APRIL 9, 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 Dan Kaman, *(Dennis Murray-excused)*, Brian Crandall, Brett Fuqua, Dave Waddington, Craig Stahl and Dannie Edmon 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 Assistant City Manager Gary Packan, Traffic Engineer Josh Snyder, Police Chief Kim Nuesse, Fire Chief Mike Meinzer, Administrative Services Director Warrenette Parthemore and Downtown Development Director John Lippus. It was an open meeting with the news media present.

President Kaman offered 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: Kaman, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, Stahl and Edmon.

Mr. Waddington moved that the **minutes of March 15th and March 22, 2007** be approved as written and suspense with the formal reading. Mr. Edmon seconded, motion carried.

Under **Audience Participation on Agenda Items Only,** Mr. Carl Wolf made comments on the Marina District Project.

Mr. Glenn Satala, Union President of Sandusky Fire Fighters IAFF Local 327, said at last meeting we brought to your attention a concern with the contract that you are about to vote on. I would like to report the concerns were gone and we hoped to receive the approval of that contract.

PROCLAMATION – April - "Fair Housing Month"

Ms. Barb Hanck, President of Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation, 135 E. Washington Row, explained a Access to Recreation Initiative Grant sponsored by the Michigan-based Kellogg Foundation of approximately $1.5 million, which will be awarded to Ohio community foundations in August. The grant is to be used to create universal, barrier-free access to recreation environments and opportunities. The grant funds will provide 1) construction and/or improvements to our recreational facilities; 2) the establishment of an endowment fund to maintain the facilities/project on a long-term basis; 3) communication with the community to determine needs and the scope of our project, and to encourage participation in the improved recreational opportunities. We have scheduled three meetings to gather input from the community. The first meeting is April 19th from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. for organizations that either provide services to disabled or provide recreational activities and will be held at the Sandusky Fire Station. The second and third meetings will be May 2nd from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Sandusky City Commission Chambers and are for the community at large. Thank you.

Police Chief Kim Nuesse recognized Lieutenant Chris Hofacker for graduating from the Police Executive and Administrative Leadership course through Cleveland State University; Officer Ken Nixon the DARE Community Leadership Officer, who was also responsible for our Neighborhood Block Watch Programs; and Officer Eric Grabell who handled a situation at the Ohio Veterans Home with a life threatening resuscitation effort on a child. These officers are being recognized for excellence of service and accomplishments.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Eddie Chou – The University of Toledo – **Pavement Management System**

Fire Chief Mike Meinzer presented Battalion Chief Paul Ricci with a Certificate of Graduation for Executive Fire Officer Program

Gary Packan, Assistant City Manager - **Underground Railroad Statue Project**

President Kaman declared the public hearing open for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) fiscal year 2007 Action Plan

Mrs. Mary Bird, Community Development Program Administrator, said Mr. President and Members of the Commission, this is going to be a public hearing in the form of a presentation. Today is April 9th, which is National Community Development Week for 2007. This year's theme is Building Strong Communities. And keeping with that theme we are going to discuss how we use CDBG to build a stronger Sandusky and how it helps to address the many needs within our community. What is CDBG? It is a federal program funded for housing and urban development. Congress signed the Housing and Community Development Act in 1974 and this created the largest and most flexible source of funding provided to local government. Before the HCD Act the federal government made the decisions about every single Community Development undertaken by cities. Flexibility of CDBG allows each jurisdiction to use their own local input in deciding which projects are most needed to create jobs, generate economic development and to increase affordable housing stock. There are three national objectives and they are to undertake activities that benefit the low and moderate income persons or eliminate slum or blight or to address urgent needs of recent origins for which there are no other sources of funding. Communities are required to spend at least 70% of their CDBG Funding on activities that meet the low to moderate benefits criteria and Sandusky far exceeds that cap of the HCD Act. Each year Sandusky receives an allocation based on a formula that considers population and measures of distress including poverty, age of housing, housing overcrowding, and gross lag.

