

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 6, 2024
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

President Harris called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL - Mr. Rath, Mr. Rine, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Cost, Mr. Houser, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Neely

INVOCATION – Ms. Bline

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Noella Flint, 1st grade, Par Excellence STEM Academy
Brooke Adams, 6th grade, Par Excellence STEM Academy

CAUCUS-

Rule 11

24-52 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO TWO CONTRACTS CREATING OPTIONS FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PURCHASE CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF NEWARK, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO; AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO EXECUTE A PETITION TO ESTABLISH A NEW COMMUNITY AUTHORITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to excuse Mr. Neely and Mr. Rine, Second by Mr. Houser, Passed 8-0

Mr. Marmie – I would like to invoke rule 11 for Resolution 24-52.

Motion by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Marmie – There's really two purposes for this is to provide the clear authority for the Service Director to submit a signed petition to Council on May 16th. On May 20th, at our Council meeting, we can pass that Resolution No. 24-51. The resolution finding the petition meets the statutory requirements and sets a hearing date which will be June 17th. It also grants the Service Director the ability to execute option contracts with the Newark Development Partners to bring the three parcels under the ownership of the city which is required to include them in the initial NCA property. If certain permissions are obtained between the date the petition is submitted which is the May 16th date and the date of the public hearing which is the June 17th date. We found out about all this late on Thursday, and we have to have this in place prior to the legislation in the Service Committee this evening. We have to have that in place by our next Council meeting.

Mr. Rath – Point of order. Legislation needs to be sponsored by at least two people?

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Mr. Marmie, Passed 8-0

MINUTES of April 15, 2024, Motion to accept by Mr. Labutis, Second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation 8-0

APPOINTMENTS

There were none this meeting.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - **Received and Filed without objection**

Service - **Received and Filed without objection**

Capital Improvements - **Received and Filed without objection**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

City Auditor, Ryan T. Bubb – Operating report for period ending April 30, 2024

Received and Filed without Objection

COMMUNICATIONS

Ohio Division of Liquor Control - New Liquor Permit Application Short and Stout Mobile Bar LLC., DBA MNCHS, 56 W. Main St., Newark, OH 43055

Ohio Division of Liquor Control – Transfer application from C&C Properties LLC, dba Jugz, 420 W. Main St. and Patios, Newark, OH 43055 to Crosswhite Properties LLC dba Jugz, 420 W. Main St. & Patios, Newark, OH 43055

Letter from Ruthanne and Bill Isenhardt regarding rainwater runoff at the confluence of Krebs Dr. and Pleasant Valley Dr.

PUBLIC HEARING

24-01 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS 326 BELLE VISTA AVENUE, CITY OF NEWARK, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO, PARCEL TAX ID #054-191040-00.000 AND PARCEL TAX ID #054-191046-00.000 FROM THAT OF SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES - RH - HIGH DENSITY DISTRICT TO MFR - MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT, ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO

A Public Hearing was held by the City of Newark Planning Commission on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

Upon consideration of the information presented, the following actions are recommended:

1. The zoning classification for the parcel at 326 Belle Vista Ave. shall remain Single-Family Residence, RH – High Density District. Ordinance 24-01 is not recommended for passage and approval by Council.

Lei Yang, 326 Belle Vista Ave. – I am the representative of the company LP 168 LLC. We want to have the residential, we want to have multiple families there. We talked to the builder and they said it was the same price to build that size of house, but if more families will get lower rent. One bedroom. I think

Newark is a hot city. A lot of people want houses here. I think one bedroom will be very affordable for a lot of people. Especially older people. One flat, one story, no stairs. I think that would be better for older people who have mobility issues. I think now a single-family home in Newark costs about \$1100 a month. With one bedroom, I think I can lower it to \$600. So I think it's more affordable. Thank you.

