

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO**

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

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

INVOCATION BY: Councilman Gene Glenn

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

EXCUSED: Nenadovich

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: At this time, I'd like to excuse Clmn Nenadovich.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Vaughn to excuse Clmn Mike Nenadovich from tonight's meeting, all in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed.

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

Mr. Nenadovich is excused from tonight's meeting.

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let's move on to Reading and Disposal of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council for May 14, 2018.

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: I would like to make a motion that we accept the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes for the city of Garfield Heights of May 14, 2018 as written.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Suster to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the city of Garfield Heights for Monday, May 14, 2018 as written, all in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed?

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

That passes with 6 Yes votes.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

LEGISLATION COMING OUT OF COMMITTEE: None.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: We will move on to our Reports of the Mayor and the Directors. Mayor, do you have a report for us this evening?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do. Thank you very much. Prior to getting into tonight's report, once again myself and all of Council have the pleasure of swearing in not only two new firefighters today but promoting a couple of well-deserved firefighters to their new positions. We have some introductions to make. We're going to call up Acting Chief Strope right now to join me and you can do your thing.

ACTING FIRE CHIEF KEN STROPE: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you, Council. We do have two new firemen tonight. The first one is Ronald Large. I'd like you to come on up here. He comes to Garfield Heights to our department, from East Cleveland. He is a lateral transfer. We have interviewed several candidates. He stood out among several. He's a graduate of Normandy High School. He's familiar with the area. His dad grew up off Warner Road. He's with his mother tonight, Mrs. Renee Doris and Tory Simmons, his fiancée.

(At this time, Mayor Collova swore in Ronald Large.)

ACTING FIRE CHIEF KEN STROPE: Our second new fireman is Shane McNielly. He comes to Garfield Heights from a lateral transfer from Brooklyn Heights. He worked part-time there since June 2016. He is a graduate of Cuyahoga Heights High School. He comes from a family full of tradition. His dad is currently a Fire Captain of the city of Cleveland. His dad is here. Come up with him. I think his girlfriend Lexa Wolf is also here.

(At this time, Mayor Collova swore in Shane McNielly.)

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: We are going to get into some promotions right now. It's great to be able to promote people especially the ones that deserve it. I want to talk just for a minute about the two gentlemen that we are replacing. One is Chief Nemetz and one being Captain Donner I want to tell you about these two guys. They've been with me through thick and thin. When I first became Mayor, we did not have two dollars. I mean that sincerely. We met with the Fire Department. At the time, Mr. Donner was with the Union and I tried to explain the seriousness of the financial issue. They worked with me better than anybody could work with me. They took a lot of heat for it because we needed ambulances. We needed fire trucks. We didn't have the money to buy a fire uniform, let alone trucks. They worked hard and took a lot of abuse. They were great. Captain Donner and Chief Nemetz I can't thank you enough. The guys that are going to replace you got some big shoes to fill. I appreciate you guys being here. So a round of applause.

OK. David Cost and your family.

(At this time, Mayor Collova swore in David Cost.)

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: He is the present Union guy.

(Next, Mayor Collova swore in Thomas Nemeth.)

(Finally, Mayor Collova swore in Ken Strobe.)

PRESIDENT BURKE: Just want to let everybody know that we're going to continue with Council business. If you all would like to leave, you can. You don't have to sit here for the rest of the meeting. I've been told there's a cake at the Fire Department for you all. If you can just leave quietly, so we can continue with our meeting. Thanks, folks. We can proceed with the meeting. Whenever you're ready, Mayor.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: All right, Mr. Chairman, I will continue with my report. I have a brief report. First thing I want to report on was yesterday we had the Memorial Day ceremony here at our memorial here at the Civic Center. It was one of the best we've had in many years. It was very well attended. It's really an honor to see some of these World War II Veterans coming here. It was 90 degrees out there. They stood through that ceremony. You have to give them a lot of credit. They did a great job.

There are numerous people that I could thank for their efforts that they did in making that ceremony come off. I did that yesterday, but there is one group that I really wanted to make mention about. It's Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troop 137. Prior to Memorial Day, they went over to the park the memorial that we have at Garfield Park and they cleaned that up on their own. They were not told to do it. They just went out and did it because they thought was the right thing to do. Yesterday they joined us here at our memorial and helped put this whole thing together. They did a great job. Cub Scout/Boy Scout Troop 137. You went above and beyond and we really appreciate that.

