

Warren, Ohio
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WARREN CITY COUNCIL
March 25, 2015

CALL TO ORDER The regular meeting of Warren City Council was called to order by President of Council James Graham in Warren City Council Chambers at 7:00 PM, 141 South St. SE, Warren, Ohio.

PLEDGE/ INVOCATION Cheryl Saffold, 6th Ward Councilwoman opened the meeting with prayer given by Evangelist Merlene Dawson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL MEMBERS PRESENT: Saffold, Colbert, Valesky, Sferra, Rucker, Larson, Novak, Brown, Bartholomew, Flask, Graham.

MOTION-ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES Motion Valesky, second Saffold to accept previous minutes as recorded by our Council Clerk and to dispense with the reading of the same.

Viva voice 10 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Franklin, Director Cantalamessa, Law Director Hicks, Auditor Griffing, Treasurer Homlitas

DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT: Chief Merkel, Chief Nussel, Bob Davis, Bob Pinti, LeeAnn O'Brien, Paul Makosky, Ed Haller.

ABSENT: Brian Massucci, James Black, Mike Keys, Tom Gaffney

REPORTS

MAYOR MAYOR FRANKLIN: Thank you Mr. President. First I'd like to start off by congratulating – I know I've mentioned this before; our Utilities Director Bob Davis for being inducted – his future induction into the distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. Congratulations Bob.

And also I'd like to just give you a little update. I spent a lot of time in Operations Department today regarding the "Blitz" – the "Pot Hole Blitz". And I know most Council Members and Department Heads particularly in Operations have been bombarded with calls regarding the pot holes and so has City Hall.

But to date; first of all let me thank the union leadership Cindy Gorse and also Local 935 Business Manager Jody Stringer and Miller-Yount Paving for their contributions to the "Blitz". But in a seven day period we've been able to take care of most of our mains and secondary's that were in need of repair; Austin, Atlantic, Dana, Mahoning, Laird, Reeves, Woodland, Fulton, Main, Warren Boulevard, Ridge Road, Youngstown Road, Northwest Boulevard, West Market Street, East Market St., Perkinswood, Summit, Hall, Comstock, Griswold, McMyler, Ohio, Martin Luther King, Elm, Central Parkway, Genessee and Parkman, Dennison, Dodge, Midway, Harris, Fairmont, Sunset, Logan, Westview, Autumn, Oaknoll, Northfield, Benton, Michelle, Westwood, Kenwood, Country Club Drive, Surrey, Burton, Homewood, Van Wye, Beck St., Candlelight Knolls, Cranwood, Hazelwood, Deerfield, Drexell, Clearwater,

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Montcrest, Belvedere, Elvint, Florine, Elm St., Garden, Vine, West, Vernon, Buena Vista, Riverview, University, Comstock, Kenilworth, Cornel, Kenmore, Douglas, Fairway, Jefferson, Kinsman, Cranwood, Maryland, Coventry, Prospect, Eggelson, Bonnie Brae, Roselawn, Hamilton. This week we did Hamilton, Front Street, Mercer, Marwood, Charles, Washington, Glenwood and Overlook. Councilman Brown you turned in a list of streets and 90% of those streets are done except for Irene, Crescent and Foster. They're working on that this week. So in all we did – we went through about three hundred tons of coal patch. And that was used in a seven day period. So I wanted to thank everybody. We had twelve crews from the Water Department, several crews from the Water Pollution Control Department. We even had a couple of Secretaries sign up from the Health Department and Income Tax I believe. So, it was a concerted effort. I wanted to thank everybody and our calls have dropped dramatically since this Blitz. But I want to thank everybody involved. They did a good job. We still have work to do and they're still out there though. Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you Doug.

Mr. Mayor? Can you repeat that list?

MAYOR: No. I have a copy for you.

LAW DIRECTOR

MR. HICKS: Thank you Mr. President. I thought that was that Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere Man".

Vince in response to your request about the open burning. We had a meeting today with Fire Department Captain Smith. And we actually have a rough-rough draft for you and I want to say Eddie since it's Police and Fire's committee. So I'd like to give this to both of you at the end of the meeting and have you look at it and maybe call a committee meeting so we can go over it and by next meeting we can have a nice clean draft for everybody to maybe vote on. I want to thank Captain Smith who was just terrific on this and I would suggest that when you do call your meeting you coordinate it somehow that we know when Captain Smith is on his turn. Because he seems to be – Chief correct me if I'm wrong but one of the most knowledgeable guys I've ever seen on this issue. He was the one who helped us when we first started talking about it. So he spent a good part of the day with us today and Dave and myself we went over this and I think we got pretty much what we talked about. I want you to see it first that way we can blue pencil it before we even present it to Council as a whole. So this is here for you guys when the meeting is over. Ok? Thank you.

