

MARCH 12, 2007

5:00 P.M.

At 5:00 p.m. a **regular meeting was held by the Sandusky City Commission** in the City Building Commission Chambers, 222 Meigs Street, with City Commissioners Craig Stahl, Dannie Edmon, Dan Kaman, Dennis Murray, Brian Crandall, Brett Fuqua and Dave Waddington in attendance; as well as the Charter Officers of the City Manager Mike Will, Law Director Don Icsman, Finance Director Ed Widman and the Clerk of the City Commission B. Joyce Brown; the Administrative Staff of the Senior Accountant/Auditor Hank Solowiej, Director of Engineering Services Kathy McKillips, Police Chief Kim Nuesse, Assistant Police Chief Charlie Sams, Fire Chief Mike Meinzer, Administrative Services Director Warrenette Parthemore, Economic Development Specialist Scott Schell, and Downtown Development Director John Lippus. It was an open meeting with the news media present.

President Kaman asked that Mr. Stahl offer the **prayer** and requested that everyone remain standing for the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

The Clerk called the **roll** with the following Commissioners present: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua and Waddington.

Mr. Waddington moved that the **minutes of February 26, 2007** be approved as written and suspense with the formal reading. Mr. Fuqua seconded, motion carried.

President Kaman said Items #9, 10 and 11 (Collective Bargaining Unit Agreements) have been pulled from the agenda.

President Kaman presented a **certificate** to St. Mary's Central Catholic student, **Patrick Harrington for being a two-time State Wrestling Champion**.

Under **Audience Participation on Agenda Items Only**, Mr. John Ginty, 5055 Providence Drive, commented on the agenda items.

Finance Committee Members Dan Moncher, 1941 Atlantic Avenue, CPA/CFO Firelands Regional Medical Center and Jim Ruthsatz, CPA, 878 Crosstree Lane, gave overviews of the budget process.

Mrs. Louise Gilliam, 1121 Pen Road, N. Fairfield, Ohio, commented on her husband working 27 years as a reserve officer and the City doing away with reserve officers.

PRESENTATION – Pete Schade, Director – Health Department Update

PRESENTATION – Mike Will, City Manager - 2007 Budget

PRESENTATION – Scott Schell, Economic Development Specialist – Marina District at Battery Park/City Hall Fact Sheet

PRESENTATION – Mike Pisarsky, Horticultural Services Superintendent – Ash Tree Plan/Yard Waste

PRESENTATION – Rudy Ruiz, Fire Safety Inspector – Explorer Program

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Crandall moved to accept all communications. Mr. Fuqua seconded, passed.

ITEM#1 - Communication by Mary Bird, Program Administrator.

RESOLUTION NO. 009-07R – File an application with the Erie County Solid Waste Management District, substantially in the same form as attached and marked exhibit “A”, for a \$1,100.00 grant to be utilized to hold an Appliance and Scrap Metal Collection in conjunction with the Annual Citywide Spring Cleanup-up Event. Moved by Mr. Edmon, seconded by Mr. Crandall to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#2 - Communication by Jeffrey W. Rosekelly, Project Engineer.

RESOLUTION NO. 010-07R - Declaring the necessity for the City of Sandusky, Ohio, to proceed with the Monroe Street Handicap Ramp Replacement Project; approving the specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof, and directing the City Manager to advertise for and receive bids in relation thereto. (The Total Estimated Project Cost including advertising and miscellaneous expenses

is \$55,223.14. The Engineer's Estimate of the Total Construction Contract is \$46,406.00. The entire funding for this project will be Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds.) Moved by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Waddington to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#3 - Communication by John Lippus, Downtown Development Manager.

RESOLUTION NO. 011-07R - Authorizing the filing of an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Recreational Harbor Evaluation Program Grant to fund the Dredging for a Transient Marina in the Paper District for \$736,000.00. (The City can use construction costs associated with Paper District TIF, as the required local match for the grant. The TIF will provide approximately \$2,695,326.00 in match money. In broad terms, the residents would receive this marina at no cost to the taxpayer.) Moved by Mr. Stahl, seconded by Mr. Waddington to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#4 - Communication by Gary Packan, Assistant City Manager.