Lastly, I wanted to talk about the high grass that seems to be the topic of controversy for everybody. It is certainly starting to get to me a little bit also. I got to tell you this. Just so you understand, when every time you call and you say how come you haven't been out to cut the grass. We started this year with 740 vacant lots that we had to cut. 740 we posted. Since we posted in April, we have added another 120 plus. That's 860 lots that we have to cut. Now think about this. We have two different crews out there. We actually have six crews. We have two different departments. One is the Garfield Heights Grass Cutting Department. The other one is CORE Community Service. They put their crews out each day to get all the vacant lots. But think about 860 lots how long that takes to do. If they each do seven/eight grass cuts/day just think of how many weeks it takes to get through 860. It's getting out of hand.

The reason is it's because the residents that we have coming into Garfield don't care any more. They don't care if this looks like a slum. I'm going to tell you what. It's starting to bother each and every one of us. Every Councilperson up here takes the heat from the guy living next door or the jerk that doesn't want to cut his grass. We've had enough.

We charge \$200.00 to cut your grass. OK? If you post it too early they call and complain that you posted their house and they were going to cut it. If you don't post it early, it's too long. There's no getting away from this thing. I'm looking at raising this thing to \$500.00. I'm serious. We got to do something. The people that are watching on TV you could talk about not cutting the Police Station, not cutting the Fire Department. We have to pull people off of cutting the grass next door to you to do that. That's how much grass we have to cut, with all the rain and sun. If you don't want to cut your grass; if you don't care what Garfield Heights is, please leave. Find another city to move into because we don't want you. I mean that sincerely. I'm sure the

social media is going to say sure the Mayor's mad at everybody but you don't cut the Police Station. That's B.S. We cut everything as fast as we can.

Resolution 12 allows us to apply for a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to pay for some traffic safety education. Resolution 13 allows us to apply to the Ohio Department of Public Safety for a recreation grant.

With that, Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mayor. Does anybody have any questions for the Mayor on his report this evening? Mr. Glenn.

CLMN GLENN: Mr. Mayor. I applaud your statement today on the grass cutting crew. You won't need any help from this Council to pass legislation or whatever has to be done to implement what you just said. We will back you up. Leastwise, I will.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I'm sure the entire Council will thank you, Gene. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Dudley, did you have something you wanted?

CLMN DUDLEY: No, thank you. I'm good.

PRESIDENT BURKE: OK. If there are no other questions, we will move on to our Law Director Mr. Tim Riley. Tim, do you have a report for us this evening?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: No report tonight. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Tim.

POLICE CHIEF ROBERT BYRNE: Absent.

PRESIDENT BURKE: We do not have our Police Chief with us this evening so we will move on to our Service Director Tim McLaughlin. Tim, do you have a report for us this evening?

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. President. Patch is moving along. We have about three streets left in Ward 6, so we'll be done. Currently we are working in Ward 7. If the weather holds out this week hopefully we'll be done by Monday through all the Wards in the city one time. There will be some areas we go back to revisit, but the main goal is to get as many of the streets tied up and done. It has made a difference of phone calls because the grass phone calls because I get those too. But the calls have gone way down. Like I said, we're going to revisit some.

The next thing that we're going to start on is we have about 80 water cutout repairs. We patched them to secure them until we can get to them. Some people don't understand that. They call and say you did a crummy job on the street. There is a hole there. Those have to be dug down, made sure that they're not undermined. Concrete and asphalt. They won't be done improperly. They will be done with the damage that surrounds them all fixed too. I had a couple calls today. They were water cutouts.

The Hazardous Waste Roundup. We took in 4,667 pounds of material that will be disposed of properly by the Solid Waste District. The paper shred was unbelievable. In a little over 3.5

hours, we took in 7,800 pounds of material. I spoke with Pat Salemi after last time. There's a request maybe we can get a third time. We are currently working on it. I don't know if it will be this year because we do have a fall shred. There's a lot of interest in it so we're going to try to get three of them a year. With that, you have the end of my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Does anybody have any questions for Mr. McLaughlin on his report this evening? There are none. We will move on to our Parks and Recreation Director, Robert Dobies. Mr. Dobies, do you have a report this evening?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Yes. Mr. President and Council Members, good evening. I have a short report. Pool is scheduled to open Saturday June 9th. We're still painting and hopefully the weather will hold off till we get through this week. All intentions are that pool opens on Saturday June 9th at 1:00 p.m. The Rec office is open for registration for the summer season. Pool passes, I.D. cards and registration for Learn. to-Swim classes. Hours right now are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. There will be additional evening hours next week. Please check our Website at www.garfieldhts.org. Click on Parks and Recreation and your point of interest for all the programming information.

