MINUTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
July 21, 2014

Members of Community Development Committee present: Leslie Kelly, Cornelius McGrady, III., Barth Cotner, Chris Long, Scott Barrett, Dan Skinner and Mel Clemens

President of Council Doug Joseph was present.

Councilwoman Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes of the Community Development Committee Meeting held 06/02/2014

Report from Parks and Recreation from Joe Brown

Mr. Brown: Thank you chairwoman Kelly. Thank you members of council. We are talking a lot about change in the department. Subtle changes and big change nonetheless change. First off I want to talk about the Superhero Program and let me back up one second. I am also going to have a few subject matter experts come and speak as well. The Superhero Program we can talk about first. When you think about parks and rec or if someone were to Google mission statement for parks and rec somewhere in there you would see in inclusion and include all. Generally speaking we do a pretty poor job of that across the board. The global war on terrorism has helped that. Across the country as far as parks and recreation implementing adaptive sports and adaptive recreation programs for everybody within their community. The Superhero Program is quite honestly our attempt to get those kiddos in our communities between the ages of 5-20 that have intellectual and physical disabilities engaged and involved in their community programs. This program cost $20. There is no resident or non-resident rate. Our plans are to every time we offer a sport to kiddos without disabilities we are going to offer a sport program for kiddos within the Superheroes Program. Just to give you an example, soccer generally runs twice a year in the spring and fall season, why we are registering for kiddos without disabilities we would register for our Superhero Program as well. When we register for basketball we will register for Superhero basketball. We have had 19 kiddos register for this first program. It was tremendous. We had a lot of meetings on the front side. We had 2 women both who are with us tonight Joni G****(inaudible) and Tara A****(inaudible) both those women are like team moms. When you talk about Superhero Program it really drives off of volunteers and moms that are engaged. There 2 ladies were the catalyst to get this thing moving just through simple emails. They have done a great job. Our volunteer coaches. . .We sent an email out to all of our recreational soccer coaches and said “Hey we have recognized that you’ve coached some of our kids and we are starting this program. Are you interested in coaching?” It is 2 nights a week. We did not get a whole lot of responses because the email said this is not something you can do where you come on Monday and then decide it is not for you. We need people to consistently be there. You have to commit. We had some great coaches. We had 4 individuals that led that coaching effort. We have some volunteer kiddos from the high school levels volunteer their time as well. Without further ado I would like to say that the Superhero Program is alive and well. It is doing great. There is a new page on the website of the Superhero Program so that those families can see the offerings coming up in the future. We are planning on offering soccer again and then we will go straight into basketball. We are working right now with the school district to secure a gym. Joni and Tara are going to come up and talk about their experience with Superhero Soccer.

Joni G****: Hi, I am Joni.

Tara A****: I'm Tara.

Joni: I have a 6 year old son with Autism. Basically we were looking for something in the community that he could participate in but wouldn't have to drive all over the city. We do enough traveling as is when you are a special needs family. There is therapy, doctor appointments and it is endless. We wanted something that was affordable. In my situation my son has limited communication so it is trial and error. I can't afford to spend $200 somewhere and when we get there it is a disaster and he hates it and won't get out of the car. A program as affordable as this has been a Godsend because he loved it. It took us sending Joe 2 emails and boom he was just off with it. He got it all set up and I was in shock at how quickly it happened. All these kids are just having a blast. It is everything.

Tara: They are having a really great time. My son is visually impaired and hearing impaired. He has 3 brothers that are involved in different sports in Reynoldsburg. It was really important to have him involved and have him get to know all the other kids. He has played baseball for 7 years now. We've had to travel to Westerville for it. It's been nice to have it basically in our backyard. All the practices and games are here in Reynoldsburg. Special Olympics are awesome but this is very laid back and relaxed. It is not a book of 20 page rules. It is all about the kids. There has not been a dry eye through a whole game all season. It is unbelievable how happy they are. We are so grateful to Joe. Thank you.

Mr. Brown: So that was all about the Superhero Program.
Moving alone down the line I want to talk about youth soccer. When we look at our sports programs and we have 1 FTE and she oversees 14 adult and youth programs at a time by herself. We want to look at how we make our deliverables better for our participants. How do we make things better for our participants? How do we make things better? How do we compete? How do we get kids to stay here and thrive within our sport program? Long story short wave been working with the Crew Juniors. Soccer. We started having them rent some space. About a year and half ago we started talking about them implementing all recreational soccer programs. We have been working on it for about a year. We feel really confident that when you look at being able to take all of our staffing time-our part time and fulltime employees away from soccer and put them in other sport areas to counterbalance those efforts and it makes a lot of sense. When we talk about all the direct costs that are involved with soccer. Annually on 2 soccer seasons we spend about $22K a year. That is now going to move to the Crew Juniors organization. There is a lot to this program but long story short the recreational soccer program is going to be the same. We are going to have 2 seasons. Fall and spring. 6 weeks long. Volunteer coaches. Officials. Emphasis on coaches training. Free kid clinics throughout the season. I think that we have had some rumbles in the road but again it is change. It is a whole new program. We are retrofitting but I think at the end of the day our participants will be extremely happy with the product that they receive. To talk about what the Crew Juniors are going to do I have asked Josh R***** and he is the South Director of the program to come and speak about it tonight.

Josh R****: Hello everybody. Thanks everybody for having me in. Thanks Joe inviting me up. It has been great so far. I am one of the Directors of Coaching with the Crew Juniors with the Columbus Crew. Our front office there a lot of what we do is all about helping out the various communities. We try to put ourselves in each community. We operate right now in New Albany, Pickerington and Upper Arlington. All around town. We've been able to strike partnerships with a number of different cities like Columbus Parks and Rec. The things with Joe that we are really excited about as he mentioned in the last year and a half we have been able to establish an understanding and partnership. We have a working relationship that is fantastic and honestly the last few months coming in and working with Joe has been a breath of fresh air. For us to be able to come in and establish a program in like with the city of Reynoldsburg has been fantastic. We are looking forward to actually base it in the community and keep it in the community at an affordable price point compared to other programs around town. One of things that Joe alluded to that we are really excited about are some of the extra things we are going to be able to offer this year. Hopefully in the future years there will be more that we can add in. Programming that will operate side by side with the more traditional league that we have in place right now for this year. For this season what we are really excited about it is being able to add coaching curriculums which will be an add enhancement for volunteer coaches because I'm sure we have all been there. Typically when you are looking to get volunteers to these types of grassroots organizations and programs are generally the people that stood in line and didn't take a step backwards are the ones who got selected to be the volunteered or forced into because of their kid. It is really important for us as the professional organization in town to be able to help supplement as much as possible so we have a week by week training plans that are in place that can take the coaches through side by side that will help them see that side of things. We are also going to be able to enhance the program is be able to come out on a variety of days throughout the fall to be able to offer coaching education clinics for them but also a more technical development for the kids which I think is really important. Call it a Friday night skill or open field sessions. Whatever you want to call it. Those types of days are things that we are going to be offering as well with everything. I know we are excited about it. For this year one we are just really excited about where we are at as well and excited for the future and be able to put more programming in place for the city as well. Thank you for allowing me to talk about the program. If you have any questions feel free to contact Joe.

