

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 9, 2007 TUESDAY

President of Council William L. Hills called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members of Council present: Ron Stake, Preston Stearns, Brett Baxter, Doug Joseph, Antoinette Newman, Donna Shirey. Councilman Mel Clemens was absent.

The Invocation was given by Mr. Stearns. Mr. Hills led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the regular Council meeting held December 18, 2006 were approved without objection.

Minutes of the special Council meeting for organizational purposes held January 2, 2007 were approved without objection.

Mr. Hills stated that item 10 (Legislation regarding the extension of termini for the Major Main Street Commercial Corridor Revitalization Project Phase II to include U.S. Route 40 (East Main Street) from the bridge over Blacklick Creek (west of Lancaster Avenue) to approximately 910 feet west of Taylor Road in Licking County); and item 11 (ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING E.M.H.&T. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AND ADVERTISE FOR BIDS REGARDING ODOT 2008 URBAN PAVING PROJECT (East Main Street Curb and Ramp Replacement; area from the bridge over Blacklick Creek (west of Lancaster Avenue) to approximately 910 feet west of Taylor Road in Licking County); APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY) will be removed and return to committees for further information. Mr. Hills said there would be a special Council meeting following the next committee meetings, to consider the items.

Community Comments and Requests:

Belinda Guard: First of all, let me say guys, I'm not a public speaker so I'm really nervous, okay? I'm a numbers person. That's what I've done. My name's Belinda Guard. I reside at 7861 Priestley Drive. I'd like to thank you for allowing me this opportunity to present my concerns. I would also like to thank you in advance for allowing me to read my statement in its entirety without interruption. I would like to discuss the major traffic issue that we are experiencing on Priestley Drive. Over a number of years, this problem has been presented to the Mayor, Safety Director, City Council, and other city officials on various occasions - to no avail. This problem has become very personal to me. While my son's car has been parked in front of our home, it has been hit twice; the first time on December 10, 2006, and the second time on December 30, 2006. On both occasions, it has been a hit and run. This is a major safety issue and it can no longer be ignored; I am angry. I've been informed by Police Officers that they cannot get accurate radar speeders on the street due to the curves and other obstructions. Due to this, more patrolling will not suffice as a solution. It's not working guys. City officials have personally stated to me, when asking them to close the road from being a thoroughfare, this is a matter of convenience. Safety should always be a priority over convenience. Again, I'm angry and I'm a voter. Over the years, this problem has grown progressively worse. I'm being told that the city doesn't close roads. Why, I ask? If there's a safety issue, which now there is, it needs to be addressed. Again, I'm angry, I'm a voter, and I'm a taxpayer.

In the previous, I addressed the traffic concerns primarily due to our property values, property destruction, which I'll tell you guys, it's tremendous, and every day nuisances. Now it is fear from bodily harm or even death. I am not joking. This issue needs to be addressed and

resolved, and now again, I'm angry, I'm a voter, and a taxpayer. Our household income to the City of Reynoldsburg taxes were \$959.85 for 2006. We've taken all measures that this will not happen for 2007, or Reynoldsburg will not see any of these funds.

Please allow me to describe events that we personally experienced while residing on Priestley Drive: having trash thrown in our yard on a daily basis included, but not limited to, empty beer bottles; being hollered and cursed at, because we are going too slow to turn into our driveway; having vehicles that are parked on the road in front of our home being egged. We ask people just to slow down. People have been clocked at 60 miles an hour in a 25 mile zone. It's not acceptable. Having our mailbox hit; having my son's car hit twice again in a three week period; hit and run; nothing anybody can do; having horns blow and loud music in the middle of the night; waiting ten minutes to exit our driveway due to high volume traffic and then being afraid to do so because of speeding vehicles. Convenience over safety. That cannot be what the city stands for.