RESOLUTION NO. 012-07R - A Resolution in support of the East Sandusky Bay Water Trail Plan and authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an Ohio Water Trails (OWT) Partnership Agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Moved by Mr. Waddington, seconded by Mr. Edmon to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#5 - Communication by Joshua R. Snyder, P.E., Traffic Engineer.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-012 - Award a contract to A. J. Riley, Inc. of Norwalk, Ohio, for the Monroe Street Resurfacing Phase 1 Project in an amount of \$402,609.00. *Discussion* – Mr. Fuqua questioned of the four proposals and with one of them being a Sandusky business, why didn't it go to them? He knew their bid was just a little bit more than the successful bidder. Mrs. McKillips said this project involves MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) money and because it is a grant, money through the State, we can't apply the local preference ordinance. Moved by Mr. Stahl, seconded by Mr. Waddington to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#6 - Communication by Michael R. Meinzer, Fire Chief.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-013 - Purchase two (2) Lifepak-12 Heart Monitors through State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program from Medtronic Physio Control of Chicago, Illinois, for \$32,722.24. Mr. Murray moved, Mr. Edmon second to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

ITEM#7 - Communication by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineering Director.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-014 - Enter into a contract with Cintas Corporation of Sandusky, Ohio, for Supply and Service of Uniforms for City Personnel for the period of April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2010 in an amount of \$31,917.60. Moved by Mr. Crandall, seconded by Mr. Murray to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#8 - Communication by Scott Schell, Economic Development Specialist.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-015 - Enter into a contract with Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc. and Hull & Associates, Inc. of Solon, Ohio, for Certified Professional Services for Geo Gradel Property as part of the Bayfront Paper District – West End Redevelopment Project. (The estimated cost for the Certified

Professional Services is \$432,402.00. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the cost of the Certified Professional Services (\$324,301.50) is included in the original \$2,870,000.00 Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund Grant. The remaining \$108,100.50 will be a 25% match, provided by the Developer upon completion of the Developer's Agreement and the work.) Moved by Mr. Waddington, seconded by Mr. Murray to be passed under suspension of rules in full accordance of City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion, then final passage: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays. 0. Passed.

ITEM#9

ORDINANCE NO. _____ Ratifying, accepting and approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Sandusky, an Ohio Charter Municipal Corporation, and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local #327, the Collective Bargaining Unit for certain employees of the Sandusky Fire Department, for the period January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2009, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

ITEM#10

ORDINANCE NO. _____ Ratifying, accepting and approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Sandusky, an Ohio Charter Municipal Corporation, and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local #1519, the Collective Bargaining Unit for certain employees of the City of Sandusky, for the period January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2009, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

ITEM#11

ORDINANCE NO. _____ Ratifying, accepting and approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Sandusky, an Ohio Charter Municipal Corporation, and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc., the Collective Bargaining Unit for certain employees of the Sandusky Police Department, for the period January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2009, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Under the **City Manager's Report**, Mr. Will stated that he had not prepared anything. President Kaman asked were there any questions of the Manager?

Mr. Edmon questioned have they checked more on the **Quiet Zones for putting barriers on one side of the railroad tracks?** Mr. Will said we have checked on more and are trying to go a little deeper into the ones that they looked into before. There are options about the idea that you had discussed individually, which was putting a barrier or median in the middle of the road so you can't get around it that way. There are also options about adding a crossing to that simple setting so that you can't get through it. There was no way to go around it. Either one would be expensive and would have some sort of process involved with getting it done. *I can send the detailed descriptions to each of the Commissioners and wait to hear back from there.*

Mr. Waddington said Sandusky High had three weightlifters also this past weekend at the State Powerlifting meet. And freshman Eddie Wimbley was fourth with 475, Junior Justin Wright did 360 in the deadlift and Junior Sam Gonzalez in his first State meet in the 225 class took first place with a 320 pound bench and fifth in the State with a total of 1,167. Congratulations to them.

Under **Old Business**, Mr. Waddington said tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. they would be holding their fourth **Youth Roundtable meeting**. They have identified several areas of concern and they were in the process of building partnerships with the City's faith-based community and the YMCA, Boys & Girls Club and other organizations. As a group we have determined the best route for getting information out was through the Erie County Chamber website. We looked at possibly doing a Kids Link through the City of Sandusky, the 211 and soon the new Park & Rec Line. And Word of Mouth is the creation of a Youth Commission that Mr. Fuqua brought up a couple

of meetings ago and I think that might be the best thing where they can tell friends and then possibly have an overlay on Channel 81.

Mr. Waddington said I am also happy to announce that we are working on a **Boys & Girls Basketball Summer League** that will be held at Jaycee Park in June and July and the City's Park & Rec will help in the initial funding of \$2,500.

Mr. Waddington said hopefully this will be the last meeting tomorrow night here at City Hall and we can get in the YMCA and churches and have a satellite-type network where we can move this program (Youth Roundtable) around and keep it.

Mr. Crandall said I am bringing back up the **vacation of alleys** that Mr. Waddington brought up August 28, 2006. A resident called, and I realize some streets in town are more than undesirable, but the question has been if the City owns these alleys, when can we expect some type of repairs? Mr. Waddington said I've had a couple meetings with Mr. Packan and we are looking at this, possibly some of the smaller alleys. As far as upkeep, that's something that I think that staff and the Commission, we will probably have to throw a little work into.

