

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 16, 2014

Council Chambers

7:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M. - President Ellington called the June 16th Newark City Council meeting to order

ROLL CALL- Ms. Hall, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Blake, Mr. Bubb, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Guthrie

INVOCATION – Mr. Johnson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS

14-17 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE NEWARK CITY SAFETY DIRECTOR TO CERTIFY TO THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR, THE SUM OF \$224,952.03 INCURRED BY THE NEWARK CITY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE DEMOLITION AND CORRECTION OF ANY OTHER SAFETY VIOLATIONS TO BE PLACED AS A LIEN UPON CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY SITUATED IN THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO.

President Ellington- announced that this Ordinance had been discussed this evening just prior to this Council meeting during a special Service Committee meeting. He stated that the Committee voted it on to full Council and that it will be read later tonight under Ordinances on First Reading.

MINUTES- June 2, 2014- Motion by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Bubb to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2014 Newark City Council Meeting as presented and the reading be dispensed with in view of the fact each member of Council has received written summary of same. Motion carried by acclamation.

REPORTS STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance- **Received and Filed**

Service- **Received and Filed**

Street- **Received and Filed**

Personnel- **Received and Filed**

REPORTS CITY OFFICIALS

Stephen E Johnson- operating report for the period ending May 31, 2014- **Received and Filed**

Barb Jobs, Income tax Administrator- Income Tax Revenue Report as of May 31, 2014. - **Received and Filed**

COMMUNICATIONS

Ohio Division of Liquor Control- revised application for the transfer of a liquor license at Side Street Corral- **Received and Filed**

Paul Moran- comments he made at the Council meeting of June 2, 2014 regarding his concerns with the property at 21 W Canal St. He suggested making the vacant lot behind city hall a picnic area instead of additional parking. - **Received and Filed**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Dave McElfresh- 153 N 39th St, I speak tonight as the President of Newark Firefighters Local 109, I am also a firefighter and paramedic for 25 years and I am also a tax paying citizen of Newark. I rise to speak in regards to Ordinance 14-15 and concerns of public safety regarding our City and our Fire Department. First, I would like to clear up some misconceptions regarding our Safety Levy that passed in 2001. Some have said building a station is keeping a promise to the voters; some have made the statement that the levy was intended for new stations and not staffing. The Safety Levy that passed in 2001 was indeed to include hiring more firefighters. In fact 15 additional firefighters were to be hired and maintaining 93 firefighters was the plan presented to Newark citizens, the administration and approved by Ordinance by City Council. Currently today we have 74 firefighters. Incidentally that is the same amount that we had in January of 2001 prior to passing

the Safety Levy. This levy was also to purchase additional fire trucks and yes new stations. I quote then Mayor Stare as recorded in the City Council minutes from August 6, 2001. "Safety is an absolute priority in our neighborhoods. We are quite proud of many of our past accomplishments, increasing man power in both police and fire, we need more man power and then the buildings come second. We want to see more police, firefighters and paramedics on the streets then new facilities." As I pointed out several weeks ago new stations were not the priority of the levy or of the citizens who were polled when we were seeking support for the levy, staffing was the number one issue and priority. Today our shift staffing is currently lower than 2001 prior to the Safety Levy. A lot of our trucks are old and have high mileage, 2 of our 4 fire stations currently do not have staff fire trucks and the downtown station does not currently have a staff medic unit and yet here we are building a new building. We are currently down 11 firefighters since 2010 and we only have two more firefighters assigned a shift than what we had in 1984 and the calls for service have more than doubled since 1984. We need firefighters and paramedics to fight fires and to provide emergency medical care. They need fire trucks and medic trucks to do so. Yes these people in vehicles need a building to operate from and these buildings do currently exist and I have yet to see a building put out a fire or save a life. I find it ironic and disturbing that some on Council were outraged that a meager increase in wages was included with a new collective bargaining agreement and the word layoff was used. As this increase would practically bankrupt the City and there would be layoffs, assuming the Council people that made these comments truly believe that is indeed the financial situation the City is in than how can they consciously support spending over 5.6 million dollars on a new building? The Auditor stated from the Finance Committee minutes from last week that this would approximately cost the City about \$300,000 a year to pay this bond debt and I believe that was an approximate. Of that a portion is coming out of the EMS billing revenue that again if you look at the original EMS Billing Legislation I believe it states that it was in part to be used to hire additional personnel. Again this fund is being used to pay for a building and not personnel needed to take those EMS calls and bring in that revenue source. Is Newark's budget hurting financially or not or is it just a simple matter of priorities? What is the priority of this Council and what is the priority of the administration? As the City prepares to spend over 5.6 million dollars on a new station I hope that you all keep this in mind, I hope all of you who vote in favor of building this new building will be there to keep it staffed with fulltime firefighters and avoid any layoffs that this additional 5.6 million in debt may cost. We continue to hear that our safety forces and the safety of our citizens in Newark are important and a priority but the numbers and the priorities of some do not seem to tell the same story.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