Mrs. Bird said from our first allocation in 2004 to 2006, it was a 15% reduction due to budget cuts across all federal programs. This year we did not receive a cut and actually received $3,000 more than last year, which was a pleasant surprise. The Congress is very supportive of CDBG, although they face the growing budget deficit, funding the war and spiraling costs for Medicare and Social Security, which makes future funding very hard to project.

Mrs. Bird said the Fourth Year Action Plan is due to HUD on May 15th. The plan tells HUD how Sandusky is to use funding for the upcoming fiscal year. It describes the City's priorities, which are based on the Consolidated Plan and the Strategic Plan and on public participation. Tomorrow begins a 30-day public comment period on the plan. A copy will be available on line at the City's website. A copy can also be found in the office of the Commission and Community Development and the Sandusky Public Library. All comments received will be included in the documents sent to HUD.

Mrs. Bird said this year's plan allocates funding to three objectives and for administration. The dollar breakdown is as follows: 46% to affordable housing; 20% to suitable living environments; 20% to economic development; and 14% administration. The largest share of the allocation will go to affordable housing. The CDBG is a principle source of revenue for implementing a Comprehensive Neighborhood Strategy to prevent the physical and economic and social deterioration of our neighborhoods. For that purpose we have developed numerous programs over the last few years, including Owner-Occupied Housing, Rehabilitation, Exterior Rental Rehabilitation, Emergency Home Repair, Down-Payment Assistance, Demolition and Clearance Activities, and some funding set-aside for New Construction to be carried out by Community-Based Development Organizations.

Mrs. Bird said in the last two years, along with funding from the State of Ohio to the CHIP Program, the City has been able to complete 40 full rehabs of owner-occupied units; 6 exterior rehabs, and 20 emergency home repairs. We recently have selected another 20 homes that will receive a full rehab and we have numerous others in process to receive the exterior rehab.

Mrs. Bird said eliminating vacant, dilapidated structures is instrumental to successful revitalization. The Demolition and Clearance Program funds the selective demolition of vacant, dilapidated structures that have blighting influences on our neighborhoods. These structures are not only public eyesores, but also health and safety hazards. CDBG Funds were used to take down seven condemned buildings over the last year, with funding in place for more demolition in the coming year.

Mrs. Bird said another very important objective is approving our community's living environment. This could include different structures, improving facilities, and services. Twenty per cent of this year's allocation will go towards achieving and

bettering environments. These projects such as continued progress on the Bike Path, new sidewalks, and rehabs, and other picnic shelters over at Lions Park.

Mrs. Bird said the cost of maintaining the City's existing infrastructures, as well as adding new amenities, is very expensive. CDBG Funds are a vital tool in leveraging other sources of funding as most grants require a local match. Since 2004, CDBG has leveraged $7.5 million. Those funds have paid for the Bike Pathway and thousands of feet of streets, sidewalks, and sewer separations. Some projects require a small amount of funding, but provide a big payoff in our quality of life. In recent years CDBG has funded a Recycling Center on First Street, which promotes a greener Sandusky. Other projects that address the needs of our handicap citizens. CDBG has paid for a handicap accessible bathroom at Shoreline Park and for approximately 105 handicap ramps at our streets and intersections. Parks and recreation areas are important in so many ways. They provide safe places for children to play, which are increasingly scarce today. Quality park facilities also encourage physical fitness and social interaction. In the last few years CDBG has been used to upgrade playground equipment throughout the City and it has been used to make Dorn Park a regional gathering place for baseball competition. CDBG provides funding for the area non-profits to further their very important and vital work in addressing unmet needs of the City's disadvantaged citizens. Funding has assisted Serving Our Seniors in providing prescription drugs to the elderly. It has assisted the Volunteers of America in providing utility assistance to persons facing shutoffs. It has assisted Bay Area Neighborhood Development Corporation in providing credit counseling and helping to prepare first time homebuyers for home ownership. It provides scholarships to children who may not otherwise be able to participate in the City's Park & Rec Programs.