Ten years ago, City Council approved the development of Quarry Park which included the width of the streets. Remember, this is only a 22 width street, 22 foot width street. It's a very narrow street. Either they were incompetent, or they did not correctly project the volume of traffic that we are experiencing. Regardless, this city is responsible for this problem and taking the correct measures to fixing it. It is simple. The city created it. Now after many years of complaints and us tolerating it, it's time for you to fix it.

In reviewing police reports, there have been 8 traffic accidents from the dates of October 18, 2006 through January 2, 2007, and 2 resulted in injuries. We're talking about less than 3 months on a quarter mile strip of our road. A quarter mile. That's it. Eight accidents. They all happen between Waggoner and Windrift. This proves that this problem is getting increasingly worse. For the same time period and area, we only had two traffic violations. And I'm being told this is what's normal in the city. That scares me. If this is the norm for the City of Reynoldsburg, who would want to move here? It scares me. How do we fix this problem? It's not feasible to put speed bumps in, because this will not deter young drivers and it will create more of a hazard. I agree. No street parking or parking on only one side of the street will only create a more open speed zone. Speeding is a major issue on this street. There are only two options that the city has to fix the situation. Either reduce the traffic on the street or widen the road. There are only two options available for consideration. I will invite either for discussion. I invite you City Council and city officials, to speak to those who live on Priestley Drive and Quarry Park. It's not pretty guys. Many of us are angry and many of us are voters. Also I'd like to submit traffic petitions that we have signed, only those of us living, I didn't go through all of Priestley Drive because I understand on the other side of Priestley Drive the street's much wider, you don't have the issue. But I started going door to door, let me explain what I did. I went door to door. People are so angry, I couldn't take another day of it. I could not take another person screaming and yelling about the city. And I understand it. They're angry, they want to move. I know personally of six houses on Priestley Drive that's going on the market. They're not going to sell for their values, and people don't care. They just don't care. That's less money for the city. So, after going door to door and hearing peoples' complaints, it was so upsetting to me that I finally just resigned to saying, heck with this. So I just put them in front of their doors and let them sign them. That's what these represent. The first page represents going door to door. This is a lot of signatures for less than 50 houses in one area. So I'd like to submit this.

Mr. Hills: You can turn that into the Clerk.

Ms. Guard: Also, I've prepared excel work sheets. And all of this came from the police reports

that I've obtained from the Police Department. Let me explain what we're experiencing. Within Priestley Drive, on Priestley Drive, just within Quarry Park, we're talking about probably a mile strip. For January 18, 2006 through January 2, 2007, we've experienced 25 traffic accidents. I mean 25 traffic violations. Twelve accidents. That means 67% are traffic violations. Thirty-two percent is accidents. I don't think that's the norm guys. Okay. Entire Priestley Drive. Everybody says all of Priestley Drive has to experience what we experience. I have statistics that proves otherwise. On the entire Priestley Drive just in the last quarter of October 7 through January 2, 2007, there's only been 5 traffic violations. Eight accidents. All eight accidents, I remind you, are within a quarter strip of Priestley Drive. And we're talking about the entire strip of Priestley Drive. All 8 accidents is within a quarter of a mile. Again, this is our home. These are our children. These are our home values. Enough's enough. We want to be made whole. One way or the other we will be. And we were told after several meetings, and I think many of you, I'm sorry, you weren't here and you weren't here, several meetings we were told, once they opened up Rodebaugh and Firstgate, we're not going to get the traffic. Well, so I kind of went through and sat at Rodebaugh for 10 minutes. Two vehicles. The City of Reynoldsburg and Animal Control within 10 minutes of Rodebaugh near Waggoner Road. Then I went and sat on our street. Sixty-two cars within 10 minutes. And now we're talking just driving down, 62 cars. I'm like, that can't be. So I went back to the Police Department and ordered another report. I wanted to see what, how many accidents has happened on that, supposed to be major thoroughfare which is much wider than our street. I don't know how many of you, I know you live on Priestley, but I don't know how many you....

Mr. Hills: Yes, I do. And I don't mean to interrupt you and I wanted to try to do that now. The speaker slip would say you're limited to 3 minutes or 5 minutes. We have a very light agenda tonight so I'm trying....