BY: Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mrs. Floyd

14-13 AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AN ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX OF 0.15 PERCENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING GENERAL OPERATING REVENUE SPECIFICALLY AND EXCLUSIVELY DEDICATED TO THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RE-CONSTRUCTION, RE-SURFACING, AND REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS ON ALL TAXABLE SALARIES, WAGES, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER COMPENSATION AS SET FORTH HEREIN AS WELL AS ON ALL TAXABLE NET PROFITS EARNED BY BUSINESSES, PROFESSIONS, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES AS SET FORTH HEREIN AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF

Motion by Mr. Bubba to adopt Ordinance 14-13, second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Marmie- I am opposed to any tax increase but I also tried to get a change in the reading of this through the Committees and it did not go through but I am going to offer an amendment to this. I understand that the administration and those on committee wanted to keep the words streets, roads, bridges and sidewalks and I hope that those on Council would support me. My amendment is to strike the word sidewalks because the City is really not responsible for paying for sidewalks and the only sidewalks that we are responsible for are those that are ADA and those can be paid with CDBG funds and therefore we wouldn't have to use this additional tax to do that.

Mr. Marmie made a motion to amend Ordinance 14-13, second by Mr. Rath

Mrs. Floyd- I think that when we were talking about this it seems to me that, I know private homeowners are responsible for their sidewalks but there are times like what Mr. Blake mentioned on Beacon Road and I was at a house on W Postal Ave just last week where the sidewalks and streets had been replaced because of the sanity sewer project. Two years ago we had put in a new sidewalk then ODOT came in and paved Mt. Vernon Road and said that they would replace the sidewalks when they did that. I think that there are times when it is maybe necessary to include sidewalks, I understand that most of the time that

is not true and I don't think that this means that we are paying for sidewalks everywhere but it seems to me that we could leave that in there for that reason.

Mr. Rath- I seconded the motion simply because I think that it is worthy of a vote and I wanted to hear the debate. I know that we have monies coming in for CDBG that are dedicated towards projects of this nature and I know that we have capital improvements money dedicated towards this nature and I don't think that it is unreasonable to say that if we do have sidewalk projects that we utilize funds from that source but I would like to hear the opinion of the administration if that is alright with the President.

President Ellington- asked the Mayor if he would like to speak to that

Mayor Hall- I think that Carol stated it well, we build it in there for flexibility I don't think the intent is to go out on a sidewalk building campaign but there are circumstances at times as when you build a road that you may need to reach out with that. I think that it is to not make too narrow of a scope on a project. Wording comes out of the Engineer's office, he is the professional and that is what we hire him for, I look down stream to my professionals as they do things.

Mr. Guthrie- I understand where Mr. Marmie is coming from. The areas that he indicated are priorities I know they are and I think that they are to everyone else but I would oppose this amendment. Let me give you an example. I think there is an absolute desperate need for the safety of children for a sidewalk on Sharon Valley Road between the subdivisions and the schools. Because of that need I don't know how we can exclude sidewalk language from this proposal. I am sure that is not the only place that some of these dollars could assist towards providing for the safety of kids as they go back and forth from those two schools back there. For that issue alone I would have to oppose Mr. Marmie's amendment.

Mr. Bubb- I think everybody agrees about the safety issue. The other thing that worries me a little bit about this Doug, and I am not going to respectfully support it, is when we rebuild streets like on Beacon Road, my fear is that we can't burden the homeowners with putting sidewalks in when we have to do all these rebuilds way down in the clay. That is my fear in this so I will respectfully not support the amendment.

