

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, March 12, 2018

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Matt Burke.

INVOCATION BY: Clmn Joseph Suster

ROLL CALL: **PRESENT:** Council Members Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Burke, Suster, Vaughn

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

PRESIDENT BURKE: I would like to make a motion at this time to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council of the city of Garfield Heights for Monday, February 26, 2018 as written. All in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed?

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster

The Minutes pass.

CLMN VAUGHN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: We will move on the Reports of the Mayor and the Directors. I see that we have some fine young gentlemen and ladies here tonight. Let me turn this over to Mayor Collova for his report.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I begin my report with the city, once again I have a distinguished honor of honoring some young people that have made some great achievements representing the city of Garfield Heights. Tonight I would like to bring this group of student athletes to your attention. If you didn't know the past hockey season is the 49th year of hockey programming in the city of Garfield Heights. As the tradition continues, it should be noted that along with the city of Garfield Heights, many Boosters, past and present, played an integral part in what continues today. Just to name a few, in the audience today we have Board Member and President Joy Jordon, Vice President Julie Aide, Treasurer Josh Graham, Assistant Treasurer Sue Wayla and Recording Secretary Heather Greta. We also have with us today the Hockey Coordinator Brian Carson. These individuals along with the entire Booster organization continue to pursue excellence to help make our hockey program grow and continue to be successful.

Tonight we are honoring our 10U hockey team and their accomplishments this season. Some of their accomplishments were 2017 Gold Cup Champions, 2018 Melt-the-Ice Tournament Runner-ups, 2017 and 2018 CSHL 10U A3 (that's Cleveland Suburban Hockey League)

Champions with an 11-1 record. Also 2018 Cleveland Suburban Hockey League 10U A3 Championship game taking Runner-up honors. This is a great achievement once again from young people that represent the city of Garfield Heights. I could not be prouder.

The team will be traveling with our 8U and 14U teams to play in the Freedom Cup Tournament Series, March 16th and 18th at Philadelphia, PA. These fine young children are doing a great job and I can't tell you how much we appreciate it here for the city. At this time, if I could get Coach Mike Gabriel and his Assistant Coach, Mary Wheelock, to come up front and please introduce these young hockey players.

Coach Mike Gabriel: Thank you, Mayor Collova, Council and Mr. Dobies. I'm Coach Gabriel. This is my Assistant Coach Mary Wheelock. I'd like each of my players to state their names please and stand up and come around the front. Don Stolen, Brendan Graham, Jack Anderson, Jeremy Aide, Collin Schlade, Riley Spate, Max Wheelock, Jacob Greta, Anthony Kondish, Ian Hilliard. Unfortunately we're missing one player tonight- Kiley Jones. I don't know if Kiley got sick at the last minute, but she was also a part of this great team.

As Mr. Dobies stated, the Squirt Team, made up of 8-10 year olds, has had a very successful ice season. I also want you to know that these young men and ladies are amazing off the ice as well. Every single one of them made the first or second honors at school for the school year so far. Something that our organization rewards. Several of them are Boy Scouts, attend PSR classes and are involved in other sports as well. Academics, respect and discipline are stressed at every level of this program. I can't tell you how many times we have been stopped and complimented on the kindness and courteous behavior of these kids in the Garfield Heights Hockey Program. We strive to give Garfield Heights a great reputation and I definitely think that these 12 amazing kids in front of you have done so admirably. I am proud to say that I got my start here in the mid 70s.

This was the 49th season for the Garfield Heights Muni Hockey Program. The great news is that thanks to our diligent Booster Club and Members and our phenomenal parents, we are a financially sound organization, but we could use some help spreading the word and recruiting more players so that we could celebrate our 50th anniversary next season. We would hate to see such a worthwhile and vibrant organization, one that stresses good citizenship and behavior on and off the ice, go silent. In the coming weeks we elect our new Board. We would like to work with our city leaders to come up with ways to increase participation and coordination. We look forward to working together so that next year you will see these kids and hopefully even more up here being recognized. Thank you very much. We appreciate this.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Before everybody sits down. I want to tell you this is what represents Garfield Heights. You're talking about the children that live in and around our area. Not some of the bad reports that you hear about the juveniles. This is what I like to see so this is great. Thank you very much. It was appreciated.

(Photographs were taken at this time.)

PRESIDENT BURKE: Excuse me, Mayor. I had a request from Clmn Nenadovich to have the Boosters stand up who are in the audience tonight.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Boosters, would you please stand up? I want to wish everyone good luck in Philadelphia. The only request I have next year for the 50th year. No Runner-up. We want the championship. Thanks a lot.

I want everybody to know that we are going to carry on with business that we are not sure that they would be real interested in. You are welcome to stay if you like. You are more than welcome to leave at this time. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mayor, just to clarify. Council has to stay?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: OK. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, before I continue on my report, which is very brief, I want to remind all the Council people that your selection for the Charter Review Board, I have all the names, but I need addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers. So at some point if you could e-mail Jennifer (my assistant) the e-mails, addresses and phone numbers we can get that thing going. So thank you very much.