Ms. Guard: I just have one more point to make and then I'll give it to you.

Mr. Hills: Excuse me. I'm trying to allow that. But yes I do live on Priestley. And I hope we don't get into this debate. We've been here before. But yes, I have accidents at my house. I have lost my own mailboxes. So it does bother me a little bit when I live on Priestley and you're saying it only happens on your area of Priestley but....

Ms. Guard: I'm talking about, okay, you've got to understand, I'm going through with the accidents according to the Police Department.

Mr. Hills: I don't have the detail, nor will I get the detail. You have been given the detail. And that detail's available for all residents to review through the Chief or the Mayor. And that's what it's about. And they'll be happy to do that with you. But please go ahead and finish your point and we'll move on.

Ms. Guard: I just have one more excel work sheet I want to go through sir.

Mr. Hills: Okay.

Ms. Guard: So I went through and I obtained police reports for the same quarter that we had 8 accidents. From Firstgate, from Rodebaugh Road where it starts at Waggoner Road and it goes to

Taylor Road, and turns into Firstgate, goes all the way to Taylor, they had 7 traffic violations and zero accidents. This is supposed to be the major thoroughfare eastbound and westbound between Broad and Main. We're absorbing the brunt of this. So this is what I wanted to present. So here's the petitions.

Mr. Hills: If you'll just give that to the Clerk of Council we'll certainly be sure that it's made available to all of Council. And would you also provide the Mayor with a set of that, Mrs. Frazier?

Mrs. Frazier: Yes.

Mr. Hills: And I'm sure the Mayor will give it to the Chief. Thank you very much.

Mr. Baxter: President Hills, if I could comment on her statement.

Mr. Hills: Mr. Baxter.

Mr. Baxter: I thank you. And Mindy, I'm glad you brought this to our attention. And we know this exists. I live right down the street from you as well. I see the same thing you see. I came to Council because exactly what you said. An accident that drove through my front yard almost hitting two of my children. If you remember, I can tell you the date. April 14th.

Ms. Guard: I remember.

Mr. Baxter: The year 2000.

Ms. Guard: I was the first call to the police.

Mr. Baxter: That's correct. So Mayor Hills, I understand what you're saying. This isn't just an issue all up and down Priestley, but it is more exacerbated during this one little area. And it is because, what we heard from the Police Department, it is very curvy. So it makes it very difficult to enforce. Unfortunately, the only thing I see, it has gotten even worse during this period, is trying to pull out of Priestley onto Waggoner. We just had an accident just recently this last weekend of which there's still remnants of it sitting to the left side in the dirt there. It has become a major safety issue. And Mindy, I will add this to my Safety Committee and start again to address it. So thank you for your concerns and bringing it to our attention again.

Mr. Hills: Next speaker slip I have is Dottie Howe. If you'd come to the podium and give us your name and address for the record, please.

Ms. Howe: Good evening Mayor Hills and Council members.

Mr. Hills: Excuse me. I'm not the Mayor. That'll upset Mayor McPherson. I'm President of Council.

Ms. Howe: I've never been to a Council meeting.

Mr. Hills: And that's fine. That's Mayor McPherson there.

Ms. Howe: Oh, that's Mayor McPherson. And what are you? The Chair? Are you the Chair?

Mr. Hills: I'm the President of Council.

Ms. Howe: President of Council. I'm sorry.

Mr. Hills: And even Mr. Baxter called me Mayor Hills.

Ms. Howe: I have never been to a Council meeting or spoken here.

Mr. Hills: I'm only the Mayor when the Mayor's out of town.