Mrs. Kelly: I have a question. You talked about the price point and I have talked to Mr. Brown about this and I am not comfortable with the $90 fee. It is twice as much as it was before. You talked about comparatively around town and affordable comparability. What programs are you comparing that too?

Josh: Comparing it to specifically Pickerington and their program PASA, comparing it to Pataskala's program. Pickerington's program is $90-$100 starting fee and that is not including their uniform fees. I do not have it with me but I do have a side by side comparison to send you. We looked at Gahanna's fee, Hilliard's fees. We try and take a look at the programs that are relevant in the city to show what their programming looks like and the comparison of what it looked like.

Mrs. Kelly: When I did very similar research I found that most of them were around $90-you are right. PASA and Westerville were run by private organizations. Groveport is run by their Parks and Rec was $45. How often do you believe that you will be able to come in and do those Friday night fields? I know you talked about being able to offer some of those coaching clinics which would be very beneficial to coaches.

Josh: They are hugely important for obvious reasons. Our hope is to do 3 per season. That is the goal. That is about roughly every 2 weeks for the coaches. One thing that I am really excited about is the 3 times a week at the price point for most age groups. 5's and 6's and below- we could get into a philosophic debate and there has been some controversy about having them not out 3 night a week doing certain things or maybe should be dipping their toe in other things rather than just one sport. The 7s and 8s and above that we are offering them come out 3 times a week and we go back to the comparison PASA is one of the more established programs in the area with over 900 or so kids and they only practice 2 times a week. We are super excited about it.

Mrs. Kelly: How many people are already signed up?

Josh: Right now we are at 47 people that are signed up with the programming changes and getting the site up and going and making sure we are in line with everything.

Mrs. Kelly: Mr. Brown? Do you know approximately how many students or how many kiddos signed up last fall?

Mr. Brown: Last fall? Off the top of my head I do not but I know I have sent that information to you I want to say 280-290.

Mrs. Kelly: You sent me the price points and so I did my very basic math and from looking at that and then I know I correct me if I am wrong but $45 for a resident and $56 for a non-resident so an average of $50 and divided it so I think it is about 310 kids give or take for the fall so part of my concern is with the $90. That is double that we are going to drop. One of the concerns that parents came to me and said if I have 3 kids and I was paying $45 and now I am paying $90 I can't sign up all my kids due to cost. How do I choose which kid so none of them can play? That is where my concern with such a large price point comes into play and looking at what we brought in and what we paid out and I know I believe and again please feel free to come in and correct me if I say anything that is wrong. We are still covering maintenance cost to taking care of the fields and things like that. So Crew is going to be covering uniforms, awards and officials. Also some small equipment correct?

Mr. Brown: I wouldn't say small equipment.

Mrs. Kelly: Because you got the portable goals

Mr. Brown: We are going to need to replace goals and repair goals.

Mrs. Kelly: But probably not the first go around this fall? They are not going to have to replace the big goals but maybe the portable goals that you will have to bring in.

Mr. Brown: Yea I hope not.

Mrs. Kelly: So when I did my math and Dick can look at my math and you feel free. Here is my concern coming in and raising it as much as we are raising it we are going to be bringing in one season and again if we are going to have the same amount of kids play. $27,900 and again this is rough but when you subtract the cost and divide that by 2 it's a pretty hefty profit that Crew is going to make. We are raising the cost on people in our community. We are making a very small profit when you think about $15/$25. Isn't it $15 per resident we get from the Crew for those kiddos and then $25 for non-resident.

Mr. Brown: It is $10/$15

Mrs. Kelly: Ok so it is less than I thought . We are getting a very small profit as a community. We have 1 full time employee. How many part time employees?

Mr. Brown: Working soccer we have about 7.

Mrs. Kelly: What other sports will they go and divert their time to now?

Mr. Brown: We will have flag football but again that is one season compared to two. We are going to work harder, longer and stronger and I will talk about that when we get to talk about fall baseball. Baseball will go from 3 months of the year to 6 months a year. We will spend a lot of time and energy to youth softball and youth baseball. Our volleyball has not been the greatest program just because it is kind of like the leftover after our soccer and baseball. It's been tough so we are really going to get better at our volleyball and basketball.

Mrs. Kelly I just really hope that we don't end up sacrificing soccer and we don't lose such a large amount of families that really took advantage of that. I still continue to think that $90 is too much at the same time I will tell you that I appreciate what Crew can bring and some of the differences that you can offer . I am not at all taking away from that but I think the price point is too much for our families.

Mr. Brown: Ok and again you and I have talked about price points a little. I am going to propose that we raise our price points across the board. About $6 more or maybe more than that but again we look at cost recovery and where we were at 2 years ago. We were below 10% in the parks department. The national spectrum is about 34% but we want to get at 40%-45%. So how do we do that by not charging people anything to play. I agree with what you are saying and I wish that it could be free and we could just play. Trust me. We've been the lowest show in town for a long time and if it was all based on press and it wasn't based on what am I getting or what are my kids receiving then we would have 1000 kids in our soccer program but we don't. Everybody goes to PASA and Licking Heights to baseball and they pay $125 to play. There is a fine line. With baseball we raised the price $10 this year and the participants see the brand new equipment, brand new bases, new backstops and fields they don't have to pick weeds from. Fields that are safer. We started the turf management process. It is subtle things that you don't notice.

Mrs. Kelly: I think $10 is a big difference than doubling the fee. The other thing that concerns me is we doubled the fee and we gave the profit to a private organization. Actually we didn't because I believe in the contract you guys can set the fee so we gave the profit to Crew because we haven't reduced our staffing. I understand we are going to reallocate the staffing but we did not increase our fees and then make this whirlwind of profits. I see the $10 fee and that is a reasonable thing. One of the things that one of our moms brought up is affordability with in our community-We are not a Dublin we are not a Pickerington. We are Reynoldsburg.

Mr. Brown: I couldn't agree with you more. We talk a lot about our fiscal-where we are at fiscally. We are the only department that can dictate the pace. We can change some things and we can augment things. If we take our programs away they won't ever come back. That is for sure. That is not really educated normal sentence to say "Oh let's just take away the parks and rec programs. They won't come back. It is done. If we reallocate some things and we look at our fee structures and we get competitive with 2014 but I am right there with you. Trust me. I really am.

Mrs. Kelly: I hope we are going to continue to look at it and if we continue to have such low numbers enrolling then you really are taking the program away. I think that is something we really need to consider. And Crew would need to consider as a business if you are not having people take advantage of what you are trying to sell then something has got to change.

Mr. Brown: The registration is open until the end of August. We are in the beginning stages of the registration process. You can speak to the marketing campaign. There are a lot of things getting ready to hit the communities as far as school flyers and banners.

Mrs. Kelly: One of things I hope you guys would consider when you look at this is all the benefits that being in Reynoldsburg really creates a win situation for you having exclusivity with Civic Park and creating a pipeline for future travel organization. There are a lot of positives that as an organization you get from just being in the city. I would hope that that would give you some consideration as you are setting price points for our community.