I'm going to get into tonight's legislation. Ordinance 18-2018 is to make amended appropriations for current expenditures for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. If you have any questions, Barb can certainly answer them for you. Ordinance 19. An amendment to the collective bargaining agreement between the city of Garfield Heights and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Jailers/Records clerks. Ordinance 20 is to enter into agreement with Bricker & Eckler to represent the city of Garfield Heights as special counsel for future construction projects, which we hope are in the very near future.

Resolution 5. We are planning a temporary moratorium on the interior Point of Sale inspections on any dwelling or building that is being sold, transferred or conveyed in the city of Garfield Heights. I want to speak on this a little bit that there have been a couple of lawsuits and then a couple of appeals by some residents throughout Ohio challenging the interior inspections. There have been two separate rulings. One in favor of. One opposed to. They both have appeals. So we are looking at putting a moratorium on here to see what the final outcome of these Court cases are. What we don't want to do is end up paying for lawsuits. That could very well happen and actually has been mentioned to me on a phone conversation with a resident. So we are asking you to put a moratorium on it till we get further clarification on this. Resolution 6. To register with U.S. Communities for the purpose of cooperative purchasing. Resolution 7. The month of April to be Autism Awareness Month and April 2nd to be World Autism Awareness Day. This is something we do annually. It's a great cause and we are proud to be a part of it.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to wish everyone a Happy St. Patty's Day. I know I'm not dressed in green, but I knew my Council Member Tom Vaughn would cover for me so we're OK there.

CLMN VAUGHN: Many are called. Few are chosen.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I understand. With that, Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mayor. Does anybody have any questions for the Mayor on his report tonight? Does anyone have any questions for the Mayor on his report this evening? If not, we will move on to our Law Director Tim Riley. Tim, do you have a report for us this evening?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: No report tonight, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Tim. We will move on to our Police Chief, Chief Byrne. Chief, do you have a report for us this evening?

POLICE CHIEF ROBERT BYRNE: Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman. Just one quick warning. This actually comes from Mrs. Collova who received a scam phone call last week. Every now and then it's worth reminding people, especially around this time of year when it's tax season. The IRS will not call and ask you to send money to avoid jail. In her case, I think she got a call from somebody posing as an injured granddaughter that needed money sent.

It's also a bail scam. A grandchild will ask for bail money. I would just caution people to check with your grandchildren's actual parents and tell them to post the bond if that's what it comes down to. Typically these are just scams. Do not be afraid to hang up on these people. We haven't gotten too many calls on this this year, which is good, but hopefully we can keep it that way and just wanted to give the people a warning. With that, Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Chief. Does anybody have any questions for Chief Byrne this evening on his report? If not, we will move on to our Service Director Mr. Tim McLaughlin. Tim, do you have a report for us this evening?

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Yes, I do, Mr. President. Thank you. In the last two weeks, we're working on cold patch, trying to keep up with the holes. It's kind of a never-ending battle. Hopefully we have a call in to the asphalt companies and we should find out shortly when they plan to be open. We had the sweepers out on the mains. I did try to put them on some side streets but unfortunately it does more damage at this stage on the broken streets and some of the asphalt that we pick up we end up pushing to the side so I pull them off the side streets. We'll return to that in another couple weeks and see how that works out.

Of course, still snowplowing and salting and I think we're going to get a bit of snow this week. Hopefully I think we have enough salt to ride to the end of the season. I think there about 800 ton left. Hopefully we'll get by. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Tim. Is there any questions on Tim on his report this evening? Are there any questions for Tim? OK. Moving right along we will have a report from our Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Bob Dobies. Bob, do you have a report for us this evening?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. President and Council Members, good evening. Thank you. I thank you to Council and the Mayor for recognizing our 10U hockey team. As you found out, they are student athletes. They work hard to achieve their goals. I was happy that you guys and everybody could meet and greet and see what the program presents.

A reminder if you are signing up for t-ball, sign ups are in progress and will continue through Friday, March 31st. Extended office hours to accommodate sign ups are available. Please call the Rec for hours and any questions.

Softball sign ups will begin April 2nd and run through April 30th. More information will be posted on the Web this coming week.

Mr. Shuba, the gentleman that is running the basketball program, came in last week and informed me he will be taking registrations until March 26th, a little past his deadline. There seems to be more interest mounting and he wants to make sure no one is left out before the season begins. The league season will begin on March 28th, which is a Wednesday and he will

take registrations up until that Monday the 26th. Again, for more information please call Mr. Shuba at (216) 213-5660. As the Mayor reported last meeting, he had about 15. He is up to 32 and he says that's adequate to start the program.