Mrs. Bird said the third objective is economic development. CDBG is one of many tools the City uses to stimulate economic development. Currently it funds three programs that are supported entirely on program income. They are the Revolving Loan Fund, the Micro-Enterprise Loan Program and the Facade and Code Compliance Program. Nothing is more important than reducing poverty and increasing economic viability and City employment. The City has two programs that encourage job creation. The Revolving Loan Fund provides low interest loans to businesses. These loans often fill a critical gap in funding that make or break a project. The Micro-Enterprise Loan Program is a 10% loan that is designed to provide capital to persons to low and moderate incomes that are not able to secure traditional financing to start or expand small business. Since 2004, the City has certified 27 jobs as a result of the RLF Program.

Mrs. Bird said another form of assistance is targeted to the Central Business District and that is the City's Façade and starting in the new fiscal year, Code Compliance Program. This program provides zero percent loans to businesses to update their building exteriors or to update ancient and costly systems, such as heating and electricity that may break down and many are downtown buildings that at this time they still use.

Mrs. Bird said and lastly CDBG pays for three full-time employees that administer and implement all of these programs. Myself and Kay Conway, who is our Program Coordinator, and Mark Warren who is actually down in Athens training for weatherization and he's our Rehab Specialist. CDBG also pays for our Economic Development Consultant, Greg Sherman, and our supplies, equipment and necessary training. CDBG also pays for the City's Fair Housing Program, which strives to prevent and discourage and deal with unfair housing practices. Best of all, no General Fund money is used. Who benefits directly or indirectly? We all benefit from housing, economic and community development activities within our neighborhoods. Thank you. President Kaman asked were there any questions of the Commission?

Mr. Edmon questioned 70% of the funds that were supposed to go to the poor? Mrs. Bird said that is required, 70% has to expended on the low to moderate income criteria number one.

President Kaman said you said this was based a lot on our population also? Mrs. Bird said it's based on our population. We became an entitlement based City on the 2000 Census. Part of the population is actually that we're the central city in the area with Perkins, so we remain over that cap of 50,000. So we actually benefit from that by using the Perkins population and then the poverty and housing stock. **President Kaman said thank you and declared the public hearing closed.**

President Kaman said they would move on to the agenda. Mr. Crandall moved to accept all communications from tonight's agenda. Mr. Murray seconded, carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion – Mr. Crandall said I encourage my fellow Commissioners to pass this.

ITEM# 1 – This item was passed at first reading at the meeting of March 26th.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-018 - 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. Moved by Mr. Waddington and seconded by Mr. Crandall to be passed at *second reading* under suspension of rules in full accordance of Section 14 of the City Charter. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion and then final passage: Yeas: Kaman, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, Stahl, Edmon, 6. Nays: 0. Passed.

ITEM# 2 – This item was removed the meeting of March 26th meeting.

Discussion – *Mr. Icsman said this was under continued negotiations.*

ORDINANCE NO. *TABLED* - **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, copy of which is attached to this ordinance; and declaring this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

ITEM# 3 – Communication - Gary Packan, Assistant City Manager, & Mike Pisarsky, Horticultural Services Superintendent. Item passed at first reading March 26th.

ORDINANCE NO. _____Authorizing and directing the City Manager and/or Finance Director to utilize a portion ($18,000-$20,000) of the Oakland Cemetery Endowment Fund to pay seasonal employee wages and fringe benefits. Moved by Mr. Fuqua and seconded by Mr. Waddington to be passed at ***second reading***. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion and then final passage: Yeas: Fuqua, Waddington, Stahl, 3. Nays: Kaman, Crandall, Edmon, 3. ***Failed on second reading.***

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM# 4 – Communication submitted by Mary Bird, Program Administrator.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-019 - Accept a Consolidated Entitlement Grant in the amount of $829,616.00 Total Community Development Block Grant Funds for the program year of July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008 and to submit the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development a FY 2007 One-Year Action Plan. Moved by Mr. Crandall and seconded by Mr. Edmon to be passed under suspension of rules in accordance with City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion and then final passage: Yeas: Kaman, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, Stahl, Edmon, 6. Nays: 0. Passed.