Josh: That is a great point and we certainly do because we are really excited about Reynoldsburg as a city in general. Not just the city but also the relationships with Joe and parks and rec and having access to Civic Park. There are also other opportunities with coaching education, indoor opportunities and things we haven't event talked about yet. We briefly talked about supporting the Superhero Program as well. Being able to lend some help and we are really excited about all those things. We always need to be looking at things (inaudible). I know when Joe called originally and asked to relook at the program and it was right away(inaudible).

Mr. Clemens: How many other cities now I know Pickerington is . . .It's not a city deal it is private. A lot of these are private that charge that and I know that. Reynoldsburg has always been a friendly sport city really. It's been for our children. A lot of them are not going to be stars and I know because I have 4 playing in the Pickerington deal. They are not going to be stars but they are having a good time. That is the important thing. To me what we have done is give away our programs. We are going to make $10 for every kid that signs up. Crew will make the rest. I am not interested in how many well I am interested in you said 47. Are you advertising just in Reynoldsburg or outside of Reynoldsburg.

Josh: Yes so that is a great question. . .

Mr. Clemens: I am talking about who is going to play in Reynoldsburg?

Josh: Yes so we have advertised locally in Reynoldsburg for one campaign. We have reached through all the surrounding cities.

Mr. Clemens: Well the reaching out is what I don't get because our taxes pay for the playgrounds and recreation areas in Reynoldsburg and that is why we want Reynoldsburg kids to play here first. You understand? And I don't think us receiving $10 is anything compared to what we should do as far as a city operation. We should be doing it ourselves. Now I don't believe in charging $90 either. We should have increased it maybe by $10 or $15 and ran our programs. I know you have a good program don't get me wrong but you are going to tie up all of our soccer fields and so forth. They will be exclusive to you. I just can't see where it is benefitting Reynoldsburg by farming out all of our sports programs. I see where we did our baseball and I see we are not going to do it next year and I understand why on that deal. I am hoping in the future we start considering the children who are going to move on and be on travel teams. That is what bothers me. It has always been a friendly city of sports for the young kids and that is how we ran our recreation department. I think that should be taken into consideration. I know you have a good program don't get me wrong. I am not in favor of having it reached out to the outskirts that don't live in Reynoldsburg. Reynoldsburg kids should come first. What you should have done is advertise in Reynoldsburg until we didn't have enough then you open it to the outside. Personally I feel if I pay taxes it is for the kids in Reynoldsburg be on the field first. It has already been done so I am not going to argue about it. It should have been an in-house operation. We will just have to see how it works out.

Josh: Yes absolutely. I appreciate that and to give you a little background as to why I went that route with it is because I have access to PASA's database and. . .

Mr. Clemens: That's private. You understand what we are talking about?

Josh: I am saying that almost 25% of the people in the program actually live in the city of Reynoldsburg.

Mr. Clemens: It doesn't make a difference. It is private. That's what I am trying to get across to you. I don't care if they live in Westerville they can still play in Pickerington.

Josh: Yes absolutely. Part of me reaching out to some of the other organizations was to try and capture that Reynoldsburg audience that is playing outside of our community to bring them back into the community. That is what we hope to do by reaching out locally. I completely understand what you are saying as far as outside the community.

Mrs. Kelly: Josh is there any way that once you get your list of athletes that you could give us a breakdown like out of hopefully a lot more than 47 this many are from Reynoldsburg and this many is from this place and that place? That would be great.

Mr. Cotner: I agree with Mr. Clemens but you know I was a multi-sport super star sport in Reynoldsburg here. I get that we have a lot of super stars so I don't know what he is talking about. Our Parks and Rec has always been great and I think still that this can be a huge benefit to our community. I do agree with Mrs. Kelly. I think the price jump was too drastic too quick but I appreciate that you guys went back and revisited it from $125 down to $90. That was such a shock because this is still high but I appreciate that there is a willingness to work together so one of my big concerns and I have spoken to Joe about this is despite that some of the kids are not going to be the super stars. Is this going to model a lot of what we had in the past? Is it really going to be a recreational league? How do you envision the format and how is it going to look for the community? A lot of the kids who I have coached now are saying " Are your kids going to play again? Are you going to coach? What should we do? " Some are looking at the Upwards program or looking elsewhere because they just want their child to pay soccer.

Josh: It is a traditional format and league. You will have a couple practices a week and you will have your games with the referees just like you have traditionally had. No issues there.

Mr. Cotner: You mean actual referees or a Crew volunteer coach? And just to note that too is expensive. That is one of the things that I don't know Joe how much do the referees cost? There are actual certified referees that they are paying for every game even for these little 6 year old kids running around so I know that's a big expense.

Josh: It is a significant expense.

Mrs. Kelly: My understanding is that last year for officials I can help with that because Joe helped me out by sending it to me and it was $11,177 so divide that by 2 and its approximately $6k. Are you planning on doing with the kids? I believe it is student age kids.

Mr. Brown: Inaudible

Mrs. Kelly: So you don't have to have the MOSSL certified coaches just regular Parks and Rec certified refs.

Josh: On the recreational side of things yes. (Inaudible)

Mr. Brown: Our U6 league we tried to go coach offcials which is what they do across the country. Here we had a lot of folks who weren't happy about it. (Inaudible)

Mrs. Kelly: So are you guys going to get the officials for them or is the Crew going to get the officials?

Josh: Yes we will work hand in hand as far as the past database that we will be able to pull from and then we will actually have a referee signer which is an additional expense. They are certified to referee because there is an insurance that goes along with that. Yes we will have someone in place.

Mr. Barrett: Do you pay the actual referees or does the city of Reynoldsburg?

Josh: We pay the referees from the registration fee and we also pay the referee signer.

Mr. Barrett: I agree that for our program this is a big change and frankly I am not sure that you understand the demographics that we are used to and that $90 price point is a bit steep. Also the ones you are comparing with like Pickerington which frankly my kids play there too. You get that better referee. We have kids do it and that helps us achieve the good price point. Neat ideas but you know what it is that whatever we are doing we still have to maintain our facilities and the more traffic we put on the facilities the more maintenance is required. I hear grow and then I also hear I don't have any full time employees to do it so it kind of gets confusing from just what I am hearing. I am not sure how to handle that.

Mr. Cotner: I have one more question too. I had heard somewhere along the way that families with multiple children there will be some discounts and some scholarships for some kids that needed that. Can you share some details?

Josh: We provide $7.50 per multiple players so if you have got 2nd 3rd 4th player you will get $7.50 off. For the scholarships we have an opportunity for them to go through me with the scholarship and I basically act as a scholarship. We take the same exact approach as we do with our club. It is an elaborate process where there is 3,4 or 5 of us directors involved and there is a budget in place specifically for that and thus far alone with our club portion of things we have given out $42K in scholarships. We have allocated over 75 that we will give out by the end of the year and we met that budget last year.

Mr. Cotner: And you will utilize that even for the rec kids and those kids in our community?