Next, we are taking registrations for Spring Fitness classes now through April 2nd. The classes will begin April 2nd for a 12-week session. All program information can be viewed on the city's Website. Just click the Recreation Department and go to your point of interest.

Last, as the season winds down please don't forget about our annual ice show, which will be held April 7th and 8th. This will mark the 50th year, just as hockey 49 years of programs in existence. From what I'm being told, many of the alumni who started their careers here will be on hand to be part of the 50th and some will participate in the show. More information will be coming.

On the hockey side of things, we have added what they call Stick & Puck, where individuals can bring their hockey equipment or sticks and pucks for open sessions in addition to our public sessions for March. Participants in the Stick & Puck must wear full gear to participate. Again, please check the Website for anything. That concludes my report. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Dobies. Does anybody have any questions on the report given by Mr. Dobies this evening? Does anyone have any questions? OK, we will move on to our Finance Director, Ms. Barb Biro. Barb, do you have a report for us this evening?

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARBARA BIRO: Thank you, Mr. President. A real short one. This evening we are asking for Council's support on the amended Ordinance 18-2018 in regards to the city's appropriations. We're asking for support on Ordinance 19-2018 for the wage reopener for our jailers and records clerks.

We are asking for support on Resolution 6-2018. It allows the city to enter into another cooperative purchasing with U.S. Communities along with Sourcing Alliance and JPA and the State Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program. With that, you have my report, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Biro. Does anybody have any questions on Ms. Biro's report this evening? Does anyone have any questions on Ms. Biro's report this evening? If not, we will move on to our City Engineer, Mr. David Krock. Dave, do you have a report for us?

CITY ENGINEER DAVE KROCK: Yes, just a brief report. I just want to mention again that we are getting into orange barrel season again so probably by the next meeting I will have some updated schedules on Turney Road, Transportation Boulevard and Granger Hill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Does anybody have any questions of Mr. Krock and his report tonight? If not, we will move on to our Social Services Director, Ms. Kathy Rush-Parsson. Ms. Parsson, do you have a report tonight?

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSON: Yes. Just a quick update. The AARP tax volunteers have added an additional day for the free tax preparation for residents. They have extended it until April 13th, which is a Friday, from 9:00 a.m. until noon. So our appointments had been filled so we were turning people down. So they did add an additional day. If anyone would like to still have their taxes done, they can call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment at (216) 475-3244. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Parsson. Does anybody have any questions of Ms. Parsson on her report this evening? If not, we will move on to our Economic Development Director, Ms. Noreen Kuban. Noreen, do you have a report this evening?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Yes, I do. Thank you Mr. President. The Mayor had a meeting last week to talk about real estate in the city of Garfield Heights. We invited a lot of real estate agents and lenders. I wanted to make a comment about one of the programs that we became aware of. Third Federal Savings & Loan has a program called Home Today. It's a community education program and is designed to help people improve their financial literacy when they're purchasing a house. You have to attend eight hours of Home Today education and after completing the eight hours you will meet with a HUD credit counselor and they will create an individualized action plan for becoming a homeowner. At the end of doing both those items, the participant receives \$3,000.00 for a down payment. The phone number to contact Third Federal is (216) 441-7345. April's schedule is April 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th at Remington College, 14801 Broadway, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. You do need reservations to attend.

Finally, it's the 6th Annual RiverSweep for Johnston Mill Run, which will be held on Saturday, May 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. In Garfield Heights, the RiverSweep will start at Forestdale Park which is at the corner of East 131st Street and Forestdale. If anyone has questions, contact Patricia Salemi at (216) 475-1100 extension 2425. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Kuban. Does anybody have any questions on Ms. Kuban's report this evening?

CLMN DUDLEY: Just a comment. That's a great program she's talking about. There's one other organization that does that too. My daughter went through one of those. They teach you the ins and outs so you don't fall prey to some of the predators. That is a great program if you're thinking about buying a home and you're a single mom or something. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Dudley. Anybody else have any questions/comments on Ms. Kuban's report this evening? OK. Moving right along to our Building Commissioner Mr. Mark Moro. Mark, do you have a report for us this evening?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: I do not have a report. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. That concludes our Reports of the Mayor and the Directors. We will move on to Communications from Citizens on Tonight's Agenda. Would the Clerk please read the rules.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS ON THE AGENDA:

CLERK: Comments shall be strictly limited to brief statements not to exceed five minutes with comments limited to legislation on the current evening's agenda. No citizen shall speak more than once.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Is there anybody wishing to speak on tonight's agenda?

James Feeney, 5355 East 124th Street. On Resolution 5 for the Point of Sale inspections, I'd like to ask City Council to consider this a Second Reading before they vote. That way more people might have questions who just heard about it tonight. They might be able to contact the Council people or come to a meeting and ask any questions they might have. That's it.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Feeney. Does anybody else have any questions on tonight's agenda?