ITEM# 5 – Communication by John Lippus, Downtown Development Director.

RESOLUTION NO. 016-07R - Approving the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Bayfront Paper District Redevelopment Project; repealing Resolution No. 039-06R, passed on August 14, 2006. Moved by Mr. Stahl and seconded by Mr. Fuqua to be passed under suspension of rules in accordance with City Charter Section 14. ***Discussion*** – Mr. Waddington questioned the insurance money being included and do we know the amount? Mr. Widman said at this point the insurance money has not been received, but I don't see why they couldn't use it. It's funds that the City will be receiving. It's been a while since I talked to the insurance adjuster, but I think it's in the $20,000 range. It wasn't much.

Mr. Waddington said about six weeks ago I asked do we need to repeal this? Mr. Icsman said yes, specifically repealing the prior resolution authorizing the demolition.

Mr. Edmon questioned CDBG money and if it goes past $100,000 we're expected to get that from the developer, they need to use Clean Ohio Funds or CDBG Funds? Mr. Will said in that case, I believe this would fit the category of slum and blight.

Mr. Crandall said I know the condition of that building (Keller), but I certainly appreciate the amount of time from staff and Nanette Bus for that information.

Mr. Edmon asked of the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund and CDBG Funds, do we have a dollar amount that we are going to pay out of each one of those? Mr. Will said the grant funding that has been awarded so far is the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund money and we used some of that for mediation on the building as it sits. And there is a potential to use more of that for further mediation and for selective demolition. So there is a potential to use more, but we don't know exactly how much that would be. It is going to be subject to how much is utilized in the rest of the parcel one area, which includes the Chesapeake property and Tricor property. Mr. Edmon said I'm more concerned with how much money are we going to spend of CDBG Funds? Mr. Will said right now we do not have that, we may not be using CDBG money to take our next step on this project. We're going to use the $100,000 from MidStates to do the repairs, as well as our insurance money, plus start with the structural and then decide what to do after that and other activities.

President Kaman said my main concern is the Keller Building that we are not going to preserve it and I want to make sure that with this agreement, there's language in there that says we are going to try to do that. And I'm happy to hear that we are going to try to do that and there's three separate groups to keep an eye on it and try to do it. So I wish you guys all the best of luck to get a developer in here that can do that. I would like to see that building converted into something to get rid of that slum and blight. Discussion ensued. **The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion and then final passage: Yeas: Kaman, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, Stahl, Edmon, 6. Nays: 0. Passed.**

ITEM# 6 – This item was ordered in the meeting of March 26th.
RESOLUTION NO. 017-07R - A Resolution in Support of the Local Government Funds provisions of Governor Ted Strickland's Fiscal Years 2008-2009 Executive Budget submitted to the 127th General Assembly in March 2007. Moved by Mr. Edmon and seconded by Mr. Crandall to be passed under suspension of rules in accordance with City Charter Section 14. The Clerk called the roll twice, first on the motion and then final passage: Yeas: Kaman, Crandall, Fuqua, Waddington, Stahl, Edmon, 6. Nays: 0. Passed.

Under the **City Manager's Report**, Mr. Will said he had a **$50 donation from William and Barbara Beetle for the Greenhouse Endowment Fund**. Mr. Fuqua moved, Mr. Crandall seconded, carried.

Mr. Will said I am going to give updates during my report. During the past couple of weeks we worked on the **Sandusky Amvets Baseball League** and I received a letter from them during the past couple weeks in regards to concerns that they had about our approach related to the background checks. They specifically mentioned three concerns, one they were worried it was not in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code. When the Assistant City Manager, Law Director, and myself met on that, we reviewed it and as a result of that meeting, we are fine with the Ohio Revised Code and it does not prohibit this type activity. The second point was concern about our 1996 agreement and that there was not enough notice related toward the changes that we planned to make on their league. We feel that the notice requirement in there was met because we have been talking for a year and a half about this change and we actually made it clear last November to them. And we are going to be moving forward with background checks and we invited them to work with how those other teams will be made. But besides from that, the agreement itself speaks two major changes that would lead to them not being able to run their league and for example in discussing this with the Law Director, one thing that would present an undue burden on them would be if we said you are not allowed to be on this field any more for your league. If you give them ample notice before making changes like that because it would be impossible for them to put a lease together without that ample notice. It's not because of the changes that we are making. What we are making is a rule and regulation change, which is allowable within that 1996 agreement. So I think that we're okay with that agreement as well. And then the third item is that they were concerned about potential discrimination related to requiring background checks for their leagues. And there will be no discrimination. This will be for every organization that plays in our fields will be required to have the background checks.