Under **New Business** Mr. Edmon said I would like to request an **executive session on pending litigation for the Marine Project**. Mr. Crandall seconded. The Clerk called the roll with the response as follows: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

Mr. Edmon said I would like to request an **executive session on pending litigation for the Keller Building**. Mr. Crandall seconded. The Clerk called the roll with the response as follows: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

Mr. Edmon said I would like to request an **executive session on pending litigation for the Consumer Protection Ordinance**. Mr. Murray seconded. The Clerk called the roll with the response as follows: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

Mr. Edmon said I would like to request an **executive session under personnel, non-union employees**. Mr. Crandall seconded. The Clerk called the roll with the response as follows: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

Mr. Edmon said I would like to request an **executive session under personnel, Chartered Officers** please. Mr. Crandall seconded. The Clerk called the roll with the response as follows: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

Mr. Edmon said I would like to request an **executive session under personnel, Reserve Unit** please. Mr. Crandall seconded. The Clerk called the roll with the response as follows: Yeas: Stahl, Edmon, Kaman, Murray, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, 7. Nays: 0. Passed.

Mr. Crandall said at one point in time Mr. Edmon mentioned an **organizational charter for the City** and Mr. Ginty has asked me twice now. *So I am requesting of staff that they come up with an organizational chart please.* President Kaman asked Mr. Will to take care of that.

Under **Audience Participation**, Mr. Shawn Bickley, 128 Richland Avenue, Huron, and Shepherds Shoreline Construction, 730 E. Washington Street, and Mr. Bob Shepherd, 621 Shelby Street. Mr. Bickley said we have been monitoring the **Sandusky Sailing Basin and the Sailing Club** for quite some time when this was first started to be built, Bob's father Jack, started this off. We have been in Sandusky's Sailing Club for all these years building it. So we come to you guys as a preservationist and an opportunist. We want to be able to put a different light on the subject. So what we did, we devised a plan, a lease, to co-exist with the Sailing Club, to give them the requirements that they've asked for and to have the ability to expand the marina. Right now there's currently a huge amount of land and water to the east. And that's just sitting vacant. So that being said, I will start off on this, we got a short 49-year lease. We've asked that the Sandusky Sailing Club and the Sadler Sailing Basin come up with one name and operate under one entity. We have over seven acres right to the side of us here at Shepherd's Shoreline and the Sandusky Bay Cove Properties. So we're very aware, aware of the small amount of spaces they have and we want to be able to carry overflow into our facility. The City boaters do

not want our boats. We're going to honor that. We would like to keep all of the powerboats to the eastern half of the basin. They are having some great deals on pricing over there. We would like to direct and maintain pricing on Sadlers.

Mr. Bickley said improvements, we want to continue the southern-easterly line of sheet piling all the way over to Washington Street Pier. This will create approximately 150 feet of land by 100 feet wide. There we would like to dredge and install transient dockage along the entire eastern half. I have been in contact with Carl Miller of ODNR. I guess their coffers for the most part are full and that we can apply for a grant. I have to have it in by the end of August.

Mr. Bickley said we want to have the ability to build and install a restaurant on some newly created land. We do not want any fences on the property. We want it completely public. And for Sadler Sailing Basin Docks themselves, we realize for security they can not have the general public walking on the docks. But anywhere else we agree that they can come in and perform that, fishing and walking and riding their bikes.

Mr. Shawn Bickley said we decided we wanted to put some money on this to show our sincerity. So we are offering \$25,000 a year to the City in order to lease this. We ask for a seven-year lock and CPI Index be increased from that point. We have set aside \$15,000 a year for Capital Improvements. And as you know, with submerged lands lease half of it goes to the City. That being said, this could be close to \$20,000. That bonus of \$10,000 would go right into the City coffers. This offer is a stand-alone offer. It is not contingent upon the redevelopment down here at City Hall. We are prepared to go forward on this with or without the development. And the final thing is, is if the development does go through and they want the land on that westerly side, we're just asking for a small reduction in costs, down to \$20,000 a year to the City. And we've heard all night long about the budget, and we are prepared at this juncture to go and make an offer, \$1.3 million (Main Components to lease Saddlers Sailing Basin/summary of Sandusky Sail Club Requests/Offer was \$1,375,000.00) for Sadler Sailing Basin. Thank you.

President Kaman said thank you Mr. Bickley. Any questions from the Commission? As there were none forthcoming, *President Kaman said I think we'll take this and read it over a few times and digest it and questions back and forth and get back to you.* Mr. Bickley said thank you sir.

Mr. Stahl said Sadler Sailing Basin was a separate lease from Sandusky Sailing Club and if I'm not mistaken, that expires, when does that lease with Sadler Basin expire? In '08 right? Mr. Will said there's a Management Agreement on one. So it's not technically a lease. And there is a lease on the building. Mr. Stahl asked did I hear you correctly that you would offer \$1.3 million? Mr. Bickley said yes sir. Mr. Fuqua said \$1.375.