Frank Tagliarini, 12404 Darlington Avenue. Basically I got the same thing as James did just now on Resolution 5. Just asking you not to pass it tonight and at least go to a Second Reading so you could look at the different avenues that may be able to take place rather than just making a decision and living with it. Look at the long-term what could happen if we abolish appeal Point of Sales at this point. That's all I got to say.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, if I may say the Point of Sales are not being abolished. Just the interior part of the Point of Sale. Not the exterior part.

MR. TAGLIARINI: But the long term results of not inspecting it.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I can tell you the long-term results, Frank, of lawsuits they cost about \$100,000.00 each if you're lucky.

MR. TAGLIARINI: You should look at it both ways.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: We definitely will do that.

MR. TAGLIARINI: OK. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Is there anybody else wishing to make a comment tonight on the agenda? If not, we will move on to Ordinances and Resolutions beginning with Amended Ordinance 18-2018. Will the Clerk please read the title?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 18-2018

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO MAKE AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: Amended Ordinance 18-2018 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-2018

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, JAILERS/RECORD CLERKS.

Moved by VAUGHN to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Vaughn.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 19-2018 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-2018

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRICKER & ECKLER TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS AS SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Suster.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 20-2018 passes with 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2018

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION PLACING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE REQUIREMENT TO COMPLETE AN INTERIOR POINT OF SALE INSPECTION ON ANY DWELLING OR BUILDING THAT IS BEING SOLD, TRANSFERRED, OR CONVEYED IN THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER TO PASS ON A SECOND READING:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

NAYS: Suster

PRESIDENT BURKE: I guess we will move this for a Second Reading. Resolution 5-2018 will be placed for a Second Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2018

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO REGISTER WITH U.S. COMMUNITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF COOPERATIVE PURCHASING.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: Resolution 6-2018 passes with 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-2018

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL TO BE AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH AND APRIL 2, 2018, TO BE WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY.

Moved by GLENN to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Glenn.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich

PRESIDENT BURKE: Resolution 7 passes with 7 Yes votes.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS

PRESIDENT BURKE: That concludes tonight's Ordinances and Resolutions. At this time, we will move on to Comments by Citizens. Will the Clerk please read the rules.

CLERK: Comments shall be restricted to any problem a citizen has which has previously been submitted to his/her Councilperson or to the city hall department directly involved. If submission of a problem to a city hall department or a Councilperson is made and there is a lack of service rendered in this regard, the problem may then be presented during Comments from Citizens at a future meeting. It is the intention of this rule that no request of a first nature is presented on the floor at this time. Comments shall be limited to five minutes. No citizen shall be heard more than once.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Would anyone like to speak or make any comments tonight?

Norouz Dashtianpour, 6351 Meadowbrook Road. Good evening. I lived there since 1995. I just want to remind the Council that very soon our schools are going to close. We are going to have lots of teenagers roaming around on the streets. Teenagers do what a teenager does. Some of them getting in trouble. Since we don't have no resources to keep them busy or to give them jobs I have a recommendation. We have some money in our recreation budget. Maybe we can

allocate some of the money towards some program to keep the teenagers busy during this summertime. My recommendation is inexpensive and also healthy. If we can put up some basketball hoops throughout the city of Garfield Heights. It's not expensive project. We have so many vacant lots around here. It only takes one hoop here and another hoop over there. Keep the teenagers busy. It's not expensive and healthy project. That's all I have to say.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I couldn't agree with you more. When I was young, it was basketball courts, baseball fields everywhere. We played football, basketball in the streets. We kept ourselves occupied by sports. We don't have basketball courts right now any more anywhere in the city and probably a lot of cities. I wouldn't mind seeing them. Here's the problem. As soon as you do it, you're going to have the residents that live in that area all complaining. They will be here in droves. They stopped it because the kids are swearing, breaking bottles. Unfortunately, that's what we look at. I can tell you this.

What I would be willing to do. I'd be willing to do some sort of a survey through Council or anything else. If the people agree that those basketball courts are a good thing in Garfield, I'd be the first one to put them up. But I know the last time we took them down because of the residents. We have residents that get upset about the tennis players because the lights are on late. When we have social events they're mad because the band's playing too loud. It's a tough challenge. But if the Council people say let's put basketball courts up, I'm all for you. I think you're going to find that the majority are opposed to it. I'm not. I'm not opposed to it. I think it's a good thing for the kids.

But let me add this, just so you understand. We had a meeting last week with our Resource Officer Ruth Pollack, with the head of the library, the director of the library about putting a youth program together right here. We're talking about middle school kids. We're talking about every Friday be having them here and I know that's not a lot, but every Friday having them here. Our transportation buses can take them to different programs. We could have video days or movie days. We could go to the library and learn about all the things they have there. We are trying to put that program together for this summer. But again, you're talking about a very small group. You're talking about maybe 20-25 kids that we'd be able to do this with. Along with that would come a free lunch. So we're going to roll that out. We're going to see what works. Like I said if you get a group of people or some petitions who say they want basketball courts up, we'd do it, but I got a feeling it's not going to last long because people are really against it.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: On Transportation Boulevard we have so many vacant lots. They are away from residential area. I believe that's the best place if you want to have basketball courts.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: The problem with that is it's not our property. It would have to be the landlord to consent to something like that because somebody else owns that property. We do have property. We have grounds that we could use for basketball courts. The schools don't even use them anymore and they got playgrounds. The reason is because of the problems that is generated with it. I know what it was like when I was a kid. We had them everywhere and we used them every day.