Mr. Will said we passed our **budget** at the last meeting and since then we started to **identify areas that we would be able to make deductions**. We don't have the exact dates, but we do know we have three openings right now that are in non-zero fund areas where we will be able to make reductions in other General Fund areas and move them into those three openings. So we will be working on those within the next couple of weeks as well.

Mr. Will said we submitted a **grant application for Clean Ohio Revitalization Funds**. This is our third major grants requests. We have been funded for our first two requests. So we're hoping we will have success for this item related to the **Deep Water Marina Property**. We will not find out until October. So they will definitely be going through another season before any changes would happen on their property and changes that would happen is if we were successful in that grant application. We submitted that April 2nd and it was an incredible amount of work from our staff and Scott Schell, Gary Packan and Mr. Lippus and the whole Department of Development. We combined forces with our consultant, Partners Environmental and Hull & Associates as well as the developer to get that grant application in on time and one that we feel like we have a good opportunity for success. One thing that will hinge upon our success, there is the continued advancement of the grant we received on the Gradel Property a couple of years ago. And we have been taking a lot of steps since then to make sure that we can have a successful move of a business into another area where they can feel comfortable moving. And then move forward from after the time that they move to where we start cleaning up the property. Over the next couple of months we'll need to take major steps to make sure that we're physically advancing the cause of that second grant that we've received before the Clean Ohio Fund folks will consider us for this Deep Water Property. We will get back with you on more updates.

Mr. Will said we have been advancing the potential cause of **Regional Dispatch**. This has been led primarily by our two Chiefs, Mike Meinzer as well as Kim Nuesse, as well as in concert with the professionals that have organized these efforts in other areas of the City. The professionals' job is really to just set up a framework where you can begin discussion on it, give the format that it might work in and then use that format to have discussion points of how it might work for this area. He would admit that it really doesn't work the same way for any two areas. So there is a lot of work in that regard, but as we move forward we have received a lot of positive feedback from the various local governments all around Erie County. There's been some negative too, but there's a lot of interest to see what can happen with Regional Dispatch. The next time that we meet we should be able to get a good sense as to whether this has a real good chance to move forward or not.

Mr. Will said we are continuing to work on a **potential Developer Agreement for the proposed Marina District Project** and part of all that work, there's a whole lot of details to that, but one of the bigger aspects that gets a lot of attention really is the **Sadler Sailing Basin**. And they had sent out a proposed draft lease agreement and we had never responded to it and had been working on it since then. Friday we were able to meet with our attorney and put some finishing touches on that draft and we think that our attorneys will be able to get that clean copy back to us this week. And as soon as we get that we will send it off to the Commission, as well as off to the Sadler Sailing Basin so that we can move forward. You begin discussions and usually trade drafts once or twice and then sit down and have meetings to figure out how you nail down the rest of the agreement. Any questions?

President Kaman said on the **Amvets thing, are we addressing the travel teams**? Mr. Will said if they are an organized team playing on our fields, yes. But if they don't reserve stuff on our organized league, then there is not a mechanism by which you can test those the same way as you go with your organized. Discussion ensued.

President Kaman said the **Deep Water grant** needs to be cleared. We are not using it for our acquisition of that? Mr. Will said no. And I should have made that clear. They have worked out a deal with a different private developer. So they do not have to do any acquisition to that piece. Well what we fall with that acquisition because it is required of a grant, but it is really a transaction between the developer and the property owner. President Kaman said I just wanted to make that clear because they will be calling tomorrow.