Also, the Fitness summer classes are available at this time. Classes will begin June 25th through August 29th for a 10-week session held at Fire Station 1. You can pick your sessions. You wish to participate and fit your needs from once a week up to four classes. A deadline for signup is June 22nd.

I left Council a letter that I sent out to the softball participants this year. We had issues finding participants for softball season this year. We have held signups for over a two-month period. As always, past participants received letters, flyers. Flyers went to schools, Neighborhood News, the marquee, which is still posted today. We are still in need of four to six more players for the A Divisions, which is seven to ten years old, so we can fill two teams. In the letter, it goes into a little bit more depth as to what we ran into. Basically as of May 9th, there were 28 potential players for three different divisions. I joined Bedford five years ago and speaking with Bedford, Bedford encompassed the same matter. I mean we have 65 kids in t-ball. They have 16 signed up. So it's not isolated to one community or whatever the case may be.

Put forth programming and nobody shows up to sign up. My Booster president came in with her daughter. Her daughter asked me point blank (because she plays for the high school now) can C Division be a true fast pitch, which we are working towards over the last four years. I said absolutely. She says I probably have 15-16 girls to sign up. Never came in. Unfortunately, it's one of the tough decisions that I have to make in my position. We cancelled both B and C Divisions. We will still hold forth with A Division along with Bedford. We'll both have two teams each.

Last, on behalf of my wife, myself and the entire Dobies family, I would like to thank all for their condolences, prayers, support and love shown for our son Bert. God bless you all. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Dobies. Does anybody have any questions for Mr. Dobies this evening? If there are none, we will move on to our Finance Director, Ms. Barb Biro. Barb, do you have a report this evening?

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARBARA BIRO: Yes, a short one, Mr. President. We are asking for Council's support on behalf of the Police Department for Resolution 13-2018. This is a grant that the third time we've applied for this type of safety grant for our police officers. Once awarded,

we receive qualifying wages and fringe benefits for overtime when these officers are doing OVI checkpoints or doing traffic safety during high times such as Memorial Day, 4th of July and other holidays. So we are asking for Council's support on this resolution please.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Biro. Does anybody have any questions for Ms. Biro on her report? If there are none, we will move on to our Social Services Director, Kathy Rush-Parsson. Kathy, do you have a report for us this evening?

CITY ENGINEER DAVE KROCK: Absent.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Just a reminder to the residents that the Senior Center does offer transportation to medical appointments and errands. Throughout the summer many of our Seniors who utilize transportation during the winter, they don't use it during the summer so we certainly have availability for anyone in need of transportation. We do do a group shopping trip on Fridays for Seniors. We go to various locations throughout the city alternating Fridays. So if anybody knows of a neighbor or friend or yourself who could use some assistance with transportation, please call the Senior Center. There's a short registration form that needs to be filled out, but it's very affordable. It's \$2.00 round trip for medical appointments and \$3.00 round trip for errands. So if anybody would like more information or to register please call the Senior Center. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Parsson. Does anybody have any questions for Ms. Parsson on her report? If there are none, 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, Mr. President. I'd like support for Resolution 12-2018. This is to apply for a Natureworks grant for improvements at Debelak Park. We will also be submitting an application for CDBG funding as well. Our goal is to try to get as much grant funding as possible. Tomorrow there will be a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. here to discuss CDBG grant application ideas.

Second, I'd like to note that there will be a flag retirement ceremony on Saturday June 9th which is Flag Day at St. Martin of Tours Church at 14600 Turney Road, which is in Maple Heights. At 3:00 p.m., they will be cutting the flags. At 4:40 p.m., there will be a Mass. At 5:30 p.m. there will be a ceremony and burning of the flags. So if you have old flags that are torn or worn out, please feel free to attend the ceremony and bring your flags.