CLMN SUSTER: What I'd like to say I might put Bob on the spot and I hate to do this because he was at the same meeting, was several years ago and people were saying we had nothing for the children to do. Bob, you put together a list of 50 some things that the children have the opportunity to do within the city and I know that's only with Bob's part of this, but no matter what you do, you know we're getting rid of baseball, the hockey teams are going down the tube, etc. These kids just don't want to participate. You have to get the kids that really want to be here, not

the kids that are going to come to be destructive, etc. I think no matter what you do, there is no way that you're going to get these kids to participate. Bob, I don't know if you have that list with you?

CLMN DUDLEY: Mr. Chairman.

CLMN SUSTER: I'm speaking.

CLMN DUDLEY: I know you're speaking. OK. I want to talk before you go to Bob to give me an opportunity to reply.

PRESIDENT BURKE: You will get a chance. I promise Mr. Dudley. Go ahead Mr. Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: OK. Maybe if you can bring it to the next meeting, I would appreciate it. Bring some extra copies so we can pass it out and show people that there are things to do here within the city if the kids want to participate. If they don't want to participate. We lost our Little League team because we didn't have any kids to play. What are you going to do? You can't force them there. If you force them here they're not going to be productive.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: Sir, I can bring hundreds of kids tomorrow if you want to.

CLMN VAUGHN: I move to give this gentleman a few more minutes.

CLMN SUSTER: You say you have how many kids to play baseball?

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: I have teenagers that are really willing to participate. Most of the things that I'm hearing so far is speculation. Every project we offer OK, no matter what it is it's not going to be a perfect project. There will always be something slightly wrong with it. So if you're looking for a perfect project which is completely secure you expect that many kids making no noise, it ain't going to happen.

CLMN SUSTER: No. That's not what I'm talking about. Kids are going to make noise. We had that basketball hoop up over by St. John's. The kids tore them out. A lot of them they tore out. I'm not saying this is going to happen every time you do it but there's a chance it's going to happen. Those kids are just destructive and you're not going to change them. I see this every day. Let school be out. I'm not knocking the school, Bob, don't get me wrong. But you're going to have these kids that are going to horse around going home, etc. They need something to do? There are things to do.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: Sir, with all respect, look at the other cities around us. For example Maple Heights, Bedford, Bedford Heights. They have the same thing that I'm talking about. They have teenagers. Maybe we need to see how they doing it?

CLMN SUSTER: I don't have anything else.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you Mr. Dashtianpour. I wanted to also give Mr. Dudley a chance to respond.

CLMN DUDLEY: Thank you. I didn't mean to interrupt you. I just wanted to get in before Bob because I had something I had to say. I clearly understand what you're saying and to say that children are destructive, I don't agree. I take slack with it because I have two teens in the house.

The problem ain't not that the children don't want to get involved. It's just things changed. The demographics changes in this city. A lot of kids may not be into t-ball. That don't mean that they don't want recreation.

When you go to some other cities. I go there. I drive a truck. I deliver to some of the recreation facilities I drop off. They have the ability there. You got your Seniors working out during the day; you got the facility where you got stuff going on. I think we got out of touch with some of these young people. I believe as a city we got out of touch because the demographics are changed. These children are different than the 1970 kids. They are different than the early 1980 kids. It is things that if we sit down and we went listen to the people in the city henthe4y say somtingthey they like to see and say they don't want a hoop on every corner. I agree with them. That could be a serious problem. Majority of the kids are good kids. They looking for something. I think we put our heads together and listen and get out of our 1970 thought, we could make some changes.

There is a recreational committee you know. The recreational committee should stand up one day and go to the plate and say hey let's come down with some hard good facts. A lot of kids don't play t-ball no more. I'm proud of the young ice skaters but my line of people are not ice skaters. A lot of them are not into precision swimming. On recreation, I'd like a place where me and my wife and friends could work out and the kids could be in the same facility as the adults. We have to make some changes. You know how the kids are on the street with nowhere to go. We could start a program. A lot of kids can't afford the programs. You go to other cities they have a facility which is free. You pay for your card for a year but you get to go into a building for free. That type of building have different activities. But we have to think differently people. We got to go in a different direction. Our thought patterns have to be different. Look at what you have in the city. The children had changed. Some young adults had changed. We need change too. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you Mr. Dudley.