Josh: Yes absolutely. It is big part of it so and for me it is one of the toughest parts of the job because you can't give scholarships to everybody but you want to make sure that you give them to the people that actually need them. They are required to submit certain types of paperwork to document their specific situation so we can work with them specifically to make sure that they are in a fair situation. I have already gone back and forth with somebody to help with that process already.

Mrs. Kelly: When you advertise and you send stuff out about the soccer program? I have got an email from the Crew. That is how I found out about it. Do you advertise on there that scholarships may be available?

Josh: We do not. We do not advertise that they are available but when they come back through the registration process there is wording in there but. . .

Mrs. Kelly: That maybe something to think about at least recreationally in Reynoldsburg. There may be some families that would maybe inquire or seek that out if they knew that that was a possibility. It may not pan out but they may not have even asked the question. Or approached because they didn't even know it was a possibility.

Josh: Maybe we can discuss putting it on the website specifically related to it. The one thing we have to be careful about is when you put it out there that you are advertising it in a public fashion via email and all of that we have had almost 75% of the applicants who will apply and we won't be able to support any type of budget with that unfortunately. Then you get in a bad situation and have to tell people now and it is always a situation that we try to avoid. Behind the scenes we do still try and help out as much as we can. I agree with you though and maybe we can make it a little more in peoples face so that they can see it.

Mrs. Kelly: Are there any other questions? Thank you very much.

Josh: I appreciate it and Joe has my contact info if anyone wants to reach out to me. Thank you.

Mr. Brown: Moving along this past March we entered into an MOU with the Central Ohio Cougars also known as the Clippers. The idea with having a travel baseball organization come to Reynoldsburg was to get the travel component of baseball within our park system. We can benefit from having tournaments coming to our city. Long story short. This relationship we have decided to move different directions just based on differences of management styles and so we've, and to be honest from the very beginning in dealing with this organization we said, you know we don't need you in the parks, it'd be nice to get you in the parks so that element of baseball could find out that there are baseball fields in Reynoldsburg. People didn't know there are 19 baseball fields here. So that was one of the pieces of it. We didn't pay any money to have the Clippers in Reynoldsburg, field maintenance was extremely minimal. We drug the fields once a week and we would do that regardless. We moved some of our recreational programs to some other fields. But moving forward we're going to have an element of our youth baseball/softball program play over there at Huber Park. To say that we were farming out baseball with the Clippers, that's not what the Clippers were. Having the Clippers come to Reynoldsburg, again, was having a travel team that's within COBOL, Central Ohio Youth Baseball participate in Reynoldsburg. That was the intent, so, their season is over, and we're going to move in different directions from the Clippers.

Mrs. Kelly: I have a question. When the Clippers had games or held games, did any of our staff members have to be there, were they present there? Did we have to staff…?

Mr. Brown: No, we did not. The two tournaments that they ran, we had nothing indirect or direct allocated to those tournaments.

Mrs. Kelly: Ok.. Did we have to do clean up after the tournament was over?

Mr. Brown: yes certainly, we had to clean up trash and things like that certainly.

Mrs. Kelly: So there probably was an extra cost there as if there hadn't been a tournament there would have been less trash to pick up.

Mr. Brown: Yeah that probably fair to say there would be less trash.

Mrs. Kelly: Ok, so there was probably a little bit of a cost there. Ok.

Mr. Clemens: In other words, we, they held tournaments, but we didn't supervise anything. Another words, we let all these teams and people come to town but we had nothing, we didn't supervise see what was going on or anything.

Mr. Brown: No, we supervised, I was present.

Mr. Clemens: That's what she asked I think.

Mr. Brown: I think she was talking grounds crew allocation…

Mr. Clemens: No but we had somebody there supervising what was going on .

Mr. Brown: Yes.

Mrs. Kelly: So we had staff allocated. If you weren't there, there was a parks and rec employee that was there.

Mr. Brown: No. The entire time they're in the park, no. We just did what we call spot checks. Make sure that buildings aren't on fire, things like that.

Mr. Clemens: Ok.

Mr. Brown: There are deposits that these teams will pay through their facility rental agreement, if anything was left unsanitary, whatever, they didn't get their deposit back. Kind of like the last tournament that the Clippers held, they left a lot of trash, so they didn't get their deposit back. Things like that.

Mrs. Kelly: My only point was that even though our maintenance was low, we still had staff that we had to allocate even if it was just doing spot checking. We still had staff that had to go spot check and do things, so there was staffing. Any other questions?

Mr. Brown: Fall baseball. Fall baseball was one of the things we wanted the Clippers to help us kind of implement. It became pretty clear early in that relationship that we were going to have to drive that train and so having create a fall baseball league in Texas, really just copied that format I created in Texas and I would like to say we have 9 teams committed to play fall baseball this fall. I'm pretty excited about that and the idea there is we got to get better at youth baseball/softball within our own community. There are a lot of kids in our own community that they don't want to play soccer, they don't want to play, whatever, fill in the blank, flag football, and they want to play baseball/softball. But the other side of that coin is that their parents really aren't quite ready for the travelling baseball commitment of 12 months a year $1000 a year, the fall baseball is a.. The way it works is kids don't register one at a time, the coach creates the team and pays a $400 registration fee which they can't have a roster bigger than 15 kids, most of those teams will carry about 12 kids which is roughly close to around $35 dollars per kid. They're responsible for their uniforms, we've sent the teams several of our shirt vendors to work with them to get them you know like $5 uniform shirts to kind of cut those costs for the teams. Some of those teams have gone out, like the gentleman who owns Wendy's is coaching a team and Wendy's is going to sponsor his fall team and help them with their shirts and hats and the other side of this thing, we want this fall baseball thing to happen, we contacted PYA early on and said hey, PYA has had a fall baseball league for well over 5 years and as we say, what do you think the dynamics of having the PYA baseball teams play the Pickerington, we could have like the battle of 256 in youth baseball and everybody love it this far and that's what we're looking to do. So we'll have some of our teams come and play from PYA, some of them will come play here, it will be back and forth, but long short of it is the registration for that program is complete July 26th, the teams will start practicing in August, they'll practice the entire month of August, they'll play 10 games September through October, we'll probably bleed into November. But they're going to practice, they'll have 3 events a week. So they'll get to practice twice and they'll play double headers on Saturdays.

Mrs. Kelly: Ok, I have a question for you. I love that you said that it's about $33 per kid. So here's my question. Fees include practice, game fields, three events a week and umpires and we're charging them $33.00 to play baseball, but $90.00 to play soccer.

Mr. Brown: it's a completely different format, different league, and different sport.

Mrs. Kelly: But do you see if I'm a parent looking at that, $33.00 to play baseball, $90.00 to play soccer. That's a huge difference.

Mr. Brown: yeah, it certainly is a huge difference. But again, it's a brand new league and we want to get this league to happen. This year we want to get it going and off the ground. You know, there is, all of the other fall baseball leagues run about $600-$700 a team to register. We may or may not continue to move that way if we get this program off the ground. Anyway $3600 in some revenue we'll be taking in on this fall baseball that easily pays for us to drag fields.