Mr. Marmie- from hearing what everybody has said that just further supports my opposition of the entire piece of legislation because it was presented to us in Council with all of these numbers that we are so far behind in paving and road improvements that we need this money just desperately for road improvements to get caught back up with our paving and now we are saying that we are going to build sidewalks and do other things with these funds so if you are going to keep sidewalks and that still in there that just further supports my being against this tax increase that was presented to help catch up on paving and that sounds like that is not what it is going to be utilized for.

Mr. Rath- I just want to say to Mr. Marmie ditto, it is odd but I definitely agree with Mr. Marmie we have other sources

Motion to amend 14-13 did not pass by a vote of 3 (Ms. Hall, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath) **to 7** (Mr. Blake, Mr. Bubb, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Rolletta)

Mr. Guthrie- I am going to support this tonight and I think that there are a couple of things that are really important for everyone to understand. I know that it is right there in front of us but I run into folk on the street that have wondered whether it is a quarter of a percent whether it was a percent and a half. We are talking about .15 percent here. It is not a quarter it is not a percent and a half. Basically what Council is doing tonight is giving the citizens of Newark the option as to whether they want to add .15 percent to their income tax bill. One of the clear advantages of this option over the property tax option is the fact that the people who work in our City but don't reside here are going to help pave the streets that they drive on when they come to work. Kudos to the Mayor for bringing this forward and I think that it is an important thing for us to do to give the people of this city the option as to whether they want to go to the next level with streets and other important projects such as bridges and sidewalks.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 14-13 passed by a vote of 9-1(Mr. Marmie)

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

14-15 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$6,600,000 OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COST OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING FIRE STATION #1 IMPROVEMENTS(INCLUDING DEMOLITION, PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND PROPERTY ACQUISITION), CITY HALL PARKING IMPROVEMENTS AND SOUTH SECOND STREET BRIDGE REPAIR, TOGETHER WITH ADDITIONAL FIRE STATION #1 IMPROVEMENTS (PHASE ONE), ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR FIRE STATION IMPROVEMENTS, AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Ordinance 14-15, second by Mrs. Floyd

Mr. Guthrie- I think that everybody probably knows how I am going to vote on this based on my previous comments but I want to reiterate a couple of things. One, I said when I cast my last vote on this matter in opposition that I made a mistake early on in supporting some of the early legislation for the land acquisition and I am willing to admit that I made that mistake but I would rather make a several hundred thousand dollar mistake than a 5.6 million dollar mistake. This has to do with my concern about the City's finances, about the safety of our citizens. I was pretty depressed today when I looked on a couple of different websites to see what the State of Ohio's surplus was. Their General Fund budget for the biennium grew 11.4 percent and as I have said before I think it is growing on the backs of local governments to a great degree. It is so concerning to me that we sit here tonight having to vote for or against a fire station. We all know that we need fire stations we know we need facilities, I would be the first to recognize that but at the same time we passed a Safety Levy in 2001, we passed an EMS billing legislation a few years back and here we are today with less firefighters than we have had a long, long period of time to respond to the needs of the public. This is partially as a result of having a unit out of service. We only have two staffed engines as Mr. McElfresh alluded to and there are 4 four fire stations. As I said early on it gives me this bad feeling inside that we are in the long term placing bricks and mortar over public safety. With our revenue being pretty dog gone flat if you study those reports that we get from Barb Jobes which I know all of you do, things are very flat for our community as far as revenue coming in. It is really concerning. Our debt service on this, I don't know if I am using the right terminology but it is going to cost us somewhere between \$300,000.00 and 330,000.00 a year to pay off this debt. I'm just saying to myself maybe we could have made some improvements to make that station safer for our firefighters. I said this early on too, I think we picked the wrong location but we are pretty much stuck with the location now because we have made acquisitions. I hope that we don't end up regretting this and I will be voting in the negative.

Mr. Blake- I want to reiterate some comments that I made in committee and it related to the amount of total debt that we have for the city I have not received those numbers from the Auditor as of yet but I am concerned about adding additional debt on to the city. My term started in January so this first 3.2 million note that was approved by Council last summer, basically that 3.2 million is being added into this. There is also money in here for the Second Street bridge repair that was done. Second Street bridge was out for 4 months and they needed an emergency bridge repair there and money for that is also in this legislation as well as the parking garage so there are some other capital improvement items that needed taken care of that are in this ordinance. Mr. McElfresh and I have discussed this, I would love to have more paramedics and firefighters and would be willing to have that discussion but as it stands tonight I will be voting in the affirmative for this but I still want to look at those numbers as to what our total debt is. I look forward to having that discussion with Mr. Johnson at some point.