CLMN SUSTER: I think if we went back to the laws that we had in 1970 and 1980 we wouldn't have half of the problems we have today out on the streets.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Vaughn, did you have a comment?

CLMN VAUGHN: Yes I did.

CLMN DUDLEY: Excuse me.

CLMN SUSTER: I didn't laugh at you.

CLMN DUDLEY: I ain't laughing at you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Point of Order. Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Burke, you are the Chairman of the Recreation Committee. Why don't we call a meeting and sit down and let us figure out the logistics and see if something like this can take place or not. It's something we can't solve here in a five-minute forum. Let's look at some program for the summer.

PRESIDENT BURKE: When I call my Recreation Committee meeting I'd like to get some information from you (*indicating Mr. Dashtianpour*) so I can get hold of you so you can attend to that and we can talk about these things. I do agree with Clmn Dudley. Kids have changed today so we have to look at what they're into to try to make some of the recreation things more appealing to them.

We also have to make sure that we watch what's in our budget to be able to do what's in our budget. It would be nice to be sure the Mayor would love to have everybody pay for a card and be able to go play basketball or hockey or whatever. It's tough to do when you don't have the facility to house it. Like Bedford, for instance, has a facility where you can come in to play basketball they have an indoor facility where they can kind of control what happens on the court so that you don't have a lot of mischief. We don't have that facility. So we have to find a way to make that work somehow. I'd put together a Recreation Committee meeting and we'd talk about it. All right?

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: Thank you very much.

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman, one more thing. At this meeting that we went to Friday morning the school superintendent was there and he brought up all the activities that are available to the schools, at all schools, after school. So if kids want to do something after school there are things to do. I hope Bob brings that list in because I know we heard about it at the Finance Meeting when we had it in October about the things that are available to the children. It's not just a few kids. It's for all of them. If they want to get involved, they are going to. If they don't want to get involved, I have repeated myself several times, they are not going to. I mean if you heard the list that Mr. Olszewski read off and what Bob has read off, you'd be surprised how many things there are. There are things that kids want to do. That's all Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Glenn.

CLMN GLENN: I'd like to make a statement here that kids we have a program here in Garfield Heights called the Three Man Basketball Team that is organized.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: Three Man?

CLMN GLENN: Three Man. The interest in this league is, I think Bob Dobies mentioned about 30/40 people interested. A city of 28,000. We should be able to get more than that. It's organized. They will have referees, they got a court. It's not a court in the neighborhood, but it's organized. It's supervised.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: Is there some kind of fee involved here?

CLMN GLENN: Bob?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: There is. \$80.00 fee.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: That's the problem because most of the teenagers are not that rich. They can't afford it.

CLMN SUSTER: Yes, they can.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: That's the problem.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Dashtianpour, if I can respond to that. I used to be the Commissioner of the Garfield Heights Baseball League. In order to help families, especially with some of the families that have more than one child that wanted to play baseball, we put together a fund raising opportunity where if they just went out and sold the raffle tickets that they needed to sell their child did not have to pay anything. They didn't have to pay anything for their child to play. The parents didn't want to go sell those raffle tickets.

There's a cost. I'm sure there's a cost to that league. People don't realize the cost that's involved. It's not just getting a bunch of mitts and bases and bats for a child. I'm sure it's not just about basketballs and hoops and nets, etc. There is insurance that these organizations have to buy. If a child gets hurt it's going to come back on that organization so they have to make sure they're insured. That insurance is pretty expensive. It's a secondary insurance. There's all kinds of factors that go into these things before the child can even play on a court or play on the field.

So when there are these fees they're not because I know at least the baseball league there was not because they wanted to make any money. I think that organization lost money pretty much every year. But parents have to get involved. If they want their child to play, they have to get involved. We gave them \$80.00 worth of raffle tickets. We said here's the tickets. You sell them and you bring us the \$80.00. You don't have to pay for your child to play. You'd be surprised how many people wouldn't go and just sell those raffle tickets. They were raffle tickets to back then the Browns weren't as bad as they are today but we were giving away entire season passes for the Browns games. There are some people in the audience that I remember from the baseball league that lived that with us so. Yeah would it be nice to have a program where everybody doesn't have to pay, but realistically there's insurance, there's things that need to be paid for before the child can even play. It's a real thing. It's something that we really have to deal with.

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, then you will go and schedule?

PRESIDENT BURKE: I will and when I do, I will contact you.

MR. DASHTIANPOUR: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Mr. LaMalfa.

CLMN LAMALFA: This has been brought up a couple different times. Mr. Mayor, I don't think there's no reason we can't run a test program. Maybe we could get St. Monica's or St. Tim's to loan us a piece of land. We put up the basketball courts and see how it works over there. This way we'd see if it really does catch on with all the kids.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Joe, I have no problem whatsoever. I'm in favor of the kids playing basketball. I'm in favor of them playing baseball on the streets. We don't allow that. I'm in favor of them playing football on the streets. We don't allow that. It's a different time in our life, but I have no problem giving it a try if you guys want to give it a try. I think you're going to see a whole lot of resistance, but maybe I'm wrong and maybe it will be a smooth operation. I'd tell you what. Barb, you might want to hold your ears. We'd pay for a couple hoops and nets. We'd go to the Finance Department and work her over a little bit and we'd get the money for a couple hoops.