Mrs. Kelly: Do we split this with PYA and any registration with PYA?

Mr. Brown: No we do not split registration no.

Mrs. Kelly: We don't split any share of any of the money coming in with PYA at all?

Mr. Brown: No the only thing we're going to share is we're going to share field space. We're going to share, split umpires across the middle 5 games/5 games.

Mrs. Kelly: So when you say we're going to share space, will some of our teams practice in Pickerington or all of the Pickerington teams practice here?

Mr. Brown: No. Game –wise we'll share space. We'll play some games over there and we'll play games here.

Mr. Clemens: I'll get back to what you said. You're speaking of 10 weeks of baseball plus tournaments…

Mr. Brown: No tournaments.

Mr. Clemens: …and only $33 bucks so you're only talking about 6 weeks of soccer for $90.00. I know why, because you have more people playing baseball, I would assume that would help pay for it. Other than that I wouldn't know what it would be.

Mr. Brown: and again, we can go through youth basketball, volleyball, all at the parks and recreation level and look at our cost recovery margins. We need to move this way.

Mr. Clemens: Can I ask a question? Now, this is the same situation. We advertise here first and if we can't fill the teams up then we fill them up from outside Reynoldsburg, is that it?

Mr. Brown: yeah to my knowledge we started advertising fall baseball for our leagues about a month ago and so, to my knowledge, I haven't looked at the actual, well we haven't gotten the registration forms in yet from the coaches. We just have verbal commitments that have a teamed formed.

Mr. Clemens: but it would be residents of Reynoldsburg first.

Mr. Brown: They are all kiddos from our recreational league. I will say looking a couple years ago, we were losing lots of kids to Licking Heights and to Pickerington. I think we're going to capture a lot of those kids back.

Mr. Clemens: That's fine, I have no problem with that. They are residents of Reynoldsburg, that's what I'm speaking about. That's what I want our teams made up of, people from Reynoldsburg, you know. First.. You know, then if you have to go outside that's different. At least that's the way it used to always be, I just wanted to know how you were handling that that's why I ask my question. Reynoldsburg first then if you don't fill up the teams you would go elsewhere.

Mr. Brown: Right, it's our fall recreational league. I would imagine that after this first season, we'll probably start getting kids from other communities that can play in our league, so, from out of Reynoldsburg, yes.

Mr. Clemens: After you fill it up with Reynoldsburg kids. I'm serious, I don't pay taxes for you to run a recreational department for somebody else. Neither does other people.

Mr. Brown: That's what we're talking about. We're talking about, I mean 2 years ago our…

Mr. Clemens: I'm not talking about 2 years ago I'm talking about now.

Mr. Brown: I'm trying to give you some context. Our baseball league is 20 years behind. We are trying to get baseball and softball into our community where it is desirable and kids want to play it.

Mr. Clemens: Bring our kids in from going other places.

Mr. Brown: Right.

Mr. Clemens: That is correct. I have no problem with that. I'm talking about people that don't live in Reynoldsburg. You understand?

Mr. Brown: Yes.

Mr. Clemens: No I don't think you do.

Mr. Brown: No I understand.

Mrs. Kelly: Are there any other questions? Joe is there anything else that you would like to add?

Mr. Brown: No I think that is it. Again I thank you for your time and its always good to give you a report on some new programs.

Mrs. Kelly: We look forward to an update as we go forward and I would love to. . . It would be great to get some pictures of the Superheroes when they do basketball.

Mr. Brown: Yes. I can we just had team pictures for Superhero Soccer and they turned out really good.

Mrs. Kelly: That would be great.

Mr. Clemens: I do have a question. I do agree with the closure of the bridges at the park.

Mr. Brown: Thank you. We are working on it and I could eat up all the time tonight but we are working out a way to figure out a solution to that issue. And a solution that makes sense for all the community members that uses that park.

Mr. McGrady: Were you able to look at those 2 grants that I sent you the information on?

Mr. Brown: No. I do not recall you sending me 2 grants to be honest.

Mr. McGrady: I will push it out first thing in the morning.

Mrs. Kelly: Thank you. With that I will close what I think has been my longest Community Development meeting at 8:24pm

Mr. Long: Thank you Mrs. Kelly.

Community Development Committee
- - -April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
July 21, 2014

MINUTES SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
July 21, 2014

Members of Community Development Committee present: Leslie Kelly, Cornelius McGrady, III., Barth Cotner, Chris Long, Scott Barrett, Dan Skinner and Mel Clemens

President of Council Doug Joseph was present.

Councilwoman Long called the meeting to order at 8:24

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes of the Safety Committee Meeting held 07//07/2014

Mr. Long: Prior to getting into the ordinance readings I would like to make an announcement that there are some members of the committee who have discussed the possibility of offering amendments to the recommended changes that were presented to us from the Ad Hoc Committee. We will need to have those to the Clerk of Council by the end of the businesses on Wednesday and then those changes will be sent to the city attorney, all members of council and Council President so that Jed will have time to make his comments as far as the implications and impact on the community and the overall code of Section 505 and then those will be in our packets on Friday and we will be ready for the up and down votes on Monday night.

Item #4 Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances for the city of Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Amending various sections of 505 Animals and Fowl and declaring an emergency regarding definitions. First reading was on 7/14/2014. Anybody have any questions? The City Attorney is here. Mr. Barrett?

Mr. Barrett: I think that if there are any intended changes that are known of now then this would be a great time to throw them out so that we can discuss them rather than get them in the packet on Friday and vote for them on Monday.

Mr. Long: Absolutely. If anybody is willing who has any amendments that they have prepared to any of these changes that are proposed by the Ad Hoc committee and if they are prepared to discuss them tonight then be my guest. Hearing none I will make a motion that we will send item #4 back to council for an up and down vote. Is there a second? Second by Councilman Barrett. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. Thank you.

All: Aye.

Mr. Long: Takes us to Item #5 Ordinances to Amend the Code of Ordinances for the City of Reynoldsburg Ohio amending various sections of 505 Animals and Fowl and declaring it an emergency regarding Wild and Exotic Animals. It had its first reading on 7/14/2014. Are there any comments? Members of the Committee questions for the City Attorney on this section? Councilman Skinner?

Mr. Skinner: The um. . I was just going to follow up with Scotts comment um really the things that Jed had pointed out in his notes that is the thrust of what Jed and I have been corresponding about that so I don’t know if there is anything that anybody noticed on his comments that would be primarily the direction that. . . What was that?

Mrs. Kelly: You are just cleaning it up? You are just cleaning it up.

Mr. Skinner: Yea. So I mean if there is anything that you saw from his comments that shouldn’t be a shocker to anybody what comes on Monday.