Mr. Murray said I'm not per se, the things that we have said from the outset was that no matter what happens to this City Hall property, we want to make certain that the Sailing Club remains in Sandusky and in that location. So I'm very curious to know how the Sailing Club reacts to all of this. I have a little bit of a hard time following the written description with the chart or map that is attached. Mr. Bickley said it is just an overlay that the City has been using. What it merely shows in the bottom right hand corner is a little peninsula of land. You can see on the black overlay that it is the sheet piling that was installed approximately 10 years ago. We would like to take that individual line and head on over to Washington Street Pier. That is what's going to create 150 by 100 feet of new land. *Mr. Murray asked could you give us, I need to see it on a drawing, could you get us something that shows in a concrete way what it is that you are proposing to do? Where it is you're proposing a restaurant? How high that would be? How that would interface with the, if we are to proceed with the City Hall property, how that would interface with the condominiums that we at least conceptually talked about being there? You know I need to see where that would be laid out so that I would know how that interacts with the new Sailing Club building that has been compensated there as well. I need to see a little more visibly.* Mr. Bickley said yes.

Mr. Stahl said I want all of my relatives to call me by nine o'clock. You want to work with the Sailing Club is the way that I get this? Mr. Bickley said absolutely. Mr. Stahl asked have you approached the Sailing Club? Mr. Bickley said I have talked to one Board President, a Commodore and one person whose currently on the Board. It is at this juncture until we can find some more love, there is none. But, we

are willing to do everything we can to keep them there to not put powerboats over on that side. And so they can co-exist, continue to do their youth programs, go mainly after the eastern half and be able to develop it. Mr. Stahl said you don't want to do away with the Sailing Club? Mr. Bickley said absolutely not. Mr. Stahl said if you were successful in your dealing, you would work some sort of ongoing agreement out with them too as part of any deal that you're hoping to have? Mr. Bickley said absolutely.

Mr. Edmon said Mr. Bickley can you tell me the total amount of land that you're talking about? Mr. Bickley asked to create? Mr. Edmon said the total that you're talking about acquiring for the \$1.375? Mr. Bickley said it's the entire thing in the fence at this juncture. Mr. Edmon said do you know how many acres that is? Mr. Bickley said it's about 4½ acres I believe sir. Mr. Edmon said oh 4½ acres. And you're offering \$1.3 million? Mr. Bickley said yes sir. As there was no further discussion, President Kaman said thank you.

Mr. Barry Riddle, 1338 Fifth Street, commented on the appraisals when people want to build something down here, if that goes, is all of these appraisals for these different pieces of properties, were we going to take these appraisals now or wait until they get ready to build? If this place here is worth \$2.7 million today, ten years from now it may be worth \$5 million.

Mr. Stahl said anything that we do on that Sadler Sailing Basin, has to include an ongoing Sailing Club that is well into the future because I just want to make sure that... President Kaman said we will discuss it later. Mr. Stahl said I understand that, but Mr. Chairman you know my family. You know they're going to be calling me so I just want to be crystal clear.

Mr. Don Schwanger, 726 Perry Street, asked where are the transient docks going to be? Are they going to be straight off the Washington Street Pier or the section where they're going to fill in where the sheet pile is? The other question is I know there is a lot of money, but my concern is Mr. Shepherd or is Shoreline Construction going to put their barges tied to the Washington Street Pier? I would like to know that tonight because naturally no one has seen any concrete pictures of this. And what I'm concerned about is two things, a lot of people fish on the east side of the Washington Street Pier and how is that going to affect the fishermen? I've fished down there for 68 years and I'm concerned about the east side of the pier because we have had barges there before and they have done some damage to the pier. But I'm not concerned about that because if Shawn does any damage, he's going to take care of it. But I'm concerned about the public, not only for walking on Washington Street Pier, but being able to fish. And when it is windy out of the east, they like to fish on the inside and this was brought up by our organization when the Sailing Club made their first improvement down there just a few years ago. So our question is naturally a lot of people like to fish inside the basin, will this new transient marina dockage interfere with those people that like to fish inside? So it's easy to say we need the money, but we got to take care of our citizens first. And I know we need money, but slowly but surely we're taking this City property and we're slowly closing it in so there's going to be no room if we're not careful for the general public. So I don't know how soon you're going to have sketches, but I'm sure you're going to share them with the public and I definitely want one of those. *President Kaman said we're not prepared to answer any of those questions tonight. I'm sure Mr. Bickley will get with Mr. Schell or Mr. Will or Mr. Packan and work on the details.* This was just presented tonight.