Second, I wanted to note that Boys Hope Girls Hope group is expanding in Garfield Heights. They will be involved with Sts. Peter and Paul Church on Garfield Boulevard. It will be known as the Rajan Academy Center. The groundbreaking will be this Saturday June 2nd at 10:30 a.m. I checked on their Website. It is not yet listed. They are going to make improvements to the facility. If anyone is interested in attending the ceremony the contact to RSVP is (216) 441-3980 extension 120. That is all I have for tonight's Council Meeting. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Kuban. Does anybody have any questions for Ms. Kuban on her report? If not, we will move on to our Building Commissioner Mr. Mark Moro. Mark, do you have a report for us this evening?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: No report this evening. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Mr. Glenn.

CLMN GLENN: I do have a question.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Is this for Ms. Kuban?

CLMN GLENN: No, this is for Mark and maybe the Law Department. On March 14th we had a Building Committee Meeting.

CLMN SUSTER: Point of order.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Glenn, can you bring this up during Miscellaneous Business?

CLMN GLENN: I will.

PRESIDENT BURKE: That will be the appropriate time to bring that up. If you could wait?

CLMN GLENN: I can wait.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. OK. At this time, we need to move on to Comments by Citizens on Tonight's Agenda. Will 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 make any comments on tonight's legislation? If not, we will move on to Ordinances and Resolutions beginning with Resolution 12-2018. Will the Clerk please read the title?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2018

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR THE NATUREWORKS GRANT FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Moved by DUDLEY to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

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

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

PRESIDENT BURKE: Resolution 12-2018 passes with 6 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2018

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S OHIO TRAFFIC SAFETY OFFICE UNDER THE IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (IDEP) AND THE SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP).

Moved by VAUGHN to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

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

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

PRESIDENT BURKE: Resolution 13-2018 passes with 6 Yes votes.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS

PRESIDENT BURKE: That concludes our Ordinances and Resolutions for this evening. At this time we will move on now 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: Is there anyone wishing to make any comments this evening?

Dave Putnam, 11708 McCracken Road. When I first moved in about 10 years ago, maybe once a week a heavy truck would roll down McCracken. It kind of rattled the house a little bit. Currently that's happening probably four/five times a day. I know they're doing some construction work down at the end of McCracken near the tracks. I see some of those trucks that are hauling material for fill are causing some of the rattling but it just got me thinking that it's not only that it's just increased over time that we've had a lot of truck traffic increase. I've spoken with some of the neighbors. They've noticed it too. So they all thought I should come and say something. I've spoken to Joe about this. He gave me a better understanding of some of the ramifications. What I was thinking might be a remedy, which would be restricting traffic by

with limit or no through trucks. I think this might be a question for the Law Director because can an incorporated municipality like Garfield regulate traffic?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Yeah, but there's a lot more that goes into it. You can't just decide to make a change. There's going to probably be traffic studies and other things that would go into it. It's something I would definitely look into. My office could look into the way of doing it--what the possibilities are. We can do that.

MR. PUTNAM: One of the points that Joe brought up that we don't want to cause a hardship for companies working in the area or for companies that are located in the area. With that, I went down and talked to them at the asphalt plant. I got the number for the plant manager, gave him a call, and talked to him about it. He said it wouldn't really affect them. They usually tell their truck drivers to go towards Broadway. So I'm not sure who it would really affect. I think the first question is legally can you put restrictions. That's what I want to find out.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: I believe McCracken is not a State route.

MR. PUTNAM: We know Granger Road Hill had that big battle there because it's a State highway. McCracken's not a State highway. I know that other municipalities. A friend of mine lives in Solon and they had a lot of traffic on Pettibone. They put extra thick concrete on Cochran. This way they wanted those trucks to come in to those landfills. But a lot of trucks were coming through on Pettibone through the residential neighborhood. They posted signs and they were all right for the first three/four months giving them warnings. Then they started issuing tickets. Then it ended. Trucks don't go through anymore. I know the city has a lot of issues to deal with. A small one compared to residents walking with other residents on the street. See if there's something that could be done.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: We'll look into it. We'll keep in touch with your Clmn Mr. LaMalfa.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you Mr. Putnam.