Mr. Long: Are there further comments on this section? Hearing none then I will make a motion that we send this to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I get a second? Seconded by Councilman Clemens. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

Mr. Long. Thank you. Takes us to Item #6 Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Reynoldsburg Ohio. Amending various sections of Chapter 505 Animals and Fowl and declaring it an emergency. This one is regarding animals at large, leashes and tethering. Any comments on this item? Questions for the City Attorney? Hearing none I will make a motion that this item be sent to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I get a second? Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay>

All: Aye

Mr. Long: Thank you. Takes us to Item #7 Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Reynoldsburg Ohio. Amending various sections of 505 Animals and Fowl and declaring it an emergency. This one is regarding barking dogs. It had its first reading on 7/14/2014. Any comments on this section proposed change? Questions for the City Attorney? Hearing none I will make a motion that we send this to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I get a second? Seconded by Councilman Clemens. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All; Aye.

8. ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 505 ANIMALS AND FOWL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Regarding Permitted Animals). (1st reading 07/14/2014)

Mr. Long: Are there any questions or comments? Questions for the City Attorney? Hearing none I will make a motion that this item be sent to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I get a second? Seconded by Councilwoman Kelly. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye.

9. ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 505 ANIMALS AND FOWL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Regarding Keeping or Training Animals For Fighting). (1st reading 07/14/2014)

Mr. Long: Are there any comments or discussion from members of the committee. Questions for the City Attorney? Hearing none I will make a motion that we will send this to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I get a second? Seconded by Councilman McGrady. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye.

10. ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 505 ANIMALS AND

FOWL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Regarding amending of Sections 505.05, 505.09, 505.11, 505.15, 505.17, 505.23). (1st reading 07/14/2014)

Mr. Long: Are there any questions or comments? Any questions for the City Attorney? Hearing none I will make a motion that this be sent to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I g a second? Recommended by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All; Aye.

11. ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: REPEALING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 505 ANIMALS AND FOWL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Repeals Sections 505.13, 505.21 & 505.29). (1st reading 07/14/2014).

Mr. Long: Are there any questions or comments? Any questions for the City Attorney? Hearing none I will make a motion that this be sent to Council for an Up and Down vote. Can I g a second? Recommended by Councilman Clemens. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye.

12. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY AUDITOR TO REMOVE FIVE RADAR UNITS FROM THE CITY'S FIXED ASSET LIST. (second reading 07/14/2014).

Mr. Long: Are there any questions from the Chief? Any questions for the City Auditor? Hearing none I will make a motion that this be sent to Council with a recommendation of adoption . Can I get a second? Recommended by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

Mr. Long: Thank you. I will close the Safety Committee meeting at 8:33pm.

Safety Committee
- - -April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
July 21, 2014

MINUTES SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
July 21, 2014

Call to Order by Councilman Clemens at 8:34pm

Approval of agenda: Stand approved

Approval of minutes of the Service Committee meeting held 07/07/2014. Stand approved.

Special Exception Use Permit #159544 6748 E. Main Street, 6 Month Follow up. Do we have anyone here representing the clients pertaining to this? Now this is the 3rd time that nobody has bothered to show up. I think well I had our Development Director checked on it and it seemed to be moving along if I am not mistaken. Dan didn't they get issued a new permit?

Dan Havener: Yes as of last Friday the applicant was issued Certificate of Occupancy permit from the Building Department. That is my understanding.

Mr. Clemens: Everything seems to be up to date on it? It meets the code and so forth? I know there were some questions I know pertaining to the. . .

Mr. Havener: The last things that were supposed to be completed or some parking spaces along the east boundary of the property as well as the north boundary behind the building. And the traffic was supposed to be directed as one way around the east and north side. To be quite honest with you I don't believe that that has been done. I need to check into that and see if that has been done. The only other issue that I am aware of that was outstanding was the changing of the hardware on the door to the Main Street side exit or the South Exit of the building. It was supposed to be changed to emergency egress only. So a push bar should have been added rather than a pull from the outside. I can check on those things.

Mr. Clemens: I think that and I don't know that there were questions pertained to their play area. I have looked at it and it looks to me like they approved it. They tore down the posts that were in the middle with the lights and so forth.

Mr. Havener: There is no light poles and no utility stubs. Nothing.

Mr. Clemens: The other problem was that I know that they should take some of the stuff off of their front windows so people can see in.

Mr. Havener: Correct. They are allowed to put up to 25% coverage in the front windows.

Mr. Clemens: Other than that I think the reason that it was brought up was that they did extend it so long and I think they did get there renewal or permit didn't they?

Mr. Havener: Yea they reapplied for one and refiled basically for their building permit. Which required them to that was the beginning of June and that required them to pay half of the fee of the original fees of the building permit.

Mr. Clemens: That was one reason that they. . . We wanted to speak to them. There was no action for so long. Since they have been issued their aux permit would you check the other items out and see that it is taken care of?

Mr. Havener: I sure will.

Mr. Clemens: Ok. Are there any questions for our Development Director? Yes Councilman Long?

Mr. Long: April are we sending these letters via certified mail?

Mrs. Beggerow: This one I actually spoke with her in person. She said she was going to be here.

Mr. Long: Ok all right.

Mr. Clemens: I guess they decided that they must not have to come. That is alright. Will you check out and make sure they take care of what they need to take care of?

Mr. Havener: I will.

Mr. Clemens: Thank you. Are there any other questions? If not I would like to end the meeting at 7:38.

Service Committee
- - -April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
July 21, 2014

MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
July 21, 2014

Call to Order by Mr. Cotner at 8:38pm

Approval of agenda

Approval of minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 07/07/2014.

Discussion: Resolution for Solid Waste Contract

Mr. Nathan Burd: Thank you Chairman Cotner and members of Council. This is just the formal action that we talked about to go along with the conversation we had 2 weeks ago. This resolution would signal our intent to select Rumpke Status Quo Bid for our service collection provider for 2015-2017 with the option of picking up a 4th and 5th year. All services remain the same. Nothing changes. The price goes down to $15.53 per month for the residents so we think that is a good thing. We are asking that this be passed for next week so that we can get the contract together during the August recess and then have you approve that in September so that we can make sure everything is in place well before our current contract expires in December. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Cotner: Questions for Mr. Burd? Seems pretty straight forward . I'll make a motion that we send this to Council for adoption. Second by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye.

Discussion: Appropriation of $80,138.00 from CIP fund for Senior Center Parking Lot. (Funds to be reimbursed from the EPA Grant).

Mr. Harris: Thank you Chairman Cotner and members of Council. This is the parking lot at the senior center that you guys discussed several weeks ago. The way this works differently than the ones that we have had before. We have to ask for the money up front and then they will send it to us. Since there were no appropriations passed for this money. The way this one works I am going to have to write the check up front and then the money will get reimbursed when we get the EPA. So this is just an accounting situation for me so that the other thing is because of the lateness of this getting started and they are not going to be starting this until after the Tomato Festival and we don't want that parking lot to have any down time and I don't want any slowdown in the progress of that parking lot. If I am writing the checks I will make sure that they get paid on time and they get done in the timely manner. This is not costing any more money. It is just we are going to pay for it up front and be reimbursed. No change in any of the numbers.

Mr. Cotner: Any questions for the auditor? I will make a motion that we send this to council for recommendation for adoption for emergency. Second by Councilman Barrett. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye.

Discussion: Request to remove old cruiser cameras from the fixed asset list.

