good news there.

I've recommended in the past and I'm going to recommend again tonight with the budgetary problems we've got and we know the income tax situation we've got with so many businesses laying off and who knows how many more, I think we need a, from top to bottom, a complete analysis of every single city department. It's time to do that and look and see not just short term, but long term. We're talking about right sizing our city to the steering committee working with the Proggemeyer Group a study we had done shows that a projection over the next ten years we stand to lose another two to three thousand citizens which would bring us down to between forty thousand, forty-one thousand people. We need to be looking at each department. Do we have the right number of people in the department? in each of these departments? How can we save funds?

Income tax, like any others in the room have as good a chance becoming president, better chance of becoming President of the United States than getting an income tax increase. You know that is not going to happen. There's all kinds of talks about more lay-offs, wage, give-up, give-backs, possibilities there. That has to be decided by you people. But I really think we need to talk the time, analyze the complete operation of our city to go forward from there. Thank you Mr. President.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. The Finance Committee met yesterday at 4 PM and reviewed the agenda for today’s meeting. There were no recommendations made as far as passage on any of those drafts that are on this evenings agenda, but I would like to thank council member Hartman for agreeing to table Draft 2879 to allow some discussion on that and allow Councilman Barkley to do some additional research on that. But we did have a lot of discussion and felt we needed another meeting and quickly.

We will be scheduling for next Wednesday at 4 PM a Finance Committee meeting and on that agenda we will have Draft 2879 which is the draft Councilwoman Hartman will be tabling tonight. Also we will be discussing the income tax revenue collections, also the proposal by the county engineer for the additional permissive license plate tax. Also I have asked for information concerning the cost of the bargaining and non-bargaining pension pick-up. That’s been provided to me by Mr. Cicero and we will be discussion those and other issues and again I’m just asking that we need to sit down, we see the situation that we’re in together and it’s going to take sacrifice. So I think this is what we need to talk about and hopefully we get a good attendance at that meeting and if there’s anything else anyone would like to see place on that agenda, please let me know after the meeting or call me at home. Thank you Mr. President.

POLICE & FIRE

MRS. HARTMAN: Just wanted to call a Police and Fire meeting, May 22nd, 3:30-

MR. BARKLEY: Councilwoman, could you repeat that one more time so-

MRS. HARTMAN: May 22nd at 3:30. We will be discussing the proposals that Chief Mandopoulos gave us in the police department and also Mr. Dean’s vicious dog ordinance to be put on the agenda also. Thank you.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. Just a report on the sub committee. Just a reminder in the chambers next Tuesday at 6:30 the Council’s of Government will be meeting. We have a speaker here concerning the consolidation of purchasing and other regionalization issues. I hope we can have a good attendance on that and we also in the future will be looking at discussion on the regionalization of safety forces within the counties. Thank you Mr. President.

PACKARD MUSIC HALL

MR. FLASK: Thank you Mr. President. Packard Music Hall Committee met Monday at 5:30 PM. Discussion on the tabled draft by Councilman Crouse who wished that it remain tabled and notes are on file in the clerk’s office. Thank you.

RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

DRAFT 2894 HARDING BASKETBALL TEAM AND CHEERLEADERS

A resolution for the purpose of honoring and commending the 2008-2009 Warren G. Harding High School Boys Basketball Team and Cheerleaders.

Mrs. Rucker requests the clerk to read Draft 2894 in its entirety.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Rucker, second Barkley to pass Draft 2894.

ROLL CALL

YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Barkley

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NO: None.

PASSED
RES. 4422/09

9 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 2894 is now RES. 4422/09.

Presentation of the resolutions for the basketball team and cheerleaders was given by Councilwoman Rucker, Director Franklin and Mayor O'Brien to Coach Arnold and numerous other coaches.

MOTION-REMOVE TABLED DRAFTS Motion Barkley, second Novak to remove from Council files tabled Drafts 2722, 2728, 2743, 2786A.

ROLL CALL YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Rucker, Dean, Dipolito, Novak, Barkley

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 9 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. The above referenced drafts are removed.

LEGISLATION FOR PASSAGE

**DRAFT 2897
HOMELESSNESS
PREVENTION & RAPID
RE-HOUSING GRANT**

An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Service and Safety, on behalf of the City of Warren, to enter into written agreement(s) with Catholic Charities Regional Agency and Coleman Professional Services to administer the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Pugh requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2897.

READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND THREE READINGS Motion Pugh, second Barkley for suspend the rule of three readings on Draft 2897.

ROLL CALL YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Rucker, Dean, Dipplito, Novak, Barkley

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 9 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE Motion Pugh, second Morn to pass Draft 2897.