*Mr. Crandall said in that letter they wanted a response by tomorrow. Mr. Will said we have not responded, no. We can respond tomorrow to the **Amvets**.*

Under **Old Business**, Mr. Waddington said on the **trash trains we all received 90 plus signed petitions Thursday night**. I would like to see a better way to secure this trash other than fish netting and just 24 hour for the box cars to sit in Sandusky. After staff going out, they moved west down past Toft's. Today a resident found medical information along the fence. They sat out there three or four weeks and why are they parking in Sandusky? Mr. Icsman said Mike and I had discussion last week and one of my assistants tried to help, and it was about a contract between the Ottawa County Landfill and someone in New Jersey who is sending their trash over the railroad to Ottawa County. We are limited other than the nuisance and concern about the length of time the trains are there. We are trying to do something through the attorney for the railroad, who we got to know when we prosecuted them for blocking grade crossings. On the record issue, obviously in Ohio that's a problem. It's not a problem that our City is creating. That is the source of New Jersey or wherever they are emanating from and also the railroad. The railroad did tell us it is supposed to be construction debris and industrial debris, not Beyone Medical Clinic. *We are going to notify them.* They would want to know that and also Ottawa County.

Mr. Waddington said I would like a one-stop guide to recycling and disposal of odd items in Sandusky. With Commission approval, I would like staff to research how, what and where to recycle furniture, computers, chemicals and difficult items, and then on the City's website show what the proper response for disposal. President Kaman said the County has their bins out by the Fairgrounds for appliances. I agree we need to have something for tires and batteries. *So if we can look into that.*

Mr. Edmon said we need some type of **protocol on the train issue** to deal with this in the future because this is not going to be a one-time thing. Maybe how long they are allowed to stay, what kind of fines will be put in place if they stay longer than that period, how are we going to deal with revenues after the trash is in their yards. *President Kaman said Mr. Will come up with some type of a game plan.*

President Kaman said the **Jackson Street Handicap Ramp**. Mr. Will said our staff is still not recommending we do that for safety reasons. It is the same as it was last fall. President Kaman said the wheel chairs are getting up there now. What is going to happen when one falls in? Mr. Will said the idea with a safety concern is if you put in a ramp there, you're making it that much easier to have that happen. And it's not that anything bad is going to happen for sure, it's just trying to take an extra precaution to do what you can so that it doesn't. That's what the original design of that was for and that's why it was like that. It's a simple step. It's not a big expense so it's not like there's not the ability to do it, it's just the safety concern. It's just our staff wouldn't recommend it. President Kaman said I'm torn, but my concern is without a ramp, one of them is going up or coming down and that's when it happens.

President Kaman asked are we more liable then or with a ramp? Mr. Icsman said the only way you would be enhancing your liability is if somehow the ADA would require that ramp and we don't have one there. I'm not sure, I've not talked to Kathy about it before. President Kaman said we got handicap parking spaces down there. Everything's there, but a ramp. I just think for 300 or 500 bucks you can put a ramp. Discussion ensued. **Mr. Crandall said I will move that we install a handicap ramp. Mr. Waddington seconded. President Kaman said the motion has been made and seconded, any further discussion on the ramp.**

Mr. Stahl asked why they would be against that recommendation? Mr. Will said we just wouldn't advise it. It has gone through our ADA Committee as well a while back too and there was no recommendation coming out of that group as well that we would have that ramp put in there. We even brought it up since then, but the main concern is if you're going to have a slope there and then accessibility in that regard, you're not making it any easier to get up there. I understand it has desirable effects too, but from a safety standpoint we just wouldn't recommend it. That's all.