AUDITOR

MR. GRIFFING: Thank you Mr. President. No report this evening.

TREASURER

MR. HOMLITAS: Thank you Mr. President. I'm happy to report that collections are eighty thousand dollars more than what was budgeted at this time. Although we are ninety thousand dollars below last year's collections. Thank you.

DIRECTOR

MR. CANTALAMESSA: Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to just spend a little time talking about salt. No I'm just kidding. Thank you Mr. President. I got a sense of humor.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

No reports this evening.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Chief Merkel I think the city owes a thank you to Officer Gargas for his quick actions the other day at the Pit Stop. He may have averted a very, very serious situation. And if you would convey Council's and I'm sure the Administrations thank you for that. He did a great job.

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

MERLENE DAWSON, 2306 Willow Drive SW, Warren 44485. She spoke about things looking better in the city.

ELIZABETH BALAINT, 1081 Kenmore SE, Warren 44484. She spoke about Youngstown Road Businesses illegal dumping, signs broken out.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COMPLETE CONTEXT OF THE ABOVE SPEAKERS AND ANY COMMENTS THAT WERE MADE ARE ON TAPE ON FILE IN THE CLERK OF COUNCIL'S OFFICE.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRAFFIC & SAFETY

MR. LARSON: Thank you Mr. President. No official report for Traffic and Safety but the Mayor and the people have kind of stole my report. But you know we give the Administration hell when they don't do their job. But I want to give them – I want to congratulate them for bringing all of the Unions together, getting every – getting these roads, the pot holes patched because at the beginning of the year I looked and I said "oh dear God". We are never gonna get on top of this. We are never gonna get on top of this. It was just insurmountable the pot holes the size of them. Without sounding like Winston Churchill I don't think this city's ever done so much with so few in such a short period of time. So congratulations to the Administration pulling these people from other departments. Operations is very small of a department now. They really did a great job. I have to congratulate them. And we're not gonna let them off the hook yet. Because you know they to quote the pot holes that haven't grown up yet. We're going to have to take care of them. But great job. Thank you.

MAYOR FRANKLIN: I just wanted to comment on that. Because there's another component to this that I did mention and Council deserves credit for this. If we hadn't have had that aggressive street improvement program to the 2014 Bond Issue it really would have been insurmountable. Those streets would not have – they would have crumbled. Those are the worst streets that we paved with that Bond money. So cudos to Council for approving that Bond Issue. It allowed us to at least manage the situation this year. So I wanted to just thank Council for that aggressive program last summer. Because it really went a long way towards helping us stay on top of this this year. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you Mayor. Warren – quit clapping for yourselves.

MR. FLASK: That was the audience.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Just a word. This part of the agenda is for standing committee reports and I appreciate Councilman Larson's comments. But keep it to Committee Reports so that we can cover some of these other issues under Miscellaneous if we have time. Danny? So please just stick to Committee Reports and then under Miscellaneous we can discuss other issues.

OPERATIONS

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. I too would like to thank the effort by our city Administration and by our organized labor unions and the labor unions on West Market Street here in Warren. Pulling together and getting this work done. How many people realize that in this day and age there's such an attack upon our organized laborer with right to work. The attempt with House Bill 5 and other issues. But they don't realize how important that they are in our community. And if it wasn't for them we wouldn't have United Way topping their amount they want and a lot of other things. So those people do a lot in the community and do it without people knowing that they've done it. But again, thank you to all of those people for helping and it has been a very, very good couple of weeks because I know there are still people that are still screaming over in Mahoning County. And they're using prisoners over there. Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: In case I was speaking Greek about 10 seconds ago, please those types of comments are under Miscellaneous. I want reports on your committees.

**STRATEGIC
PLANNING**

MR. BROWN: Thank you Mr. President. No report.

ENGINEERING

MR. BARTHOLOMEW: Thank you Mr. President. The plans and specifications of the West Market Street resurfacing project are complete. This will resurface 2.4 miles of West Market Street between Lovers Lane up to Main Street. Concrete will also be repaired as needed. Man holes, water valves and inlets will also be adjusted. The project has an estimated cost of 1.25 million dollars. Federal funds are going to cover a million dollars of that. And the 20% local share or two hundred and fifty thousand dollars will be covered by the OPWC.

Also, the 2014 and 2015 city road program projects will help resurface Tod, Northwest Blvd., Fulton Bridge. And also with the CDBG funds for 2015 portions of Austin, Chestnut, Griswold and McMyler will also be done. I got a notice from Mr. Colbert here. Beginning Monday March the 30th Southern Blvd. at 422 will be closed through early May for bridge repairs. The detour is Linda Drive. The work is part of the 3.5 million dollar project to widen the surface of 422 between Southern Blvd and Linda. And this will be scheduled to be completed by July of this summer. That's it.