Mr. Terry Bellamy, **Sandusky Amvet Baseball League**, said I'd like some discussions that come up last week, I'd like to know that ABL is a 501©(3) for non-profit organization. And we operate underneath the federal guidelines and within Ohio Revised Code 109574 and 10957. We do not work for the City or we don't volunteer for the City. We are an organization on our own. At a public hearing last week, we did not know anything about this, there was an issue brought up that you approved it and adopted it for volunteer background checks. Again, the good faith has not come about. The last correspondence I had with the City, and it was a letter dated on 1-8-07, this would be for the following year of '08. We have had discussions with the City. I know I had phone calls back. Sometimes it takes weeks. On this letter the 8th, I got a phone call back the 23rd. When that was discussed, she was

supposed to get back with me after meeting with the Law Director, Gary Packan and a few other people on the scale of the program.

Mr. Bellamy said we have offered the City to do our own background checks. In according to the law we can do that. We're a 501©(3). The rules and regulations that I received on 2-27 makes it pretty well impossible for us to implement this. We have coaches and managers that are really worried about the private information, i.e. social security numbers number one. And they want us to go around and pick up these social security numbers, one of our board members. These coaches we have to get that and then we turn it over to a committee. Then a committee gives that to this background screening organization. By the way there's only 37 of them in the whole United States involved in this experimental program. Then they get back to this committee and then they say who can coach and who can't coach. And now one of the questions I have, we can't go anywhere as if you know, and you guys I don't think can go in a business and tell them how they got to run it. We're a little concerned. So the other blow is that it is a lot of red tape is what we got to go through. Like I said is that people that are involved in saying who can't coach and who can, are the people that's been obstructing us all along in trying to have this communication. I can't figure out why we haven't heard now. It's no cost to the City if we do our own. It saves money. Everybody saves money. This policy is only for organized baseball and softball leagues. There is no traveling teams or anything. Anybody else would be on those fields. Anybody that practices there, the coaches can practice five days a week. As long as they don't have a game they don't have to go through a background check.

Mr. Bellamy said it's 70 years that we've been operating. Last year we merged with the Eagles League. It was very successful. We did not have any knowledge of this public hearing last week. Thus it was adopted. At this time, there's different circumstances and I hope you are aware of a prior agreement that was dated on March 28, 1996. And we did not receive written notice of any changes. And I believe some of you Commissioners should have it, I dropped it off. And it clearly says on the second page that it has to be by the first of the year for this to even stand. I don't think anybody really knows what's going on here. I live in town here. I can't make people call me back. I can't make them do it. We've tried. And it may be the Parks & Recreation is who you go for or go through. Maybe it's you guys, but to have something, we won't have enough coaches and our contracts went out, mailings went out, sponsors are out, now what are we going to do? Pick and choose what pitchers we're going to allow to play? What sponsors are we going to have? Will we have a prior agreement? I think this could have been discussed and worked out. As we were told it's for the 2008 season. We're willing to work with the City on any issue, but we operate on our own. We do not volunteer for this league. There's a few more people and I think there is some information we had to pass out for you Commissioners on some issues. I can answer some questions, but we have some other people that want to talk and I've missed a lot and I thank you for your time, I appreciate it. President Kaman said thank you Mr. Bellamy.

Mrs. Joyce Bellamy said hi, I'm a member of Sandusky Amvet League Baseball League and I have been for about 16 years. And I've served in the Commissioners League. I've worked with the City off and on for the past 15 years developing different agreements and working arrangements where we can utilize both the AMVETS own property in the City and the City owned property. As Terry has mentioned in the past few years we have been expanding and at a time when I keep hearing about youth getting involved, we've added two travel teams and we're trying to get involved up to the age of 18 in an organized baseball league. We worked at the legion ball. We have a guy named Mike Shepherd that's put together this 16 and under and 18 and under year league. This year we've dropped our age group down to ages 5. There's a great demand of parents wanting their kids to get into at least a coaches kids league. So we now run, we occupy probably 375 to 400 kids a summer in our program. It runs from late May through August.

Mrs. Bellamy said and I guess what we're getting at, is we've had doubts. We entered a written agreement in March of '96 and these background checks have come up in the past year. And we have a letter talking about voluntary background checks and we have agreed that in this age, we don't want any child molesters on our fields either. However, the program that was passed last, I guess the 26th at the last meeting, which we knew nothing about is the National Recreation & Parks Association fields these two background check programs. As Terry stated, the pilot

program is about 37 communities across the United States participating and it's not just looking for child molesters. As he says, they want social security numbers and it would do five different searches of misdemeanors and felonies. Bottom line, we haven't had a chance to even approach most of our managers. The ones we have and the ones I know would pass this, feel that it's not right. They've worked with the Police Department on the background check or child molestation or any kind of a crime involving a minor. However the program as presented, one guy says he's now with the Eagles Adam League I think over 40 years. And 90% of the parents request him as a coach. He often volunteers to Meals On Wheels. He won't be back. I heard a lot of guys that just won't go through this program that was just kind of like put on us at the last minute. We've made our objections quite well known.