Ms. Howe: I got ya. Okay, Mr. Hills. My name is Dottie Howe. I'm at 7931 Priestley Drive. And I don't have any formal statement or statistics. But I just wanted to give you my experience having lived there for 8 years. I moved to Priestley because I was a single mother of three children. I chose it for its quietness, its seclusion, its safety, and there's a wooded area behind us, just a beautiful setting. And in fact, I have a dog, Kelly, who used to lay out as they were building the homes in the middle of the street when it was closed. And I will say, you know, I was a little bit naive. It was the first home I'd ever bought. And I took my \$17,000 as a down payment and I put it into that home. And I will tell you ladies and gentlemen, I'm locked into my home at Priestley Drive. And by that, I mean that I had no idea how an investment in this property was going to really ruin me financially. And by that I mean that, you know, when you move into a home and you get property taxes and all that and everything goes up, I also went through a period where I didn't get any child support. So I came to a point where I wanted to move, and quite honestly, I can't, because I will lose money on the house. And the reason that I will lose money on the house is that it is not appreciating at any kind of value. Because no one wants to move in to Priestley Drive because of the traffic. And so what I thought was going to be this really safe place, it's just, my kids call it, they're 23 and 21 now, but they call it the gauntlet. As they were learning to drive, it's just incredible, the traffic, and the crime, and the financial impact on me has just been incredible. We allowed an element to kind of come in, and I don't know exactly where it's coming from, but I do know that I've had four break-ins that, I just had my lock, my car broken into two weeks ago. We just had our weed whacker taken out of the garage last weekend. The police in Reynoldsburg are really wonderful, but they really can't do anything. There's an element in, you know, I've got boom boxes going at midnight, there's an element that's come in that's affected me personally. It's not a safe place. There's too much traffic. We cannot let our children out. People have tried to move because they have little kids. They can't move either. We're locked in to where we are financially, because we made an investment, and I trusted the City of Reynoldsburg, and I trusted Schottensteins or whatever to at least be able to use 8th grade mathematics to determine that the road is too small for the homes that are there. I mean, I do not, I never understood what was going to happen. It was going to become a thoroughfare. It is. It's a thoroughfare. And basically, what I'm asking you to do is please consider this again. I don't know. The streets should be widened. I don't know. I can't get out of my driveway in the morning for work. I can't back out. I can't get out on Waggoner. I mean, it's just become like, the way to get through Dickens. And I don't know whether you need to close Dickens or what

should be done. I just really need your help with this. Our property values have devalued to the point where I am locked financially into this house despite the fact that I really have needed to move. So I'm just trying to tell you that this was my investment for a life time for my children. I did it on my own. I'm raising my kids there. I'm disgusted by the traffic. I'm disgusted by the crime. And this is not what I expected of Reynoldsburg. So I just ask that you listen to us and maybe consider some options. Thank you.

Mr. Hills: The next speaker slip I have is James Jordan. If you could give your name and address for the record please.

Mr. Jordan: Sure. My name is James Jordan, 7861 Priestley Drive. I'm actually the son of Belinda Jordan, or Guard as she said. Pretty much what I came here to say, I really didn't have anything written out because I came here more to support my mom. And she's like, well do you want to talk? I'm like, sure. Why not? But I am 16. Normally you'd think I'd be more upset about like, dress code and the kind of stuff like that. But the street thing is one of the issues that we, we haven't learned to necessarily, I mean, we're disgusted by it. But it's one of those things that we basically had to grow into. So we've been so normal with it. Now Mr. Baxter, in 2000, I remember I was sitting in my living room, I was just playing with my little action figures and all of a sudden I hear a screech. So I, basically, I go outside because curiosity as a 10 year old. And I believe it's Brett, your child's name. What were your feelings about that?

Mr. Baxter: What's that?

Mr. Jordan: What were your feelings about that? One of your kids nearly got hit.

Mr. Baxter: I think that's already on the record. And just like any other....

Mr. Hills: Mr. Jordan this isn't, this is the opportunity for you to address Council if you have problems. And certainly, I want to avoid getting into the debate of it. I think Mr. Baxter said he plans on putting this issue on Safety. So I mean....

Mr. Baxter: _____ we can discuss it then. Right.