LEGISLATIVE

MR. FLASK: Thank you Mr. President. I just again want to thank the Fire Department and the Law Department for their work on the Fire legislation. I'm sure Eddie and I will be able to get something together for next week. Thank you.

**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

MISS SAFFOLD: Thank you Mr. President. I will be having a joint Fair Housing/C.D. Committee meeting on Wednesday April 22, at 5:30 PM here in Chambers. Thank you.

POLICE & FIRE

MR. COLBERT: Thank you Mr. President. In regards to Police and Fire two weeks ago we had a meeting to discuss some of the technical capabilities and capacities of our current 911 system versus the County 911 system. I'd like to

thank the three technical individuals that came in or provided us with some answers there. Within the same regard, Police and Fire Wednesday of – Madame Clerk, Wednesday April 1st at 5:00 I'd like to call a Police and Fire Committee Meeting in order to discuss our current situation with Paramedics and EMS response. I've been in conversations with the Director over this about putting something together. I'd like all Council Members, our Law Director, Fire Chief, as well as the Mayor and the Director to be at that meeting. I would request that at that meeting we also ask for the private provider to come in from Med Star. If there is another private provider that you feel would be adequate to come in I would request them as well. Specifically looking for information in regards to the calls, the manifests from January and February for the breakdown for calls that were responded to within eight minutes, calls that were responded to in times exceeding eight minutes. Also, looking for how many calls that Howland has answered for us this year to get an idea of that gap that's going to be filled. So once again, that will be Wednesday April 1st at 5:00. Thank you Mr. President.

**PUBLIC
UTILITIES**

MR. VALESKY: Thank you Mr. President. No report this evening.

WATER/WPC

MR. SFERRA: Thank you Mr. President. No report.

**HEALTH &
WELFARE**

MRS. RUCKER: Thank you Mr. President. No report. But I'd like to give a shout out. I just wanted to inform Council that a new organization has sprouted at the Kinsman House; "The Friends of the Kinsman House". And so they'll be keeping that great lady and city owned building in tip top shape. And there membership is quite large already and more people to come. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. I just wanted to make a comment on the Police and Fire Chairman Colbert's comments about the – our service providers that were here. I think there were a lot of issues brought out concerning our city Communications. Not only Police and Fire but our utilities at that meeting; especially the man down issue where we have people out there working in dangerous situations at Police and Fire or departments out in trenches where they work and the possibility of not being able to be compatible with their communications. So there were a lot of important issues. And I would suggest any Council Members or the Public if they were not able to attend please come in and listen to the tape because it was very, very informative and there were a lot of things on there that were discussed. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. COLBERT: Mr. President? I apologize. But I also would like Mr. Bob Plant to you know on the call for that meeting as well. Thank you. I apologize.

MAYOR FRANKLIN: I'll talk to you about that because of his schedule.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**NEIGHBORHOOD
LIASON**

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. I discussed with the coordinator for the – our inmate program and they will be now picking up the ball. There's a considerable amount of problems we have entailed the last couple of weeks. They've got Griswold and Bronze Road full of tires. Somebody went over there and there's probably three hundred tires over there. And I'm sure they're going

around the city somewhere. But I've asked them if they can get their crews ready and we'll probably have to be talking to Environmental Services about where we're at with our grant for handling those tires. But somebody is really been out doing midnight dumping. So that's hopefully can be a priority for us. If somebody else seen some in their Ward or somewhere please let her know. Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: In conjunction with what Mr. Novak's saying we had our Greek and the Veterans Day Parade – Should I say this under Miscellaneous? Sunday but he brought something back – I'm running the meeting. He brought something to mind. The Council people that attended that parade looked across the street; the old what is that, the old flower shop. Three or four tires on the roof of this thing. And I don't know for the life of me how they got there but while we're addressing tires it would be nice if we could get those tires off of there. I don't know who would do that. Somebody threw them up there.

FAIR HOUSING

MISS SAFFOLD: Again the Fair Housing joint C.D. Committee Meeting will be Wednesday April 22 at 5:320 PM.

EDUCATION

MR. VALESKY: Thank you Mr. President. If I may piggy back what Councilwoman Rucker's comments. The Warren Heritage Center; which is an organization that will shepherding the Kinsman House. That's the beautiful mansion on Mahoning Avenue that overlooks the Amphitheater. They – the organization had their first public educational event; which was on February 16th and 17th; which is Black History in the City of Warren. It was the two coldest days of the winter and we stilled filled the room. And I wanted to thank all of the members who – and presentations, the Mayor and Helen and Wendell Lauth. It was a wonderful thing.