Mrs. Bellamy said the committees want to be given some latitude here in addition to what the TLC Program is, which is anyone found guilty of any crime of moral turpitude or lack of integrity and/or character of an applicant as determined by the background check committee. None of the committee's even involved in the Baseball League. And I guess my point of being here and I'm going to let somebody else speak. I've passed out what I had typed that I will address after everybody else is done. We're hoping that you will reconsider your vote after you hear the opposition by the league and the amount of work that we do do for the community.

Ms. Kelly Barrett, Sandusky, said I've been a member of the Sandusky Baseball League for the past three years and I've been pulled for the past four. In the summer I spend a minimum of 25 to 30 hours a week, with the league. That'll be in addition to my job. I did not have a summer last year, but I sincerely enjoyed working with the children. I have never seen a group of more devoted and dedicated people and working with them is a rewarding job. For the past few years we have felt that we have been harassed by the City management as in Mr. Will, Mr. Packan, Mr. Pisarsky and Mrs. Hall. Communication or lack of is one of the major concerns we have. The league is expected to communicate changes in schedules to rosters and a myriad of other items requested by the above mentioned people. However our attempts to communicate with those people have been met with difficulty and likely totally rebuffed. We have been told to call Mrs. Hall with our communications and changes. Her voice mail is constantly full and we are to contact Mr. Packan. There have been articles in the Sandusky Register regarding the lack of communications. At a mutual meeting at the Amvets, the above mentioned people attended, 11 of us were told that all information we had from a previous meeting with everyone, just know that except for Mr. Fuqua, was incorrect. Mr. Will did not even attend that meeting, and when that fact was noted he said well that's what I was told. We were called nothing short of being liars. The 11 board members heard the same thing from the previously mentioned people and it's safe to say, we are not hideous and resent the implications made that night. On the matter of background checks, why are we alone being singled out? The Girl Scouts and Traveling Teams use the City fields, but they have not been requested to undergo the high level of scrutiny that is being shoved down our throats. After these background checks are completed, then a committee is to decide whether we have their moral servitude in character test. We have nothing to hide and are more than willing to police ourselves. I undergo much higher scrutiny yearly being a pediatric home-care nurse. We're a 501©(3) non-profit fully supervised organization that has run exceptionally well for 70 plus years. Now all of a sudden we have serious issues between us and the City. This will only hurt the children. We run a great program to keep the kids occupied and off the streets. Why weren't we not allowed an equal opportunity to utilize the concession stand at Dorn Park last summer? At a previous meeting we were told, you didn't get the park concession stand, get over it. Well, we won't. We followed Mrs. Hall's and Mr. Packan's instructions to the letter. We would have been required to make structural repairs of the building, among other things. These requirements were not made of the Alexander's (Michelle and Mark), who ran the stand and lived in Perkins Township. Our concession stand profits go right back into the league. At Dorn Park the Alexander's pocketed the profits. They did not even have a food license for at least half the season. There is no pay phone out there for safety reasons. There's not one at the Amvets Junior and Senior League Field either, but we would have one in the stands for safety reasons. We are a fully supervised outside baseball league program in a non-profit business. How many other businesses do you think you can force-feed changes on? We are asking for fairness, equality and respect please. Thank you. President Kaman said thank you.

Mr. Bob Laudon said I am a volunteer for the Sandusky Amvet Eagles Baseball League, not the City of Sandusky. As I'm standing up here wondering if the City leagues is going to let us do this baseball league. Instead of making plans for next season, we're wondering what we're going to get and where do we stand. We have a concession grand stand. We have fields. We don't know. We don't ever get no straight answers. We're wasting our time at these meetings. If we need help from the City, they spend thousands of dollars chasing us around trying to get nickels from us. There's no money to be made. All of our profits go back into the league for to pay our bills and materials for field maintenance. We have been told how to run this league by people who've never even been to the park or even seen a game down there. Please stop with the lies and work with us so that the kids can play ball. The background checks, I really don't have a problem with. I don't have nothing to hide, but I'm not giving my social security number to some unknown organization. I have already been the victim of identify theft and it's not going to happen like this.