Chief O'Neil: Thank you Chairman Cotner. This is basically a housekeeping issue for us. I do know that my team replaced some of the cameras this year with an updated more complete system. All of the 16 cameras listed on the sheet in front of you they represent about 7 or 8 working components total. It is not sufficient for a department of our size. We are trying to get them removed from the asset list so that we can dispose of them as needed. I know that some smaller agencies down in the south east part of Ohio that will take these off of our hands for a nominal fee or as a donation on our part. Right now they are just taking up space in our building and we would like to get rid of them.

Mr. Cotner: Questions? Is this an emergency?

Chief: I don't believe so.
Mr. Cotner: If there are no other questions then I will make a motion we send this to Council for its first reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye. Opposed say nay.

All: Aye

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF APPROVING THE PASSAGE OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 191.02, 191.04 AND 191.07 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE CITY INCOME TAX BY ONE-HALF PERCENT (0.5%) FROM THE CURRENT RATE OF ONE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT (1.5%) TO A RATE OF TWO PERCENT (2.0%), BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2015, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO PAY THE COSTS OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS APPROVED BY THE CITY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2014, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF DEBT SERVICE CHARGES ON SECURITIES ISSUED TO PAY COSTS OF THOSE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st reading on 07/14/2014).

Mr. Cotner: So we made a motion on that a while ago and sent it forward and I think since then there have been some reservations from Council. Thoughts, comments Anyone want to speak on their opinions about this tonight?

Mrs. Kelly: I still hold that I would like to see us go through with it. A lot of capital improvements and I think it is important for the people in our community to know what the money is going to go towards and more specific way. Different than we did last time this is something new that we can add to the mix. This is a different way than it has been presented to us last time. While it is more specific I know Brad did give us a list of the things that last time the money would go to this is something that puts it a little bit more concretely and people would know what it is they are voting for when they go into the booth. I would still like to see it move forward this way.

Mr. Cotner: Ok. Anyone else with questions or comments? Yes Councilman Barrett?

Mr. Barrett: I seconded this at our last committee meeting and I really spent a lot of time reflecting on it over the course of the week. The more I reflected on it the more that it just didn't sit right with all the discussions that we had at least since I have been on Council. What isn't sitting right with me specifically is the fact that a half a percent the impact to our city at this time is going to be so minimal and ineffective. I just feel like I am participating in kicking that can on down the road. This took a long time to come to where it is today. We've gone a long time without any type of revenue increases. The administration have done an admirable job budgeting money in and money out. I guess what really kind of pushed me over the edge was this week while I was traveling . I was in Memphis and I got to see what just as easily could be our city down the road a few years and the impact of that decay and after seeing Detroit a couple months ago and some of these cities that are struggling. I see that here and if we are going to change this city and get it back on the right course we've got to do the diligence to make the tough yardage that is going to do that. So from 3 different rational points I am flipping my opinion. That is the impact of the city, I believe the timing at this point is pretty late and it would be hard to get a sincere campaign on the streets and effective at this point. Last year we did a wonderful job. We head a great person behind it. Administration was involved. Everyone on Council was behind it. We really had some push. I gotta wonder if we can duplicate that this late in the game. Where we are right now. The last thing and I will be quiet and let you talk about it but frankly ya know it locks us in as a city. We go to the well at ½% then we are not going back to that well for quite a while. The response from the voters is going to be " Didn't I just give you guys more income tax?" I really think we are doing the city less of a favor by going this route at this time. That would be why I am changing my vote. I think we need to continue to aggressively exploring other options. We all know where they are.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you. Anyone else from the committee have comments on that? I would agree with Councilman Barrett on one of those aspects and that is the timing of it. I don't know how we can effectively communicate that we have listened, that we have tried to present a new plan of something. So I don't mind the ½% frankly. I think the ½% request is a start. I don't see Reynoldsburg got to where we are today by 1 short term. This has been 4 requests over 6 or 7 years. It has taken a while. I am ok with the ½% because it could be a start. Phone call I received today is " When are you guys going to listen?" " How many times do we need to keep saying no?" I don't know how we can effectively communicate that there is a difference there is a change in the approach to try and ask for more revenue. That hasn't changed. I think again I don't know many that would still argue that there is not a need for more revenue. I think the argument is still come in on how to get that revenue. I worry about the timing and trying to get something passed this fall. That is where my concern lies. I don't know if it does any good to put something on the ballot to only have it fail again.

Mrs. Kelly: Barth when would you think would be better timing? To me it becomes like that age old question when is the right time to have kids. There is never like the perfect time.

Mr. Cotner: The only reason that I think this is a bad time is that we don't have enough of it. That is my only concern. When we've tried and again you have worked on school levy campaigns. When you see community members stepping up to chair and run that you know it is a lot of work to get that message out. I do not think that there is any frame work in place right now to have someone tomorrow and step up and say ok I am going to run this and I'm going to chair a committee to pass it. That is my concern of the timing. I would rather see something in the Spring when we do have the opportunity to hopefully create that groundwork. It is not the best timing.

Mrs. Kelly: The only thing I would say to that is we had the Mayor behind it and I know and a couple other council people went and we walked and we did those things and I think that you have to look at what are we going to do differently? What is going to be different? The ½% is something that is different. Pinpointing it and saying it is going to be for this is something different. We could get to the Spring and be in the same boat and still not have a community member who is saying "hey let me step up and do this" there is more emotion tied to school levies because it is your kids so it is a little easier to get people involved with those things. I think it does become one of those where at some point in time you have to take the lead. That is what I am saying and Mr. Barrett and I talked before and I understand what he is saying about is ½% going to be enough. I kind of look at it if you have a child whose starving you don't say well I think this loaf of bread might tide you over but it won't completely fill you up so I am not going to feed you. I don't want to see us starve. I'm going to be honest I don't really think that we are starving at this point but I don't want us to get to that point. I think that paints too gloomy of a picture. I would like to see us try to start moving us forward and build up a sense of trust for our community to have that sense of trust and to see what we are doing here. We need to build up the sense of trust for our community. A lot of that leads to when they vote and when they don't vote. My 2 cents.

Mr. Clemens: I think I have to agree with Councilman Barrett. I don't think that the city has earned the trust of the people and maybe we can in the next 6 months and put it back on the ballot. I think there is that issue to solve until we can figure out a way to do it. I think we are wasting our time at the ballot to be honest with you. I don't want to see us go to the ballot and get embarrassed and not be able to do it again. If we are going to do it and then I go with Scott I would go for the 1%. We need the money. To me if we go for the 1/25 then we will not get it again. It's just the way it is. The school will be there to get everything they can. We'd never get it again. If we are going to do something then we should do it correctly. It is going to take time to get it across to the public. Right now we would be losing the month of August. Everybody talks a good game but I know how it works out. Then all we have are September and October. I don't think we would make it. I think a later time would help.