Mr. Hills: We're not going to make personal things out of this. It's an issue of concern on Priestley. I live on Priestley. I realize some of your problems. Your problems are longer on Priestley than what you'd like to think they are. It's a greater problem. But it is a problem I think, that's all over the city. And you presented a lot of data and I'm sure the Mayor and the Chief would be happy to, I'm not sure that they'd be happy to, but they would have a lot of data they can also present, and we will check those things. You all have raised good questions that need to be addressed.

Mr. Jordan: Okay, sir.

Mr. Hills: Has the condition become any worse now than it was 3 years ago, is the issue that you're raising?

Mr. Jordan: Sir, basically to everyone that lives on the street, it's going to become personal. And I don't mean, I'm not trying to create any controversy.

Mr. Hills: Well, if you understand me, just that, "how did you feel about that, Mr. Baxter"? You know, Mr. Baxter's a Council person. Now he was involved with that as an individual. And if he wants to do that he can come off and go down and stand at the podium and tell us about it individually, but he's already said it. So it's not a, we're not going to go down the route of individualism. I appreciate the comments you all have made as far as saying the police have addressed it, we've talked with the Mayor and haven't had the results that we want. But it's not Bob McPherson feelings. It's the Mayor's feelings. It's Council feelings. That's what I'm trying to get to.

Mr. Jordan: Well, basically what I was trying to do is, on the street, everyone that lives there, as you see, you live there, everyone has a piece of individuality. Now my mom really has someone, Mr. Baxter, I'm not trying to make it personal or anything, someone as witness that fear for their children. My mom didn't necessarily have it come to her until, you know, it's my car that got hit. It got hit twice. I had the outside swiped and now I don't have view mirror which is kind of a problem. Mom seemed a little bit more mad about it than I did. But it is a concern and she's concerned for her children. Now as you say, this isn't becoming a personal thing. Well, automatically it is a personal thing. You can label anybody with any certain circumstance. You know, a Mayor, you can put any label on him. But the thing about it is, that you know, we're all individuals. And that's the thing about it. You know, we're all individuals that live on this street. And the street is, why we're here today is about the safety of it. About everything that's going to be happening. And it's about the safety of the individuals. That's what I was trying to get at.

Mr. Hills: And that's fine, Mr. Jordan, I think you're missing what I'm saying. All of your concerns you brought forward are individuals, but how Mr. Baxter's going to respond or how Bob McPherson is going to respond - - the city will have to address this to decide how it needs to be responded to. And the Mayor and the Chief of Police I'm sure will review this data. And Council's going to hear more arguments about it and more discussions about it. And if there's a remedy, I'm sure it'll be discussed. What is that remedy? I think, I've been here a while and this one's been discussed a while. And I realize that we can go on to what desires may or may not be. And as I've said at times, because I've talked to a number of people on Priestley, one of the things about any development anywhere, as you look around and things aren't quite what you thought they were, there's two people you don't find, the developer and the realtor because they don't live near you.

Mr. Jordan: Very true.

Mr. Hills: It's ironic but it works out that way. It doesn't mean it was done improperly. But a lot of people in Reynoldsburg have moved because of the field that's in their back yard, and now that back yard is seven back yards of other people, but that is growth, that is development. But please, go right ahead.

Mr. Jordan: Okay. Basically, I know my mom and she's a concerned parent. And that's what

she's doing here today. That's why she's rallied this entire thing. Because my car's got hit and she was kind of wondering, well you know, what if it was, because it was basically in the morning that my car got hit. So she wonders well, what if he was stepping out then. You know, then I probably wouldn't be here talking and causing a nuisance. But she really is just a concerned parent as every _____ that's why we're all here today. You know, I sit here because right now I can't even park my car in front of my house. I have to park it on the side of the street. Which I don't have that much of a problem doing but it shouldn't, you know, I shouldn't even have to worry about that. And it's not something that's been as of late. You know, I was originally a 10 year old when I heard a tragic accident happen. Well I visually pretty much saw a tragic accident happen. And you know, now I am a 16 year old and I am a driver and a taxpayer. And taxes are a lot more than I thought they'd be. But the point of it is....