CLMN SUSTER: She just fainted.

CLMN LAMALFA: Both those churches got a lot of land. Maybe they'd loan it to us?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: There's areas to put them up. We could try it and see how it goes. Just remember why they were taken down the last time. Maybe kids got better now than they were then? We'd find out.

PRESIDENT BURKE: We could discuss this at a Recreation Committee Meeting. Is there anybody else wishing to make a comment this evening?

David Mays, 8250 Green Drive. I've lived in Garfield since 1974 in the same house near a park. We used to have basketball courts, basketball nets. They were tore down three/four times. Poles were ripped out before the city finally quit putting them back up. My son and some of his friends went to Cuyahoga Heights to play basketball. An officer came in and said who lives in Cuyahoga Heights? Nobody. Sorry, this is for Cuyahoga Heights only. Please leave. I assume they still do the same thing. They do not allow students or young men or women from other communities to play basketball or anything else. It's for the city of Cuyahoga Heights. Valley View has parks for the citizens of Valley View only.

The problem with the park right now for me. We had all kinds of kids coming in from Cleveland that didn't care. They trashed the park. They turned over the outhouses, etc. and they left. They left the mess for us to clean up. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Mays. Anybody have any concerns?

Brian Killgallen, 12818 Broadway Avenue. I really feel for the program you're talking about because it is an expensive program and it does talk about all the legal factors too. Something that simple is not simple any more these days. I did like the suggestion of St. Timothy's. I know The Rock Church. Every church I go to they all are saying the same thing. We have this ageing demographic and the kids don't want to be here. At The Rock Church on Garfield, they started doing Tae Kwan Doe because these kids are watching these movies and they want to do a jump spinning hoopydook. They also want to play basketball. I really think there is some way of parlaying this with the churches who want to start mentorship programs for the youth. They want to reach out to the youth. There's a reason why The Word Church has a \$500.00 kitty on Friday night. Come play. It gets them kids there. There's a way of doing it where it can be community-based but through the churches and I think that that way at least you can have some stewardship. That's all I have to say.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you Sir. Is there anyone else wishing to make any comments this evening?

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: OK. We will move on to our Miscellaneous Business beginning with Clmn Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: The only thing I would like to say is I want to thank the Mayor for having the meeting on Friday. It was very enlightening to a lot of people. I would also like to give a lot of credit to Mr. Olszewski for coming out and laying out everything that he did. I guess he was probably the longest speaker, but I'd tell you what. When I left that meeting, I left there pumped because there's a lot of good things happening within this city and you're going to see people who put up for sale signs in front of their houses. I keep saying. I said this once before. When

you take a look at City View and Bridgeview we are going back to our infancy. Once all these projects are completed, you're going to have people that have moved out of the city and they're going to say we're sorry we moved out. I have people now that I know that have moved back that were born and raised here. Some say we saw nothing happening and I say close your eyes because the next time you see it all you're going to see is orange barrels and construction things. I would like to thank the Mayor for having that meeting with everybody. That's all I have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Suster. I would like to wish everybody a Happy St. Patrick's Day on Saturday. Please be safe. I know that's one of the party days.

You know, getting back to the children, I agree times have changed and children have changed and things have changed so you know we call a meeting for the Recreation Committee. I would welcome any of the residents to have some sort of an opinion to come and help us try to put something together. But let's keep in mind the city of Garfield Heights we still have a very tight budget. It's not something that we're able to just go ahead and do what some of the other communities do. I wish we could, but we have other things that are more important to this city that are in our budget now. Does that say that the children aren't important? No. I'm just saying we need to be smart about where we spend the money for the activities for the children.

I do have my Community Awareness Meeting coming up next Monday. It will be right here at the Civic Center at 7:00 p.m. I have Bonnie Hackett our Animal Control Officer will be there to talk about some of the critters that she catches and some of the things that she goes through. That will be Monday, a week from tonight, right here at the Civic Center at 7:00 p.m. Hopefully we will have the Mayor there to talk about some of the things going on in the city as well. That's all I have. Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: Thank you. Just to bring up something I just thought of. I believe St. John Lutheran is it on Thursday night the basketball program? For the kids over there? That they run? Do you remember, Bob? It's open gym and they play basketball.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Yes, that's been going on for over 10 years.

CLMN VAUGHN: Right. So there is an avenue there and it's very well controlled.