Mr. Barrett: I think we have gone around in circles so many times on this. Different ways on this. I'm trying to think of some new ideas that would be potentially a solution. I agree with Mel about the timing. Same thing he said Barth. I mean maybe the Spring ballot and that maybe we take a long hard run at it as a group and we really work to get that accomplished in the Spring. I think about a couple of things. I think about when I came to council and what motivated me to do this job and how little I knew coming into this. There is not a good YouTube video to get you going on this but luckily we have good resources. I know that it has taken me awhile to get up to speed and how the government works. I think a lot of people can attest to that. It makes me wonder if there want a better way to run the government and maybe if that would be worth looking into while we build this time. I mean time to ballot next year. What if we explore some different methods that we could maybe improve our government and I know we do a couple things that are unique. One is we have a partisan council. I don't know if that hurts or helps but you know our community has changed a lot. That would be a potential thing worth exploring. Look at trying to find ways to address the needs of this community today. It is a lot different than it was 20 years ago. 20 years ago we had a Mayors Court and that was a big part of that job. I look at Nathan in action today and doing the things that he is doing that are really creative. And Joe. Joe has done some really creative things. So now I start to wonder if maybe that city manager concept wouldn't be worth exploring on some level. I will throw it out there. Would it be worth doing a charter review committee now to explore some of these other possibilities that might modernize our government and put us in a position where we don't have a part time council burdened with making corrections of 20 years of shortcomings. We owe it to the property owners of this city to do our diligence to protect their investments. I know I beat the heck out of that but I'm pretty adamant about it. Maybe that would be worth looking into. I would be willing to hear some discussion or whatever ideas we have on that.

Mr. Cotner: Anybody? Ok.

Mr. Clemens: I would discuss it later. Don't get me wrong. Those are items that could be discussed. I think in the Spring would be nice because that is an election and there will be a lot of people running for office. And then you gotta stand up and say what you are for. That is when the primary would be for our next elected officials and they would be out working and if they actually think we should have the levy passed then they would be out promotion it. They are out knocking on doors and they could support it if they would. Anyhow I think that gets more people out. We have such small turnouts voting. That's what hurts us. Maybe with that primary or maybe carrying over to November and the general election. Then we are deciding who the Mayor is and who different councilman are and so forth. Those maybe the times to try because we get more people out. The object is to get more people out to the ballots-the election. It will give us a chance. I just don't think we have the time. I don't know anybody who is going to do all the work. That is my problem with this. I agree with you on it. It is short limited. I don't know.

Mr. McGrady: I have to agree with Mel also. I think that is an opportune time for the marketing free of charge. During the Spring or the November elections. This was the candidates that are seeking office can push the message (inaudible). I have to look at what is the contingency plan if it fails again? I would like to see we just make the tough decision and look at the credit. That is just my position on it because to take

Mel's frame that Burd used to continue to kick it down the street. And I've been to Memphis. It is not a pretty sight. At all.

Mr. Barrett: Sounds like you almost have a motion there.

Mr. McGrady: But uh we need to uh try. Focus. A motion? What are you trying to walk me into here? To get back to-Let's look at the options come Spring and the feasibility of the government. If something can be done. Let's put it all on the table at that time. Thank you.

Mr. Barrett: What is involved with that? Calling the charter review committee?

President Joseph: Let me interject on that. By city charter we are required to call a charter review committee every 5 years. We are about midway between 5 years right now. There is nothing in the charter that says we can't call another one.

Mr. Hood: President Joseph I am sorry to interrupt you. I'm happy to brief that for all the members however this is neither the discussion item nor the time to talk about this. Chairman Cotner if you would like to get back to the agenda and discuss the matter at hand. There needs to be a resolution to that before you go off topic and discuss other ways to form our government or elections and things of that nature. I think you need to have some finality to what is in front of you now and then if we want to have those discussions in broader context we certainly can do that and I would be happy to give you all the information on the charter review commission comes together, when we have to do that, when the last one was and what was discussed and all that kind of stuff I can provide for you.

President Joseph: I wanted to make a comment-getting back to the topic here is that if there is going to be a vote on this matter it would require 5 affirmative votes to pass as an emergency. My view is that it is not here tonight.

Mr. Cotner: That being said then we can still (inaudible)

Mr. Barrett: Is the Ad Hoc. . This originally started with Ad Hoc discussion from when I started. Is that still? Is that out?

Mr. Long: That is legislation.

Mr. Cotner: We can certainly bring up anything you want.

Mr. Barrett: The discussion in my mind is still solving the disparity in revenue. It has morphed into this. That is at the center of it.

President Joseph: When it is brought back you can put any component in it that you want.

Mr. Cotner: Where we are right now is on this specific piece of legislation. I think that is what we need to address. Certainly in the next committee meeting when we come back from break-we will also be getting into budget discussions at that time as well. There will be a tremendous amount of discussion at that point. Councilman Clemens?

Mr. Clemens: If we put another business than we can bring it back?

Mr. Cotner: Yes. President Joseph we really do not have consensus to move it anywhere so I think that I'll make a motion right now to go ahead and move this to other legislation. Second by Councilman Long. All in favor of moving item 7 into other legislation say aye. Opposed say nay.

6 affirmative
1 negative

Mr. Hood: Chairman Cotner can I get a roll call please?

Mrs. Beggerow:

Mr. Cotner: Aye

Mr. Long: Aye

Mr. Skinner: Aye

Mr. Barrett: Aye

Mrs. Kelly: Nay

Mr. McGrady: Aye

Mr. Clemens: Aye

Mr. Cotner: Thank you. Moving on. Everything else should be pretty smooth sailing here.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY GRASS AND WEED CUTTING COSTS (2013) FOR COLLECTION BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (2nd reading 07/14/2014 - requests emergency passage at third reading).

Mr. Cotner: Any other questions or comments on this issue? Seeing none then I will make motion to send to the council for 3rd reading with recommendation for adoption for emergency. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY GRASS AND WEED CUTTING COSTS (2013) FOR COLLECTION BY THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (2nd reading 07/14/2014 - requests emergency passage at third reading).

Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments? I will make a motion that we send this to council for its 3rd reading with recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY UNPAID WATER BILLS FOR COLLECTION BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR AND DELCARING AN EMERGENCY. (2nd reading 07/14/2014 - requests emergency passage at third reading).
Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments. I will make a motion that we send this to council for its 3rd reading with a recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY UNPAID WATER BILLS FOR COLLECTION BY THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR AND DELCARING AN EMERGENCY. (2nd reading 07/14/2014 - requests emergency passage at third reading).

Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments? I will make a motion that we send this to council for its 3rd reading with recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: aye

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: Amending Subsection (b) of Section 953.01 "Water Rate Schedule" OF CHAPTER 953 WATER CHARGES. (adjusts renter deposits on water services). (2nd reading 07/14/2014).

Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments? I will make a motion to send this to council with a recommendation for adoption. Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: AMENDING SECTION 732.05 "FINAL BILLING" OF CHAPTER 732 RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE, REFUSE, RECYCLABLES, AND YARD WASTE. (2nd reading 07/14/2014).

Questions or comments? I will make a motion to send this to council with a recommendation for adoption. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.

All: Aye

Mr. Cotner: With no further business we will adjourn at 9:05pm

Finance Committee
- - -April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
July 21, 2014