REMARKS

MRS. RUCKER: Just to repeat for the citizens what Mr. Keys said in the back this money is stimulus money, it's half a million dollars, and it will go towards paying utilities and counseling and even some vouchers for people who are homeless and may live in, have to live in hotels and I think this is a win-win for our city. It's kind of unexpected money, but it's free money and one of the most important things is the partnership with the Catholic Charities and the Coleman Professional Services and the fact that they will report to council monthly. Thank you Mr. President.

ROLL CALL YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Rucker, Dean, Dipolito, Novak, Barkley

NO: None.

PASSED
ORD. 12190/09

9 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 2897 is now ORD. 12190/09.

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**DRAFT 2898
TREAT SEWAGE FLOWS
IN HOWLAND NO. 2**

An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Service and Safety, for and on behalf of the City of Warren, to enter into an agreement(s) with Trumbull County/Trumbull County Commissioners for the purpose of having the City of Warren accept and treat sewage flows generated in the county sewer subdistrict known as Howland No. 2 and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Hartman requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2898.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND
THREE READINGS

Motion Hartman, second Morn to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 2898.

ROLL CALL

YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Barkley

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

9 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Hartman, second Novak to pass Draft 2898.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL

YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman,
Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Barkley

NO: None.

PASSED
ORD. 12191/09

9 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 2898 is now ORD. 12191/09.

THIRD READING

**DRAFT 2879
MOTION TO TABLE**

Motion Hartman, second Barkley to table Draft 2879.

ROLL CALL

YES: Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman,
Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Barkley

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

9 YES; 0 NO. Motion to table Draft 2879 passed.

MISCELLANEOUS 8:21 PM

MR. NOVAK

Thank you Mr. President. I would like to bring up a couple issues. There's some constituents here this evening. First of all if you haven't noticed, if I hadn't have gotten a call from a few folks I wouldn't have seen it, of course once I put the TV on I would have. Time Warner now has moved in the last couple months at least five channels from expanded basic up to the digital section of cable which requires you to pay additional funds. I think it's ridiculous in the financial situation that we are all in here in this city, county, state and country that affordable entertainment is available to people, especially people that are homebound or that enjoy watching television. The latest was the game show network which was moved from the expanded basic to the digital format. I would like to see us have a public utilities meeting and have a representative come in from Time Warner because we need to have some information about what's taking place and they put additional in the early hours, additional infomercials are on the

channels now. So you've lost more viewing time. Nobody wants to look at infomercials and unfortunately there's some people that are up late at night and watch TV at night that work shifts. I think we need to have a discussion with this because you know I know that some people, they don't think this is important, but for what we're paying we can go right to Niles and see those folks paying twenty dollars less a month than we pay and they have a lot better selection in their expanded basic. So I think we need to have some discussion on this.

Also, too I would like to thank Mr. Pinti informed me that he applied to a couple of our non-profits for some equipment for grass cutting and he received his full request and I appreciate those non-profit groups awarding that equipment to us. And also they've been out already doing some grass cutting and I know we're going to be finding more. My son and I were out Sunday cutting and I found another house on Hall Avenue that I didn't even know was empty. And the neighbors told me these folks left the beginning of April. So we're going to be finding more houses yet. So again thanks to those groups for aiding us in this grass cutting and neighborhood clean-ups cause it does make a difference. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. BARKLEY

Thank you Mr. President. Just real briefly, I see Council Members received in their mailbox a letter from the Wean Foundation inviting you to be a meeting on Tuesday, June 9th and this is in reference to the Community Wealth Building Advisory Committee that the Wean Foundation formed. I want to invite Council Members to attend if you can. I actually have been a sitting member of that committee representing Warren through this process and they have engaged the development fund to come in and do an assessment. And what they're looking for is how do you address home ownership and low income issues in the Mahoning Valley altogether and (inaudible) the communities through the process and they're going to release some of their findings at a press conference on and then have a meeting that follows. And you've all been invited and I'd just like to extend that invitation and let you know that through me we have been a participant in this process and if there's any interest you're welcome to join me on that day, I'll be there as well. So that is in the letter, but it's Tuesday, June 9th at McMenamy's. There's a press conference at 11 AM and then the lunch convenes at 11:45 and they're going to conclude at 4 PM and there's going to be a lot of discussion and kind of a workshop atmosphere to go over the results of what the Wean has been doing with this committee over the past year or so. With that said, thank you.