CLMN DUDLEY: Mr. Chairman. When they doing the trucks, that's not a State route there. But when you say no through trucks it do not prevent trucks from going through. It's still allowed. The trucks make deliveries to local traffic so if the sign is put up and the Law Director checked it out and said no through trucks it's not going to prevent us from going there. My truck don't come down there anyway. It will prevent us from coming down McCracken from say like Turney Road and cutting McCracken over to Broadway.

The other thing we got to remember too. Some trucks cannot come over the railroad tracks. It would catch their bottom of the trucks. Some trucks have no recourse other than to come from the Turney Road area and come down. They can't come over the tracks. You see the sign down there coming from Broadway. It showed that it would catch it. But if you just put no through trucks it's not going to prevent and that still allows trucks to make local deliveries. I wouldn't change that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Alvin Cassel, 4706 East 142nd Street. A week and a half ago I called Clmn Dudley over to my home and I showed him a area at the end of 142nd Street and Dressler that has a pipe running across the street that would drain water flowing from the upper area down to the lower area, but

the pipe is plugged up. I have too talked to the Service Department for the last two months about getting that cleaned out so the water flow and it wouldn't flood the street. After talking with Mr. Dudley and showing him the pipe in the street that's blocked up I called the Service Department again and asked them what they were going to do about the pipe in the street. They told me that Garfield Heights do not clean out pipes in the street. I said well I can't believe that because it floods and this is up on the street. That's what I was told so I want to know is what's going to be done about it?

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: I'll go and take look at it. Is that your property?

MR. CASSEL: No, it's the city property.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: That's the city property? On the corner of 142nd and Dressler?

MR. CASSEL: I got a picture of it.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: I know where it is. I been here 40 years. I understand. I will go and take look at it. My understanding was that it was into a private property. I will go and check it out and I will get back to you.

MR. CASSEL: There was a gentleman from the Service Department came out and looked at it. I showed it to him. Instead of doing something about it, they came and put asphalt on top of the area where the water would drain into the pipe to make it even more difficult for the water to get out of it. They plugged it up even more.

One other thing I'd like to speak on, what the girl spoke about earlier about that grass. The grass on my street has a house at 4672 East 142nd Street that has been vacant. The grass is about three feet high. A notice was put on the door 5/8/2018. It was a notice from the city. Nothing been done about grass. The grass hasn't been cut this year. I talked to a person that I was referred to to talk to about the grass and Joe about 4730. It's a home next door to me that's been vacant for the last four years and her grass haven't been cut. He told me that he hasn't had any complaints about it and that he been here six years and has not had any complaints about it, but my point is the grass need to be cut.

I'd like to know what's going to happen with that pipe because it floods my neighbor's yard at the corner and it runs right through the street. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Cassel.

CLMN DUDLEY: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: Yes, he did tell me about that. On the street what I had to do because he got the vacant house and so many lots. When I turned it in I had to say the street because I couldn't

remember how many lots. It's several lots on that street where the grass can't grow. I had to tell him I did turn it in and there is several properties on that street and I couldn't get specific, but it was in fact turned down. It was a house he talked about. That was something we discussed at Caucus too. A big meeting about Caucus, about the problem. The Mayor came out and addressed it. I did turn that in because it's a couple feet high now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you Mr. Dudley. Anyone else?

Donna Bell, 13513 Cranwood Park Blvd. Thank you so much for the time. I'm here because my family has been a resident of Garfield for approximate 48 years. Recently (a few years) we've noticed especially when you're coming off of 480 on to Broadway the hill where we used to call it Secret Mountains where we used to play as children. We called it Secret Mountains because it was a highly wooded area and it was a great adventure for young families to be able to explore there. But as of late, the trees are gone and there's mounds of debris. We assumed that there was construction that was going to be ensuing, which is why the trees were cleared and we saw mountains of what appeared to be construction materials, trucks, etc. In talking with my Councilman, it has come to our attention that it is not a construction site, but a dumping site for companies.