Mrs. Floyd- I know that this is a great deal of money but we have been talking about a new fire station for ever and ever it seems like and as we said we have done the acquisition over a long period of time and this is not a new thing. I understand the concerns of the firefighters, I truly do. I live in a neighborhood that utilizes your services a great deal and I know we need more but at this point in the ball game I will be voting for this.

Mr. Marmie- those of you who have been around long enough know that I wasn't in support of the EMS billing but it went through and we made sure that it was done correctly as far as it had to be utilized back towards Fire to pay for services and part of the revenue source that is going to repay this debt or the majority of it is going to be from those EMS dollars that is

legislated that it has to be used towards that type of a thing. It has a dedicated revenue sources and those dollars can't be put into a payroll account or anything like that. EMS is specific as far as what it goes into. Part of it goes right back into the Fire Department but other portions have been legislated as to where they go and that is why this will have a dedicated source as far as repayment of this debt.

Mr. Rolletta- I will not be supporting this legislation tonight given the financial condition of the city I cannot commit to the funding of a new fire station that will likely cost upwards of \$300,000.00 annually. I believe I was elected to listen to the people and when I talked to firefighters who work to keep our residents safe 9 times out of 10 they would pick vehicles or staffing levels over a building. I understand improvements need to be made to fire stations but a building itself cannot improve public safety the way vehicles and staffing can and as safety chair I am going to vote my conscience.

Mr. Guthrie- I just wanted to comment on the point that Mr. Marmie made about the EMS formula. The EMS formula lasts as long as this Council allows it to last. The formula could be changed in a month and more money could be redirected into other areas. So there is nothing binding, nothing binding about that formula. That formula was changed a couple of years ago to accommodate this need. I don't think that anyone should leave here thinking that the formula is in concrete because it is not.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 14-15 passed by a vote of 8-2 (Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Rolletta)

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-16 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION, PAY RANGE, AND POSITION AUTHORIZATION TABLES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE, DIVISION OF STREET MAINTENANCE BY CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL CREW LEADER AND ABOLISHING ONE (1) POSITION OF EQUIPMENT OPERATOR.

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath, Mr. Blake

14-17 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE NEWARK CITY SAFETY DIRECTOR TO CERTIFY TO THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR, THE SUM OF \$224,952.03 INCURRED BY THE NEWARK CITY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE DEMOLITION AND CORRECTION OF ANY OTHER SAFETY VIOLATIONS TO BE PLACED AS A LIEN UPON CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY SITUATED IN THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO.

Motion by Mr. Cost to waive the two day reading rule on Ordinance 14-17, second by Mr. Bubb

Mr. Cost- we need to have the capability to recover these funds as soon as possible as promised.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 14-17 by Mr. Cost, second by Mr. Bubb

Motion passed by a vote of 10-0

RESOLUTIONS ON THE SECOND READING

By: Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Marmie

14-44 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(292 Ohio EPA Grants-\$17,695.29: Ohio EPA Community Recycling Grant)

Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Resolution 14-44, second by Mr. Cost

Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.

By: Ms. Hall, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Marmie

14-45 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION-CI
(335 Capital Improvements-\$8,847.65: Machinery, Equipment & Supplies-Ohio EPA Recycling Grant)

Motion by Ms. Hall to adopt Resolution 14-45, second by Mrs. Floyd

Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Blake

14-46 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO OF THE QUESTION AS TO PASSAGE OF A 0.15 PERCENT ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX LEVY DEDICATED TO GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RE-CONSTRUCTION, RE-SURFACING, AND REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY

Motion by Mr. Bubb to adopt Resolution 14-46, second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Marmie- of course everyone knows that I will be opposed to this and I am not going to bother trying to amend sidewalks out of it but I am going to comment for another time. I just don't think that this is written to the benefit of the citizens. It is basically just adding another .15 percent income tax. It can only be used for bridges and road improvements but it's not written in a binding way in which it is going to fix the situation of improving just our streets. That is all this money can be used for but that doesn't mean that the General Fund and what is currently being spent on that still has to maintain the same levels. I am not in support of this because all it is just adding another revenue source and increasing taxes to our citizens and it is not really binding it to a dedicated improvement of our service or actually our infrastructure.