MRS MORN

Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to extend a little bit more on what Mr. Novak said. The organization that we reached out to was the Trumbull 100. Through their generosity we will be able to, we purchased actually one grass hog, four commercial lawn mowers and four weed whackers for the county to use to do the clean-ups. Also we had that big clean-up on Vine Street, the Vine Street residents. The girl scouts and the Belmont. Very concerned citizens cleaned the bike trail between Belmont and Cottage Court and not only did they pick up all the trash that was there, they actually took down all the vegetation that was growing there. They're going to dig it all up and they're going to plant some seeds. The seeds came out of Jackson, Texas. There's a Methodist Church down there who read about the clean-up on line and they sent seeds up there for us to use.

Lastly on May 20th at 6:30 PM, Packard Shelter, Mr. Novak and I are going to be holding the joint 4th and 6th Ward meeting and the agenda we have is crime, the street walkers, the Packard Car Show; you know talk about a citywide clean-up and volunteers and we're going to do a, I think someone's going to come in and talk about the empty houses and the grass cutting. Thank you.

MR. FLASK

Thank you Mr. President. Mr. Novak as chair of Public Utilities, I made a phone call I believe it was yesterday to our clerk to request the contract with Time Warner for that same reason and I was going to call

the Law Department and didn't get to it, so I will now ask the Law Department if they will be able to get a copy of that contract.

LAW DIRECTOR HICKS: There is none. There is no longer a franchise agreement. That went out several years ago when AT & T sued to have right of ways for when, when your cable companies got in to the phone company business. The phone companies decided to get into the cable business. You know longer have franchises, you no longer have any control over that. They totally devised that in federal government.

MR. FLASK: Well then you will be happy to come to a meeting and explain that to this committee?

LAW DIRECTOR HICKS: There's nothing more than what I just said.

MR. FLASK: Well then I will do this. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. PUGH

Thank you Mr. President. Community Concerned Citizens too had a clean-up last, last Saturday and we're pleased to announce we had a turnout, but we could have used a lot more people. I'd also like to announce that the Southwest Neighborhood Group is having a clean-up this Saturday at nine o'clock meeting at Highland and Oak at Gate's facility right there to clean up in that area. If anybody's with time and concerned, please attend. Thank you Mr. President.

MRS. HARTMAN

Yes, I would just like to ask, the new grant coordinator that we hired and that we have on board now, is she looking for specific department grants? I know speaking with some members of the fire department we found out that the billings grant which the police department has been using for years has an arson component in there. Where maybe we could put an arson team on with the number of increased arsons we've had through this grant. We have excellent men in that department. They have in both departments they have been looking for grants. The police department has more experience at it and they know a certain grant they can go back to year after year. It's kind of a new territory for our fire department to be looking for them in Warren police specifically. Some of our (inaudible) review grants that we will be able to help them together. So if we have the grant coordinator here she could please look in to these new grants that are available and see if there's any way we could even keep job titles. You know maybe you have an education team slash firefighter. It would be a new position and we could bring back certain people to fill those with the grants. We just need to keep looking. Mr. Gadd was here last meeting; I think everybody was here the last round of layoffs knew what he was saying was going to happen. I just don't think any of us realized it was going to happen quite as quickly as it did. And to have these numbers drop for whatever reason can be leveled out we're hearing out there would be catastrophic for our city. I just think it needs to be a priority. Thank you.

MAYOR O'BRIEN: Thank you Mr. President. Mrs. Hartman regarding the grants writer. There was two meetings with her today regarding fire writing grants, safety grants particular. Number two, the second meeting was with the administration and the auditor with her. She's a grants writer, by the way, not a grant coordinator. But the issue was on creative grant writing for those point that you are raising. As far as arson investigation; as far as police grants and as fire personnel are involved in that. If there is a way that the grant could be reshaped to extend to fire departments as well as just police departments. So that specific question was asked of her and she seems to be of the sense that creative grant writing that she has experienced over the years she'll be able to perform some of these tasks for that particular task of arson investigation. In particular with all the departments. I think that the department heads can relate their experiences with her and specifically and Chief Bowers relationship to her experience in grant writing and years ago a department head, police chief or fire chief would bring to

the attention grant capabilities. I think experience now is this grant writer now is bringing it to the attention of the department heads. That this is (inaudible) Captain Bowers is an experienced grant writer himself, but Melinda Holsopple is bringing to the attention of every department in the city potential in grant writing and grants that are out there; state, federal and a combination of all those grants together. So she's looking at those very same issues and I appreciate your thought on that. She's looking at those very same issues. That very same meeting was today at 11:30 regarding those issues. Thank you.

MRS. RUCKER

Thank you Mr. President. I too called Time Warner twice in the past year concerning the five shows that were dropped in two different equations, like ten shows and I did say to them that Council would probably want to meet with them. The manager did call me back and very hesitant, but he said he would meet with us. So I think that's something that should be done.