The other issue I have is the same thing over on Broadway. As you come across Whitehouse Bridge, there's mountains. There's no other way to describe it. If you're in your car on Whitehouse Bridge, there are mountains of debris. I guess recycling, etc. is going on but the piles have gotten so high and I want to say recently in the last few months they've grown to the point where nothing blocks them. Coming down 131st Street towards Broadway you can see them. It's become an issue where it's not only unsightly, but we feel it's a hazard and we don't know if it's a health hazard. We know it's a hazard if you have animals or children who are in the area, out walking the Metro Parks quite a bit. Going up the one hill on the far side closest to the bridge, you see a lot of dust, a lot of trucks, a lot of noise but I know I'm down near their establishment but I see the results of it as I go back and forth across the bridge. My concern is is this something that's allowed? Are they permitted by law to conduct such activities because it appears to be such a large amount of debris I don't feel that that would be a safe issue. I also would like to know what department I would need to talk to to get this addressed.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Donna, you are 100% correct. It's very unsightly and those mountains keep growing. Last week or maybe a week before, a week and a half ago, the EPA, the Health Department, our Fire Department and one of our attorneys went out there with the EPA to see what they could do to help us with this problem. The EPA said first of all that there's nothing dangerous as far as hazardous. That's what the EPA said. The Health Department said there were no Health Department violations. The problem is that the EPA does not have any height regulations. That has to be done by city. So if we were to put that in the city then we would have a chance to go after them, but understand (and I'm surely not an attorney) you know they've going to come back and say you did it after the fact. So we're looking into this, just so you know that's why all of those agencies were out there a week and a half ago. So we understand the problem and we want to see it corrected, but we have to do it legally.

MS. BELL: OK. So to address that. Thank you Your Honor, I appreciate your response. I don't believe that the intent of the city when they allowed these people to start conducting business

was that they would take it to this extreme. So whatever I can do to help to get the law changed, if you could contact my Councilman, because I think that because it wasn't on the books, it shouldn't be allowed to continue. I think some type of a stop needs to be implemented. They need to start taking it down because where would it end? And how far, how wide would it spread?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: That's exactly what we're looking into, but again as much as I would love to say because I have no friends over there, as much as I would like to see them take all their mountains down, we have to do it legally. We can't just enforce it unless it's legal. So that's what we have to do. But we are looking into it and I know it's a bad situation.

MS. BELL: OK. Thank you so much for your time.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Bell.

CLMN DUDLEY: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: I want to let her know and they probably going to talk about it in front of a Building Committee Meeting, but I did submit some legislation but I know it couldn't go through because it has to go through Building Committee and which I explained to people. That place has a history with the EPA. What they doing over there now and I don't want to go outside what she talked and brought to a concern is that they still continue to recycle metal even though they do not have no permit and are not zoned and they are still crushing cars over there left and right. We still run into problems like that smell is starting to come back out. They have water pollution and safety concerns. We can't restrict the height until we take it through legislation. I shared the pictures and I have them here and I did turn them to the Building Committee. If you look on the side, I am concerned that the way that hill is and from working on stuff like that sometime a hill collapses on a hillside and we know children shouldn't go there. Mayor, I know you are as concerned as I am and the rest of them. But if it going to take one time one child to be in the wrong place and he shouldn't be there at the wrong time he'd be covered up. We'd never find him. I know that not our wish.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: What we have to do, Mike, I believe is we have to sit down with the Law Department and figure out what we can do. When we brought the EPA there. We brought the Health Department with our Fire Department and our attorney, we were hoping that the EPA would say there was something wrong and they have to stop it. If the EPA steps in that means something. But they didn't. They wouldn't give us that handle. They said as far as they are concerned they're not breaking any EPA rules, nor the Health Department. I was not happy to hear that, just like nobody else would be. The ball was thrown back in our court and we have to try to do what we can do to resolve it.

CLMN DUDLEY: All right.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: All right?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Is there anyone else wishing to make any comments?

Resident: *(Inaudible.)*

PRESIDENT BURKE: Not at this time.

Resident: *(Inaudible.)*

PRESIDENT BURKE: You'd have to do that at the next meeting.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: If I may, Mr. Chairmen, if you call my office or you call the Council people's office and mention what you are going to say, then you can talk in the microphone. It's a rule that's been in effect for 100 years. It helps us be able to research something that you might want to know so that we may respond accordingly. If you want to give my office a call or if you want to give one of your Council people a call, then next month at the meeting you're more than welcome to step up and talk about it.

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

CLMN GLENN: Mayor, I know Greg. We have talked and I told him there was a proper time and place to talk about. He didn't say specifically what he wanted to talk about. We could talk about that after Council Meeting. Next Council Meeting we have talked and you are allowed to talk about any issue you want.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: OK. We will move on to Miscellaneous Business. Will the Clerk please read the rules.