Ms. Jackie Hamlin said she was a Sandusky resident born and raised in this town. I have spent the last 16 years serving on the Board of Directors for the Sandusky Amvet Baseball League. All we have ever wanted to do is provide a baseball program for these kids. We have tried to work with the City time and again when the first part of background checks came up. We said we have no problem with it as long as you go with the guidelines of the Little League. We don't want pedophiles. We don't want child molesters in our organization. We're the first to point them out. But we are an organization. We don't work for the City. We're willing to work with the City, but we have a little problem in that the City has not had a whole lot of good faith with us. We were told specifically how we were supposed to do our bid proposal for the concession stand at Dorn Park. We did exactly what we were told. We turned it in, we got shot down, no it's not acceptable. What was not acceptable? We followed everything you told us to do. Well it just wasn't, get over it. Okay, so we asked for Sprau Park, which would give our little guys, about five and six year olds, seven, eight and nine year olds, right next to the field of our 10, 11 and 12, and right down from our 13 to 15 year olds. Nice, convenient for parents if they got a younger child, a middle child and an older child playing ball. Really you don't need to run around in this day and age with the cost of gasoline. You don't want to have to have one parent have to run way out to Dorn Park, one's out to our field (Sprau) and one's out to Jaycee. All we're asking is a little cooperation with the City and all we have gotten is a problem. We sat in a meeting, we're told one thing, you go to another meeting, no you didn't hear that right. What do you believe? We worked with the City. The City at one time, did have security. They did away with that. We all understand financial constraints. We didn't complain. They at one point were reimbursing us for all empire fees that we had to pay out. They did away with that. No problem. All we want is to be left to run our program with no hassles from the City. Thank you.

President Kaman asked was there anyone else from the Amvets?

Mr. Bellamy asked did they have any questions? President Kaman said I don't have any questions. I guess to Mr. Will that... Mr. Bellamy interrupted and asked does anybody have the letter on that for the 28th? President Kaman said yep, we all have it. *I guess on Mr. Will's behalf to get with Michelle Hall and Gary because we're getting two different stories and get back to us and let us know what goes on and get with these guys also.* I know they're not here tonight, but... Mr. Will said in regards to. President Kaman said in regards to what they're saying they haven't been getting contacted and getting back to them and we got a letter from Michelle saying they didn't get back to them. They're saying we didn't get back to them either. There are two conflicting stories here so. Mr. Will said we sort of saw this coming so we copied you on all of the communications over the past couple of months. I don't know what to do there really. Mr. Bellamy said I think the communications, according to the letters if you look at them in order, we have responded. When you get a letter that's dated the 8th, that's 1-8-07, and you have an agreement you supposed to be responding to by 1-07, it kind of makes it moot, especially when that letter says it's for the 2008 season. Let's work together. That letter on 1-8-07 says that. We haven't had a chance to work together. We found it out in the paper when we read it. And we do respond. We have to get phone calls back to get answers. Mr. Fuqua said the same letter that he just referred to Mrs. Bellamy, it says that you received a letter on 11-15, you never received that letter on 11-15? Mrs. Bellamy said yes, yes I did and I did get a phone call back. I think Michelle, I don't know if she was getting married at that time or whatever. Mr. Fuqua asked did you ever send anything back,

because it says that in a letter dated 11-15 as a follow up to the meeting that occurred on the sent communication, regarding them needing monthly suggestions, did you ever send anything back? Mrs. Bellamy said on 1-8-07 it said that. Mr. Fuqua said right. The letter says that you were sent a letter, would you respond to that? Mrs. Bellamy said yea I'm going to respond to that. I think that there was a meeting in November and Terry does have that letter. I think we made it pretty clear that in November and December our Board of Directors is over. Our season is over. We work from January through October on the baseball leagues. In November and December is when we are having our elections for the next Board of Directors. December, I think our election is in late December. They wasn't even really an operation. We do send phone calls back and I think we made it clear that until our new Board, the Board that was elected for the 2007 season takes power, that the old Board is going out in December 2006 is pretty powerless. In fact I resigned off the Board of Directors in December of 2006. I don't know if the new board has even met to appoint a secretary. We don't have paychecks. We don't have a lot of the media equipment, but we will get on the phone and make a call. I don't know what more you can do when we're not up and operating yet.

Mr. Stahl asked how many teams do you have. Mrs. Bellamy said 25. At the end of last year we had 25. Mr. Stahl said you would need to have 25 coaches checked for backgrounds. Mrs. Bellamy said they're saying if the one person isn't there that did pass, being the head coach and he turns the practice over to an assistant coach, which we have a membership on, phone number and address and you have to go through our process, that's not acceptable. They can not practice. They can not have a game. Mr. Stahl said well it seems to me like we all want the same thing. Mrs. Bellamy said I agree. The thought of I would go around and they want social security numbers, I'm not going to go around and ask for social security numbers. I'm not going to carry them around on me. I don't want to see them. I don't want anything to do with them. I think there's other ways to do background checks that would screen out pedophiles, not just misdemeanors and DUI's that happened a couple of years. But I don't think a misdemeanor or DUI that someone has on their record precludes them from volunteering with the youth. President Kaman said okay we will have them look into it.