Mrs. Floyd- as a Civics teacher this seems to me that this is democracy in action. The citizens of Newark get to decide what they want to do. It is our streets, our roads and we all have been bumping around town even though the Street Department has done a good job trying to patch things up. Most of it will be used for streets and roads; I think the bridges and sidewalks just happen to be where it is necessary. I think this is a chance for the citizens of Newark to in effect decide for themselves what they want.

Mr. Blake- I want to say also that we are giving the citizens an option. As each of us has campaigned I am sure we have heard many comments about streets and specifically as a Ward Councilman you hear about neighborhood streets. Neighborhood streets are the last ones to be touched because main thoroughfares and our commercial districts have to be taken care of. Brian and the administration gave a presentation about how much money is needed to be spent annually according to a report from a few years ago so we are behind and we need additional funds to get caught up on some of these neighborhood streets and that is what I would like to stress is needed. I will be voting in favor of this to give the voters that option. You come to your Council person and you tell us that you want your streets repaired. Many of these older streets need to be resurfaced at which they have to be dug up completely from under the asphalt so when you do that why not do a holistic approach about getting everything taken care of because a lot of these are lower income neighborhoods so they are going to be concerned about their roof and their immediate household versus their sidewalk. The issue for me isn't necessarily sidewalks it is money for streets. That is the primary issue, streets. So I will be voting in favor of this to let the voters have the opportunity in November to say up or down on it.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 14-46 passed by a vote of 9-1(Mr. Marmie)

RESOLUTIONS ON THE FIRST READING

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-47 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO SELL CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED HEREIN BY INTERNET AUCTION

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-48 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-49 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Motion by Mr. Blake to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution 14-49, second by Mrs. Floyd

Mr. Blake- the Utilities Superintendent came to Committee and expressed that they want to get this work, get it jump started so I want to give them that opportunity.

Motion to waive the two day reading rule passed by a vote of 9-1(Mr. Guthrie)

Motion to adopt Resolution 14-49 by Mr. Blake, second by Mrs. Floyd
Motion to adopt passed by a vote of 10-0.

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-50 A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO VACATE A PORTION OF A 16 FOOT WIDE ALLEY AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF THE WILKIN-SMITH PLACE ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4 AT PAGE 114 OF THE LICKING COUNTY PLAT RECORDS, LOCATED BETWEEN EDDY STREET AND CENTRAL AVENUE

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-51 A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO VACATE A PORTION OF MARKET STREET, A PORTION OF A 16.5 FOOT WIDE ALLEY, AND A PORTION OF A 24.75 FOOT WIDE ALLEY AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF THE P.M. WEDDLE'S ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2 AT PAGE 128 OF THE LICKING COUNTY PLAT RECORDS, LOCATED SOUTH OF WEST MAIN STREET AND WEST OF SOUTH 5TH STREET

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-52 A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO VACATE A PORTION OF A 10 FOOT WIDE ALLEY AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF THE DAVID M MOORE'S ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3 AT PAGES 30-31 OF THE LICKING COUNTY PLAT RECORDS, LOCATED NORTH OF VALLEY STREET

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-53 A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO VACATE A PORTION OF A 16 FOOT WIDE ALLEY AS SHOWN AS ORIGINALLY PART OF OUTLOT 68 ON THE PLAT OF THE WILLIAM C MAHOLM'S ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1 AT PAGES 130-131 OF THE LICKING COUNTY PLAT RECORDS, LOCATED NORTH OF CAMBRIA STREET

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

14-54 A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO VACATE A PORTION OF AN 11.54 FOOT WIDE ALLEY AND BEING PART OF THE RIGHT OF WAY ON THE EAST SIDE OF LOT 16 IN WARNER'S ALLOTMENT IN THE CITY OF NEWARK (PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 10), LOCATED NORTH OF DICKERSON STREET