CLERK: This involves the business of Council in the legislative function; any other problems should be directly dealt with by the department involved. This area of the agenda shall be limited to legislative business, Ward business, lack of attention toward problems, etc.

PRESIDENT BURKE: This evening we will start with Clmn Glenn.

CLMN GLENN: Thank you, Mr. President. Wednesday, March 14th, we had a Building Committee Meeting. We had a roomful in the Caucus. The Mayor attended, the Council people attended. We talked about issues and concerns to the Building Department and the Law Department. It was concluded during this meeting we had several issues with the Building Department and they needed to be addressed by the Law Department. That was March 14th. As of today, we have not got a response so if there's a need for another meeting I will call another meeting. Until I get a response and some kind of resolvment of this here, it is not resolved. So we need legislation addressed by the Building Department with the Law Department. I hope something can be done.

We have other issues besides what Mr. Dudley's talked about. We have many issues- grass, back yards, cars parked on front lawns, all kinds of issues- legal issues that we need to be addressed. If the Law Department can correct this, the Building Department can fulfill its job. So I'd like to have a response from either the Building Department or maybe the Law Department.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: I'd respond. Nothing was submitted to the Law Department. You came up to me last week with Minutes and said we had a meeting. I can't just guess at what you want done. You have to specifically submit something to me and say OK, these are the legislation forms that are to be submitted or here's what I want looked at, here's what I want researched. That has never been submitted to the Law Department.

CLMN GLENN: Tim, you was not at that meeting. Jeff was there.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Correct.

CLMN GLENN: I assumed it was going to be taken care of. I was under the impression that you guys were going to get together and that never happened.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: We need to know what you want.

CLMN GLENN: There were a lot of things in there that were talked about at the meeting.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Exactly. What I would like you to do is submit to me. Say this was discussed at the meeting. I would like this issue researched or this legislation proposed. Something of that nature.

CLMN GLENN: It was told by me that the Law Department and the Building Department would get together. I was told by the Minutes of the meeting that you guys would get together and resolve it. It has not been done.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Well, I wasn't aware of that then. Mark, I don't know if you knew anything?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: We've had several discussions on other issues with Law that has come up since then. Some of the issues that we discussed at that meeting have not been brought to you because we've swamped you with other stuff to do. We'd look again at the Minutes of the meeting and try to get those issues taken care of. We've had some other more pressing issues come up and we are working on them.

CLMN GLENN: At this time, I would like to ask the Law Department or the Building, are we required another meeting?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: I don't think we need another meeting.

CLMN GLENN: You'd resolve the issues then.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, if I may.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Sure.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Gene, you know what? I think we do need another meeting because I was at that meeting and I remember many of those issues were discussed and hashed out and resolved at that meeting. I'm not sure what wasn't resolved, but I think we should have another meeting so we can all sit down and hash it out again about the trucks and the garbage, etc.

CLMN GLENN: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. That will be done.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Anything else, Gene?

CLMN GLENN: I just want to say the Memorial Day ceremony was greatly appreciated. Remembrance of all the Veterans that Memorial Day was a memory of the fallen heroes of our country. That's all I have to say. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

CLMN SUSTER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have a few things here. Number one I'd like to congratulate the Mayor on his comments regarding grass cutting. I think it's too far away to be doing this. We should have done it sooner. In as far as raising the price of the fine for not cutting your grass I agree with you. But I don't know how much we'd be able to collect of that, but I think we need to do that in order to let people know that we're not letting it go to the back of the mind. I came by here tonight and I'm not driving so my wife took me down a street I haven't been down in a couple weeks. The grass honest to God is this high. But I'm going to turn it in tomorrow morning. I don't know how soon they will get it cut. We need to do these things. I've heard in the past, oh we can't raise this and can't raise that for the simple reason people are not going to want to move here. Maybe those are the people we want to keep out of here? Or get the ones that aren't cutting their grass to move out of here. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Suster. The only thing I have tonight. I want to welcome the new firefighters, Firefighter Ron Large and Firefighter Shane McNielly. Also I want to say congratulations to Lt. Cost, Captain Nemeth and our new Chief Ken Strobe. I know these guys work hard for the city of Garfield Heights and judging by the looks of the two new firefighters, I think we're in great hands.