Mr. Hills: And they get bigger as you get older.

Mr. Jordan: So much to look forward to. As my mom says, "I'm a taxpayer". But basically, what I guess I'm getting out of it is, I do comprehend that I'm not trying to bring individuality onto all of you but I guess you have to look at it from a certain viewpoint of individuality.

Mr. Hills: Well the individual problems that you have and your mother has and others have, certainly will have to be considered as an issue. That these things are occurring. This isn't where we're going to get into a long debate about it. If we do have the debate, it'll be in Safety Committee. But I think one of the things that the Chief or the Mayor would be saying is that you're not isolated. It's not alone.

Mr. Jordan: Okay. I'm not saying (inaudible).

Mr. Hills: All these things don't just happen on this 1500 feet of Priestley Drive. It is other places on Priestley. It's a number of other places. There's some places over west of Rosehill that we're having, just off Rosehill that there's been a number of break-ins, and accidents, and broken mirrors. I look at it and I say, I'm not sure but some of it isn't, and I think the police would indicate that some of it's done with ball bats, just out of a car and let's just knock it off. It's not always cars hitting cars. How do you condone that? I don't think anyone that's an elected official or anyone that's administration in the city condones it. I don't think it's the appropriate thing to do. And certainly, if those individuals can be identified, I think the city is more than happy to prosecute to the fullest extent that they can. It's just, it's sometimes difficult to find out who did what, when.

Mr. Jordan: No. Well that's not necessarily what I'm getting at. I mean, I guess, what I'm saying, well, I'll leave you to be _____ is that, basically we'll have to look at it as individuals. And I'm not just saying for Priestley. I'm saying for basically, all the road. Now it strikes everybody individually about what can happen. My mom was worried about me and what would happen to me. You know, it can strike all of us. As for anybody that is a loved one, it's someone caring. I'm not saying just for the road. That's just what we're working on. And that's what we should continue to work on, is trying to make it safer. _____ with not just necessarily Priestley but for the entire city. I'm saying that everyone can think of some kind of individual that they wouldn't necessarily want to lose. And that's what my mom was thinking

about when she was thinking about me. So that's really all I wanted to say.

Mr. Hills: You do well as a public speaker.

Mrs. Newman: Mr. Hills, can I ask a question?

Mr. Hills: Yes, Mrs. Newman.

Mrs. Newman: Anybody can answer this. I'd just like to know, your traffic problems, do they occur mostly at rush hour in the morning and then in the afternoon or evening?

Ms. Guard: No, really. It's very consistent. I really am encouraging you guys to do a traffic study. There was one done approximately 3 years ago. Do one now and see how, I mean, it's really bad. We've tolerated it for years. We brought it up years ago. It's to the point honestly, I'm moving, my neighbors are moving. You guys don't understand. I could not go door to door any more. They are just screaming. Not one person I talked to voted for the income tax increase. And other than, I'm sorry if I offend any of you, but other than Joseph and Shirey, they voted for none of you guys either for the City Council At Large. They're angry and they want something done. I mean, we're going to take, if the city doesn't do something, we're going to take our own steps. You know, the City of Reynoldsburg, and I'm not trying to be threatening, but this is how serious they are, they're willing to put their own money where their mouth is for this to be maybe be _____. It's bad. Our property values have declined so drastically guys. You don't understand. And we tried to gate it. The city said, if you can gate the community, we'll shut the street off. We have to have 100% vote. People on Phase 3 are not affected.

Mr. Hills: Ms. Guard, this is going to be, as Mr. Baxter said, he is Chair of Safety and he has already committed, he is going to add this on. These type of discussions to me, we appreciate what you're saying, and you're repeating some of the same things, and most people have heard about it. I'm not going to say you are or are not going to get a gated community.

Ms. Guard: We're not.

Mr. Hills: Well, I think you're probably right.

Ms. Guard: We're not.

Mr. Hills: But yet you just said, you could gate it.