We talk about working together and bringing everybody together and you've got a wonderful city here and it's wonderful to share this with everybody. I would suggest that everybody here take the time, go to Facebook and look at the Warren Heritage Center on Facebook. Please – it's a great informational site. You'll be able to see the upcoming events. And Helen also mentioned about the new organization.

Sometimes Board Members don't always come to the call when requested. So there was a group that actually saw that and said we're going to create a group of doers and the name of that group of doers is Friends of the Heritage Center. The invitation is open to all that would like to join them to help at the Kinsman House doing such things as cleaning and arranging of events and making sure that the people get in and out of the house on event nights. So feel free to go to the Warren Heritage Center on Facebook. You can like it. You can also send us a message there saying that you would like to volunteer. And any volunteers will be greatly appreciated. And it's going to be not only educational but it's going to be fun. Thank you Mr. President.

**MAIN STREET/
AMPITHEATRE/
PACKARD MUSIC HALL**

MRS. RUCKER: Thank you Mr. President. No report.

LEGISLATION FOR SUSPENSION AND PASSAGE

**DRAFT 3505
CONSOLIDATING CITY
911 WITH THE COUNTY** An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and Director of Public Service and Safety to negotiate and enter into a written agreement with the Board of Commissioners of Trumbull County, Ohio, for the purpose of consolidating the Emergency Response Program (hereinafter 911), and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Colbert requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 3505 and place it into first reading.

READ Clerk reads the same. Draft 3505 has been placed into first reading and referred to Police and Fire Committee.

**DRAFT 3506
PURCHASE OF
ROCK SALT** An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Service and Safety to enter into a cooperative purchase program with the Ohio Department of Transportation under section 5513.01 (B) of the Ohio Revised Code for the purchase of Rock Salt for the 2015-2016 Winter Season, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Novak requests the Clerk to read the title on Draft 3506.

READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND Motion Novak, second Colbert to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 3506.

ROLL CALL YES: Saffold, Colbert, Valesky, Sferra, Rucker, Larson, Novak, Brown, Bartholomew, Flask

NO: None

MOTION PASSED 10 YES, 0 No. motion passed.

MOTION-PASSAGE Motion Novak, second Colbert to pass Draft 3506 as an emergency.

REMARKS

None

ROLL CALL YES: Saffold, Colbert, Valesky, Sferra, Rucker, Larson, Novak, Brown, Bartholomew, Flask

NO: None

**MOTION PASSED
ORD. 12589/15** 10 Yes, 0 No. Motion passed. Draft 3506 is now Ordinance 12589/15.

**DRAFT 3507
CONTRIBUTION
TO TRUMBULL CTY.
TRUMBULL COUNTY
TRANSIT BOARD FOR
PROGRAM YEAR 2014** An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the City of Warren to contribute \$23,416.00 to the Trumbull County Transit Board for Program Year 2014 agreement with the village of Lordstown for the purpose of the City of Warren to furnish water to the Lordstown Water District, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Novak requests the Clerk to read the title on Draft 3507.

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READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND Motion Novak, second Novak to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 3503.

ROLL CALL YES: Saffold, Colbert, Valesky, Sferra, Rucker, Larson, Novak, Brown, Bartholomew, Flask

NO: None

MOTION PASSED 10 YES, 0 No. motion passed.

MOTION-PASSAGE Motion Sferra, second Colbert to pass Draft 3507 as an emergency.

REMARKS

None

ROLL CALL YES: Saffold, Colbert, Valesky, Sferra, Rucker, Larson, Novak, Brown, Bartholomew, Flask

NO: None

MOTION PASSED
ORD. 12590/15 10 Yes, 0 No. Motion passed. Draft 3507 is now Ordinance 12590/15.

MISCELLANEOUS

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Moving on is there anything under Miscellaneous?

MR. COLBERT: Move to adjourn.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Miss Saffold.

MISS SAFFOLD: I oppose that.

LAW DIRECTOR HICKS: There's a motion.

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I didn't recognize it.

LAW DIRECTOR HICKS: You have to. There's a motion and a second.

MISS SAFFOLD: I just want to thank the Administration and Mayor Franklin. There was an emergency in my ward this weekend. A building collapsed on the corner of Palmyra Road and Parkman Road and I know he had been working with me for a couple of years in getting the building down. It was a very , very dangerous situation because it was a bus stop for the kids. And so by some miraculous event the building came down on its own partially. But because of the immediacy and emergency situation he had them tear it down like within an hour or so. Thank you very much. I appreciate that.

03/25/2015

PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Mr. Colbert?

MR. COLBERT: Move to adjourn.

MR. SFERRA: Second.

Viva Voice 10 yes, 0 no. Meeting is adjourned at 7:42 PM.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:42 PM

Motion Colbert, second Sferra to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM.

James Graham, President of Council

Brenda Smith, Clerk of Council