The Memorial Day ceremony was absolutely fabulous. If you did not have chance to attend, I'd tell you the singers that sang both the National Anthem and Oh Beautiful, they were stellar. It's just a token of what some of our youth can contribute to our community. They were so wonderful. The band was wonderful. I can't thank them enough for making this Veteran feel proud to be an American.

The grass. I take a lot of phone calls on grass. I was actually out looking at some yesterday. I know that it's high and I know that our Service Department and our crews are working as hard as they can. I actually have one resident that tried to cut the grass and actually fell into a hole, so don't try to cut your neighbor's grass. I know it's an eyesore but the city will get to it. That is one thing, it's not going anywhere. The city will get to it and they will cut it. That's all I have this evening. Mr. Vaughn, do you have anything for us?

CLMN VAUGHN: Yes, I do, thank you. I'd like to announce on Thursday, May 31st at 7:00 p.m. we'll be having our Block Watch at St. Monica's in the pavilion outside. Weather will be nice. It will be nice to be outside. Come on up and join us. Police Chief is going to be there.

I'd like to congratulate everybody in the Fire Department. Folks, we have one of the best Fire Departments around. They're there when we need them. What a great group of young people, women, men, our new Chief. Let's support them and let's keep the growth moving.

Mayor, thank you.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You're welcome.

CLMN VAUGHN: Thank you for voicing my concerns about the grass and about many issues. I think it's time that we stop depending on everything to be an entitlement in this town. It's time for residents to take control. Clean up your yard. Cut your grass. Trim your bushes. If your neighbor needs help with it, give it to them. Sweep out the gutter. Don't expect the city to do everything for you. We're taxed. These young people that are out working. They're working hard. They're

filling those potholes. We had a horrible winter. We got by with two good winters and this one killed us. I had a guy tell me the other day that his little Kia Soul could fall into one of those holes and it would be completely buried. I said OK. I want to see that, I really do. Folks, come on. Let's take some responsibility on ourselves. It's all part of living in a community. Thank you. That's all I have.

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

CLMN DUDLEY: Well I don't think I got to talk about the grass. Everybody heard me in the back room. I appreciate what all of you all said about the grass. It was long time coming and you covered my sentiments as well.

I want to thank everybody for coming out tonight, voicing your opinions and concerns on some of the issues that have to do with our community.

I'd also like to congratulate the promotions in the Fire Department and as well their two new firefighters we have.

I'm also asking that I'm trying to raise some flags. It's pole flags. We don't have enough flags on 131st and throughout the city and what I want to do, if I could get somewhere between 40 and 50 post flags. They cost maybe about \$5.00. You don't have to, but if you live on Ward 1, if you'd like to donate one flag that we could put up on their poles when you drive like on Veterans Day and Memorial Day that it is lit up. I'm not asking for it to come out of the city pocket on that. I should probably get something going in the Ward. Several people can give one and I will get with Tim if they will possibly be able to put them up. So if you'd like to donate some flags or you belong to the Cranwood Club. The people in the Cranwood Club you can actually contact them and give them to him, or give it to me or maybe contact Service and be able to drop it off there.

Also, next week between probably Monday and Thursday I'm going to be kind of unavailable so if you have an issue do call the department or someone else who works mostly with me, etc. I'm going to be having surgery so if you call me Monday and Tuesday most likely I'm not going to call you back. Wednesday I really don't want to call you back. If you cut me some slack I'm home three days to rest up from the surgery. I should be back on my feet within about a week. With that, that's about all for you, Mr. Chairman.

I apologize for missing Memorial Day but sometimes I like to go down with Crotecht Cliff who is a Veteran who passed so it gives me some quiet time with him. I know it was a great event and next year I definitely will be there, Mayor, and also with the rest of you all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Councilman.

CLMN VAUGHN: I'd be more than glad to take your calls for you while you're home.

CLMN DUDLEY: I appreciate it. You heard his volunteer, people. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Tom.

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

CLMN LAMALFA: Yes, I've got something. I'd like to make a motion that this meeting adjourns.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn LaMalfa to adjourn tonight's meeting, all in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed? Meeting adjourned.

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

ABSENT: Nenadovich

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:16 p.m.

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Matthew Burke
President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council