Held for a Second Reading

CITIZENS COMMENTS

ADMINISTRATION

Director Spurgeon- I would like to thank Mr. Moran, he brought to our attention 21 W Canal St, as well as Mr. Guthrie, I appreciate your help Marc, there was a safety hazard there. I went out the next day myself with Joe Paul and we secured the building and we have made our friends at the Fire Department aware. We have talked to the owners and we believe that there will be a free market solution within the next 30 days. I would also like to thank you for your support on Ordinance 14-17 but before I do I would be remiss if I didn't thank Director Mauter. It is his expertise, our Mayor likes the team concept and it was a very comprehensive demolition, so Mark I thank you. We brought it down within budget, within time; it was tricky to say the least. Property Maintenance is doing well. As we all know our Mayor has made a promise to enhance the safety and in doing that we believe a big piece of that is Property Maintenance. We have used technology to enhance the number of inspections, we are ahead this year. This Council has allowed us to revise an ordinance so we can respond to

complaints a lot quicker and cheaper. We have collaborated with the public, evidence being 10 Sisal St; we collaborated with the private sector as evidence 20/22 N 4th. Under the Mayor's watchful eye and with your continued leadership we will continue to go after these properties and enhance the life experience of our citizens.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Marmie- I am just going to comment as far as my overall philosophy regarding tax increases. An increase in taxes is never usually in the long run equated to an increase in revenue. Normally when you decrease taxes the salary dollars can go up for employees as far as everything else as far as what happens is economic development positive so therefore more revenue is actually spent in the community. More salary dollars go out and income taxes actually increase. I still feel the .15 percent although it is going to generate a certain dollar amount based on current numbers I still believe in the long run that it will not equate to a sufficient amount of money that will help us out. In addition I don't think it helps the economic development within our community and I just don't believe in increasing taxes for that purpose. I think that we can continue to make improvements; the administration has done a great job as far as finding efficiencies. I believe they will find more efficiencies. I believe that they have some good plans and thoughts in place on how they can do that for all areas of the city and I believe those types of efficiencies are going to be the solution to our problems as far as infrastructure, the paving of our streets and the safety of our citizens.

Mr. Rolletta- I too would like to thank Mr. Moran as well for bringing attention to the safety situation that we had on Canal St and about this tax issue, I would like to just say that it is a complete shame that we even have to have this discussion about sending a tax increase to the ballot. I think that it is good that the people will ultimately decide about the issue but there is nothing good about the situation. As we all go to the ballot this fall we need to remember why we are in this situation in the first place. Since our former Governor's final budget our current Governor and State Legislature have increased spending by 11 billion while cutting funding to local governments in half. This is not a shared sacrifice the State Government is passing this financial burden off to the cities in order to pay for their increased spending. I think this is indefensible and unacceptable. It doesn't only affect streets; it negatively effects public safety and cuts to education as well. So when we all go to vote on this tax issue I think we also need to think about who we are electing to be our Governor and State Senator.

Mr. Blake- over the last two weekends we have had quite a few picnics in the south end and I want to thank the Mayor for attending a picnic and Council members Guthrie, Rolletta and Hall. Council member Cost thank you for attending both picnics. At our last picnic we had a demonstration from our K-9 unit. Officer Burris did a great job. Director Spurgeon I will be sure to send out a letter of thanks and appreciation for that. He had the whole audience in captivation with Ike. They put the sleeve on me and the dog did the demonstration. We had a good time and appreciate the officers coming out. He called a Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Bubb- unfortunately last week the city lost Bill Clifford, a former City employee and Councilman. He was all around the city for many years and was a very good man. One of his accomplishments some might know, during the 70's he was very instrumental working with the then Mayor in installing the traffic light at 21st and Meadowbrook. Bill was also credited in the early 70's for saving the Courthouse lighting. I would pass my condolences on to all of his family. Finally I would encourage everyone to drive past the Domestic Relations building. The weekend before last a few of the magistrates were out there, they took money out of their own pocket for landscaping, they have really taken pride in the building. There is new mulch and flowers. The next time you are driving down East Main Street check out the Domestic Relations building it looks really nice.

Mr. Cost- called a Service Committee meeting

President Ellington- there are 5 Monday's in this month so there will not be a meeting next Monday the 23rd but instead on Monday June 30th. The next Council meeting is July 7th.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion by Mr. Rath to adjourn, second by Mr. Johnson 7:51 P.M.