Mr. Bellamy said on this five-page agreement here or the five pages we just sent out 2-27, it says one of us have to go collect the stuff. If the City can do it, if the City wants to do that, let them go to these managers and coaches and maintain the chance to get through to something. I don't want to be that one and I don't think anybody on our board does. It's a good conflict with Ohio law and I think we are within those guidelines of Ohio law. The Ohio Revised Code, but if you guys have a copy of that letter for this 2-27-07, it's five pages and it's kind of silly. The only ones that are organized leagues and going to be charged for something coming down this year and you and whatever, we're the ones that's charged because we're the organizers. It says it right here. No matter what the costs. Kids come and destroy fences, buildings, everything every single day down there. And we're just picking things out here. And like I said, it's the information and a lot of people will go the wrong way with it. I thank you for your time. President Kaman said thank you Mr. Bellamy we'll look into it.

Mr. Crandall said I attended the one meeting in November and I did stay afterwards to have them address their concerns. But what I have just gotten a copy of was an agreement that was dated in 1996. I guess it doesn't have to be right now, but according to the Law Director on reading of the content of this agreement, because we are all in it for the kids and certainly nobody wants to see the children hurt, but if there is an agreement in place, somewhere along the line we've got to get the communication all on the right track.

Mr. Carl Wolf, 221 E. Jefferson Street, said over the past few months its been mentioned by members of this committee, the **City Commission should develop and adopt sort of Commission Rules of Order**. I believe that the City Commission should actually discuss this as soon as possible. As the City Commission, you are the focal point of the entire City. Everyone, whether they are citizens, businesses, visitors, potential citizens or developers, they live and hear what the pulse of the City Commission is by what you are saying and how you're saying it. After attending a number of City Commission meetings, I have made a number of observations over the past few months. First, negative comments, negative speeches or negative tones.

There is no greater harm in any type of family, business or government than negative speeches. That's all right to have a different opinion, but do so in a positive method, turn your differences into opportunities. Now putting the City staff in an awkward position and on the spot of having them answer publicly to you on whether they can implement a new project, which will be reallocating City resources without first giving them the ability to research what positive or negative impact such new projects will have on the current resources is unfair. Third, many times not during a regular discussion, what shouldn't have been asked offends City staff during the City Commission meeting, whether it's the City Manager, City Engineer, the Police Chief, the Law Director or any other City employee. These questions if asked in advance of the City Commission, would allow that employee to research that question much more thoroughly and to put together a much better answer than at a last minute question. Of course questions during a heated discussion may be answered validly. Fourth, with all the cutbacks that the City has incurred, and we know there will be more to follow, I was surprised to hear that the City Police Department still delivers some, if not all, packets of the City Commissioners. How many police hours is that per year? Are we removing officers from a job they need to be doing or is it more important for them to be couriers instead? In Saturday's newspaper it stated, City Police not sure they can afford to pay an officer to monitor a walkthrough metal detector for the Municipal Court. I know that's an area we need to help start making that position a reality. And finally, as a Manager for over 30 years, I have always believed in you reprimand an employee in private and you praise them in public. Being a transparent government is a tremendous goal, but making negative public comments, gestures or games of got you that are aimed at or towards the City staff, is not only demoralizing to the employee, but the City as well. I urge you the City Commission, to formulate and adopt a set of rules that will help guide you through your Commission meetings in a professional, positive manner. If asked, I'd volunteer my time to help. Thank you.

At 7:55 p.m. President Kaman said they would take a 15-minute recess and come back for the executive sessions.

At 8:10 p.m. President Kaman returned to the table and the Sandusky City Commission, Charter Officers, Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief, Fire Chief, Administrative Services Director, Downtown Development Director, Economic Development Director and George Poulos were present.

An executive session was held on pending litigation, Keller Building.

At 8:42 p.m. the City Commission, Charter Officers, Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief, Fire Chief, Administrative Services Director, Downtown Development Director, and Economic Development Director were present

An executive session was held on personnel, Reserve Unit.

At 9:07 p.m. the City Commission, Charter Officers, Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief, Fire Chief, Administrative Services Director, Downtown Development Director, and Economic Development Director were present

An executive session was held on personnel, non-union employees.

At 9:20 p.m. the City Commission and the Charter Officers were present.

An executive session was held on pending litigation, Consumer Protection.

At 9:25 p.m. the City Commission and the Charter Officers were present.

An executive session was held on pending litigation, Marina Project.

At 9:53 p.m. only the Sandusky City Commission were present.

An executive session was held on personnel, Charter Officers.

President Kaman returned to the table and entertained motions for adjournment.

ATTEST:

 B. JOYCE BROWN
 CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION

 DANIEL J. KAMAN, PRESIDENT
 SANDUSKY CITY COMMISSION