Thank you for your support on Draft 2897. Thank you Mr. Pugh and Miss Morn for bringing that forward. Also like to thank all the firefighters who responded to the Bonnie Brae fire. Thank you so much for being so courageous.

I'd like to call a meeting for the One Stop Committee next Tuesday at 4 PM, in Council Caucus Room to discuss the city departments. Council Members and interested department heads and the administration are invited. Thank you.

MR. DEAN

Chief you're absolutely right to the four of you who (inaudible) at the Akron Burn Center and we hugged Jessie Hipple. There's a human side of you guys that not many people get to see. We know the professional side but the human side is something that will stay with me forever and ever. With respect to Lloyd McCoy Jr., this young man who was captain of his football team; captain of his basketball team; captain of his baseball team; eleven years old. After he was fatally wounded he's had three surgeries; six days on a ventilator and died uselessly. Sgt. Gary Riggins and I felt bad cause we didn't know what else to do so we just stopped by and asked the parents if there was anything we could help with. And Lloyd McCoy said there's one thing we can't do, we can't go in and clean up that house. Gary Riggins called Stanley Elkins and said those guys that do the community service, is there any way they could come by and maybe help clean this house up? Stanley Elkins sent those four young men to help clean up this bullet ridden house and Grandmother Olla said to us, you know out of everything bad, something good happens. And if there's anything good that's happened out of all of that, these four young men had to look at what I think were 39AK 47 shots completed through a house and listen to a mother whose heart was as heavy as it could be talk to them about changing their lives. Four young men all doing over a thousand hours of community service for absolutely dumb reasons. No reasons to be in trouble sent to Mrs. McCoy for half an hour.

Hardest thing I ever had to do in my life because nobody else could do it was spread Clorox on the floor and clean up the bathroom and I said to myself and I hope everybody has said to themselves, don't know that there's anything we can ever do to prevent this kind of stuff, but we sure ought to be thinking that maybe there is. Maybe collectively we can get our heads together and say, we just can't say there's nothing we can do. There ought to be something we can do.

On November the 9th, 2005 we invited Officer Hipple here and he was reluctant. I believe he was ordered to come here. And I want to read you what I said when he was here. I believe it was two council meetings ago I mentioned an officer who's last name was Hipple. I think his name appeared in the paper as an orchid by the editorial board of the Tribune as Hippie, they got it wrong again. For that for the first time in his life and career was involved in a situation that called for extreme talent, extreme patience and extreme amount of valor. The first time I road with Officer Hipple was on May 20, 2004. At that time

we arrived at a scene where two people had been shot. One in the head and one was bleeding profusely and a seventeen year old who was shot twice in her back forever paralyzed. Officer Hipple was the only one

on the scene and took charge of that scene organizing it in a way that prevented future damage to that young lady. A couple of weeks ago I observed Officer Hipple standing next to a man who was straddled on the Summit Street Bridge bent on committing suicide. Officer Hipple at that time was talking to him and leaning forward. I'm not sure that he ever had any training in this area, but he was engaged in conversation. This went on for about fifteen minutes. Officer Hipple reached out two minutes later, grabbed the arm and brought this man safely to the sidewalk. Now if you look down beneath that bridge, there's not enough water to support a full, grown human being, particularly if that full grown man has fallen on his head, head and shoulders, it probably would have killed him. It probably would have killed both of them. I don't think Officer Hipple ever thought about that. The only thing that Officer Hipple thought about was bringing that young man off that bridge safely. He didn't think about his own life only about saving another's life. I don't know how many actually do that, but he did it without a second thought. And as I said afterwards, the thing that amazed me most of all after everything was sorted out, Officer Hipple got in his car and went on to his next call. And we thanked Officer Hipple and he was trying to walk away and the Chief said 'wait a minute, come back here'. Doug if you'll step back here for a moment, this is not the first time that Officer Hipple has done something like this.

There was a situation the other day where a young man doused himself with gasoline; the young man pulled out a cigarette lighter and threatened to light the cigarette and burn himself to death. At the same moment Officer Hipple wrestled the cigarette lighter out of the young man's hand, the sparks alone were probably enough to have ignited both human beings.

Officer Hipple has been fighting for his life for the last two weeks. He is in critical condition and I would like for all of us to take just a couple minutes and sincerely pray for Officer Doug Hipple.

Thank you all very much.

ADJOURNMENT 8:40 PM

**MOTION FOR
ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Novak, second Barkley to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM.
VIVA VOCE: Yes; 0 No.

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Robert L. Dean Jr., President Pro-Tem of Council

Darla K. Neugebauer, Clerk of Council, C.M.C.