Ms. Guard: No. My point was (inaudible).

Mr. Hills: If we're going to have discussion, we need to have good discussion and it's going to occur in committee. Are there any other questions from Council?

Mr. Baxter: I only want to make one statement Mr. Hills. And that is, I invite you to come next Monday night, actually Tuesday night if I remember correct, we are on Tuesday. Tuesday night at 7:30 to join us with the Safety Committee, and I welcome your comments, and I welcome your

conversations. And we will have a thorough discussion on this item. And I think it's right time we do it again.

Secondly, just if I could add as a comment Mr. Hills, I had a constituent bring to my attention, the lights on Main Street. I don't know, I thought we had a discussion on this before with the new lights that came in, they say that they're rather dim and that they don't light the street well. So I'd like to have maybe Administration take a look at that. Is there a reason that they're not as bright as they should be? Or should they be brighter? I remember having that conversation about bulbs some time ago back. So if Mayor, you'd look into that, I'd appreciate it. From a safety prospective.

Mayor McPherson: I'll do a memo on it.

Mr. Baxter: Thank you, President Hills.

Mr. Hills: I have no other speaker slips, so we'll move to item 8, Communications. Mrs. Frazier.

Female: (Inaudible. Speaking off mike).

Mr. Hills: If you'll come to the podium and you can fill it out when you finish and give it to the Clerk.

Ms. Thompson: Okay. She's right about Priestley Drive. I live on the other end, 7978 Priestley. And about two weeks ago, I got almost hit by a car getting my mail out of the mailbox. They were coming around that bend at 60 miles an hour or better. And I had to hop up on the curb for the person not to hit me. In the summer, I have two twin grandchildren and I can't let them out in the front because a car came up over the curb and it's just horrible to live there. And talk about home, like she said, depreciation of your home, in our neighborhood, I just moved there in 2005 and I wish I wouldn't have moved to that neighborhood. At first when we looked at it, it looked really nice and we love our home, but we can't even sleep up in the upstairs bedrooms. Thank goodness our children are grown and gone, but I watch my grandchildren and I can't let them outside. That's how bad this is. And the mailbox around the corner, this kid came, or a car came and just ripped it out of the ground, lost control of the car and almost hit up into our neighbor's yard. So this is a continuing problem. And I wish somebody, and we got, this weekend it was not a robbery, but our neighbor got the wrong house, his nephew, and we got broken into and this is the first time that I've been scared in my life in a house.

Mr. Hills: And your name again was?

Ms. Thompson: It's Laura Thompson, and I live at 7978 Priestley. And I've talked to some neighbors around and I think they all feel, and in our neighborhood there's houses that have been for sale for over a year, year and a half. So I feel really bad. I wish we could move because I would do it in a heartbeat because I despise the traffic with, like this morning, I volunteer at a nursing home off of Broad, and it took me 20 minutes to get out of my driveway. It's horrendous. And the speed of the traffic, I mean, I yell, I squirted some guy with a hose this summer. He was going so fast that I couldn't get his attention and I took the hose and squirted inside of his car to get his attention. And he gave me the finger. So I'm just saying that's how bad it is. Thank you for listening to me.

Mr. Hills: Thank you. Ms. Thompson, if you could turn in the slip to the Clerk.

Communications- - Clerk read report from Clerk of Courts: total monies from courts held during December 2006, \$27,940. Monies also collected during that period pursuant to Ordinance Nos. 146-94 and 104-02- -\$1,562 for the Computerization Needs Fund and \$275 for the Enforcement and Education Fund.

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ENACTED BY THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY (LPA), IN THE MATTER OF THE STATED PROJECT- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the third reading. Mr. Baxter moved to amend the ordinance by changing 910 feet to 365 per the adjustment on 1-9-07. Mrs. Shirey seconded. All voted "Aye". Motion passed; ordinance amended.

Mr. Baxter moved adoption. Mr. Stearns seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 1-07 adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

William L. Hills, President of Council

Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council