Mr. Stahl said I would like to make an amendment to the motion because I... President Kaman said you can't. There is a motion on the floor. Mr. Stahl said fine. Would you consider withdrawing the motion? Mr. Crandall said on a number of occasions Mr. Kaman has said people are using that and wondering how they're getting up there. Mr. Stahl said my thought process is let's take it to the proper committee. They meet possibly once a month, the ADA Committee and then the Commission base it upon the wishes of that committee. A lengthy discussion ensued. President Kaman said there is a motion on the floor to vote on it, Mrs. Brown. The Clerk called the roll: Yeas: Kaman, Crandall, Waddington, Edmon, 4. Nays: Fuqua, Edmon, 2. **The President declared the motion passed.**

President Kaman said going back to the thing that I have been trying to do since being elected, is making traffic flow easier in Sandusky. We have four-way stops. We have one-way streets. We have flashing lights. And now several years ago I asked about the **Sycamore Line and 250**. You come off the overpass, the street light right there is a "No Turn on Red". And the main reason was the business there, North Coast Cancer Center was there, their entrance. That building is now empty. I asked Josh Snyder about taking that and **making it a "Right Turn on Red" now** and he agreed that we could. There's some safety concerns, but along with the four-way stops and the flashing lights, there's always been a safety concern. But to hold people up at that intersection now that there is no business there, again makes no sense. I think we should do it. Look at it. Evaluate it like we have the other ones. Mr. Will said we looked at that one too. It's not a good idea and we wouldn't recommend doing it from a couple of different perspectives. One is safety. There's not a normal turn there and it's a rounded turn and it's got hard visibility coming from a different angle there. As well as from a potential redevelopment at the site. But if you want to do a motion to turn right on there instead, by all means go ahead. President Kaman said I think we can look at it like we did everything else. We tried them. The people have overwhelmingly said that traffic flows easier and I think we need to take advantage of this situation. If a business moves in there and changes that site, we'll look at it again. Mr. Will said like I said, all that we are going to do is give you our professional opinions. You do not need to use them obviously. I mean you just demonstrated that. You don't use the opinion if you don't want it. I don't think we are supposed to rubber stamp every time you ask for something. Lengthy discussion ensued. President Kaman asked what does the Commission feel? As there was no response, he said okay, I guess we will let it stay as staff proposed it.

Under **New Business** Mr. Waddington thanked staff for the **Greenhouse Open House** this past Saturday. They worked hard to make changes on how we heat the Greenhouse and continued to research to look at cost saving measures. Discussion.

Mr. Crandall said we received a letter from Griffing Flying Service and I would like to make a motion that we send a letter to United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in their efforts to have that tax increase repealed as it relates to all passengers entering the U.S. from Canada. The premise of this user fee is to fund inspections that would be conducted to prevent introduction of plant and animal pests and diseases into the United States. The introduction of this imposed $5 fee per person for their short 20-mile flight raises their fare from the Pelee Island, Canada to $47.00 per person per trip. Of that total, U.S. taxes now comprise $11.10 of the fare. This is a significant increase on such a small fare. They are seriously concerned, as the additional tax burden will seriously affect our area tourism, not to mention income that they require to operate a privately-owned, public-use airport that serves the larger community. They said they do not fly produce from Pelee Island to Sandusky; there is no Department of Agriculture Agent in Sandusky to conduct the inspection; taxes are at an unacceptable 31% of the base fare; and The Pelee Island Ferry is exempt, creating unfair competition. Mr. Icsman said I got it about four o'clock, but the Pelee is a contractual customer of the City. *Law Director look into and come back in two weeks.*

Under **Audience Participation**, Mr. Jonathan Peddleton, North Coast Young Professionals, endorsed the Downtown Waterfront Redevelopment Plan. He said this project would be instrumental in attracting young professionals the ages of 25 to 44.

Mr. Ginty commented on trash trains and life buoys at the Jackson Street Pier. Mr. Barry Riddle, 1338 Fifth Street, asked how was it getting from the rails to our yards and who was responsible for the trash trains. Mr. Bob Hagg explained the difference in waste and the different paper manifests. Discussion ensued.

At 8:05 p.m. President Kaman returned to the table and the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:_____ _____

B. JOYCE BROWN
CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION

DANIEL J. KAMAN, PRESIDENT
SANDUSKY CITY COMMISSION