My Block Watch will be Thursday March 22, 2018 at St. Monica/St. Benedict's School. Our guest speaker will be Al Sluka from the Board of Education. If anybody missed the talk that was given by the Mayor, which I think was one of the best things we've done since I've been seated, Mayor. That was an excellent program. From what Terry O. had to say, I think Mr. Sluka will be adding on to that so you're more than welcome to come to our Block Watch.

I want everybody to be careful Saturday. Enjoy yourselves. Have a safe but a Happy St. Patrick's Day to everybody. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Vaughn. Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: We'll make it short tonight. At the next City Council Meeting, I will announce the date of our Town Hall Meeting for the month of April. When the weather's breaking then we will go back to the bi-monthly meetings and town hall meetings in the Ward 1 community.

Also I want the people to understand. Don't always think about recreation as shooting the hoops. When we say just basketball goals, people worried about goals going all over the city and that's not what I'm at. Recreation to me is a controlled environment. One thing we are blessed with. We are blessed with a lot of clergy who would not hesitate to get involved. My friends are deacons. If anybody know me. My friends are a majority pastors and deacons. Ninety percent of my friends. That's what we are. And even outside the city they would be willing to come in and help and work with some of the children. But when you say recreation, you have to have a controlled environment or it will not be successful. You cannot put hoops up on every corner like the Mayor and everybody say. That will not work. But we have to get a little controlled environment and that be given a turn of what we offer now. What we offer now just isn't working.

I'd also like to say so the people know I will be giving a newspaper interview to a prominent newspaper--possibly two. They have reached out to me and they would like to interview me so soon as I do that interview I will try to post it on my page and let you all know when it's going to come out in the paper. They been asking me for quite a long time so I have agreed that I will do it.

I want to let everybody know also be safe on St. Patrick's Day. Safety first. If you drink, do not drive, etc. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Dudley. Mr. LaMalfa, do you have anything for us this evening?

CLMN LAMALFA: Not tonight, Mr. President. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. LaMalfa. Mr. Nenadovich do you have anything for us this evening?

CLMN NENADOVICH: Yes, just briefly. First of all I wish everybody a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

We sat here and we talked about a Recreation meeting, Building meeting. Everybody is all up in war about we got to get these meetings done. We have been meeting and we have five/six Council Members and maybe two residents. It's on the screen. It's going to be in the paper. We can't have a meeting without notifying the public of more than two Council people. When these meetings are everybody's work. We're going to get them now. It falls by the wayside so as the weather breaks because we got places to go. We got parks to go to. We don't have time for the kids. We don't have time for a Recreation meeting. In the wintertime, we sit in the house all evening. We don't want to go out in the cold so we figure out things to complain about and these are one of the things. When it comes time for the action, nobody shows up. They're all sitting at home because %omebody else+will do it. Somebody else isn't doing it. It's thrown on City Council.

Whenever we make a decision, 90% of it, why did you do it that way? We're not some kind of soothsayer---we could sit here and read your mind from far away. You're coming to the meetings and you want to see these meetings, come to meetings and look at both sides of the problem. I promise that we are not only representing the city to get something going what we're going to do for the residents and again, what are we going to do with the controlled part like Mr. Dudley says. They have to be controlled because you know yourself most of you have children, take your eyes off them for five minutes. You have a brother or sister they're going to be fighting. I know I do with my sister. It's got to be controlled. It's got to be talked about. Don't say

we are not trying to do anything because we are trying. We need your input. What do you want? Because like Mike Dudley says not everybody wants to play basketball. Not everybody wants to play hockey. But if we try to do something and we thought it was nice and we don't do exactly what the one citizen didn't want to do, we haven't done our job. Let's get together when the meeting comes. Come to the meetings and give us your input. We may not use it. It may take six/seven months to do it, but we are working towards a goal. There is no overnight solution. You been alive long enough to realize there is no overnight solution. So when we have these meetings, attend them. It's on the camera. It's going to be in the paper. It has to be in the paper so you got to go. Mr. Chairman, that's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Nenadovich. Mr. Glenn, do you have anything for us?

CLMN GLENN: I do. First of all, tonight we had vigorous discussions. I want to thank everybody that attended this Council Meeting. That's what we need. Attendance at these Council Meetings to show what is going on in this city.

I also want to say, March 14th at 3:00 p.m. we are having a Building Committee Meeting in regards to other ongoing issues with the Building Department. Open to the public. So if you have any issues with anything with the Building Department come on down. We can talk about it.

Also I think Clmn Burke's Block Watch is going to have Bonnie Hackett there. She's the animal warden. I'm going to attend that meeting. I want to ask her about the enforcement of pit bulls. We have an ordinance in this city that some people feel is not enforced. I'm going to attend that meeting.

St. Patty's Day be safe. Happy St. Patty's Day for all the Irishmen in this city. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Glenn.

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: I would like to make a motion that we close the meeting.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Suster to adjourn the meeting, all in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed? Meeting adjourned.

AYES: Suster, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Burke

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Matthew Burke
President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council