Cathy Rush, 345 Belle Vista – I've lived there for 25 years. I live alone. This lady is alone, this gentleman lives alone. We live in that neighborhood because it's safe. We know everyone who is coming and going. There's children there who are safe because we know them and where they're at, and who lives where. We look out for them. She's owned the property for over a year, she can't even keep the property up. Last year, she mowed twice. And I'm not saying mowed. She hired two guys. They took weed wackers to the whole yard twice. This year it hasn't been mowed yet. I don't need a slum lord to bring my house down. We bought in that neighborhood a dead end, not to have the traffic, not to have a bunch of people, not to have apartments. If she wants apartments or low income housing, then she can do it next to her house. She's not even keeping up the property.

Randy Holmes, 301 Belle Vista – It seems like a nice place to live. If you get 4 units in there for \$600 a month, what kind of clientele will you have come in? We don't need crack heads up there. Then you got all the traffic that will be coming up. Two cars for each household, and if you have 4 units, that's 8 cars. We already have people parking on the side street, because they live in duplexes. I don't know what's going on behind that property, but we don't need anything to continue the drive from there, to the go through, to the backside of that property. We're all totally against it. We've all notified you. It's just what we all have to say.

Lois Appilia, 302 Belle Vista – I'm definitely against all that is going on. I don't want to think about construction equipment going up the hill to build whatever they're talking about. We like it like it is. It's a lovely area. Quiet, very pretty. Don't even want to think about it. Thank you.

President Harris – The Planning Commission has not recommended that we pass this.

Motion by Mr. Rath to approve, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion denied 8-0

Mr. Rath – This property is located in a single-family residential neighborhood. It should remain a single-family residence. The Planning Commission recommends not passage. So, for that I will be voting no on this. I encourage the other Council members to do so as well.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Dreama Hughes, 170 S. Webb St. – I live in the Little Texas area. I'm here to complain about the construction for the moving of Ohio St. I appreciate our Councilman who has listened to us and listened to my complaints. I still feel we are not being heard enough. I still think there are things that need to be looked at properly, and if not addressed we will be stuck with it. I have seen the paperwork. I have listened to Mr. Fox. He has talked with our community. It looks great on paper, but living down there, especially this time of year with the ball season going on, I know there are changes coming in a few weeks. My concern is the new Ohio St. that you put in is not wide enough for two-way traffic. If an emergency squad would be called down to that area, there really is not a good place for us to get over. So, if I have to get over into the ball field parking area and I damage my car, I want to know who will be responsible for that. The law says I need to get over for that emergency vehicle, and I will. Two, there

are no traffic lights down there, so I'm concerned that people coming in and out and not being able to see. I am concerned with the way that the road back in March and April when we had all the rain, that street did flood. When I left on the morning after you asked our community to evacuate, and we did evacuate, when I went out the next morning after all the rain had stopped, and I have pictures, that part of Ohio St. that you put in is so low that you would've had to drive through water to exit or come in. Now, grant you Ohio St. did have some flooding a few years ago. I've lived down there now for 10 years, my parents moved there in '87. We never had this kind of flooding and there was plenty there years ago. But, we never had the roads where we couldn't exit out. I know they were concerned and they would ask people to leave when the water got up so high, but we are now not going to have a way in or out if you leave this road as low as it is. That road needs to be built up or something. My other concern is why we can't leave the former Ohio St. open until they get the new exit in/out for Mound City Little League. I talked to Mr. Fox who said Mound City's traffic is going to be going down that alley and become a two-way. That doesn't accommodate us for this next week or so. Why can't we open it up until you get everything fixed correctly in the way it needs to be fixed so the traffic from Mound City, Don Edwards, and Little Texas is not all coming together at one time. There has been times when people had to wait an hour to get out. That's not good. What does it say about the city of Newark. It says we didn't plan ahead. Please take into consideration to get some lights and widen the road. If that's what I got to live with, I'll live with it. Please figure out how to stop the flooding down there and make way for our fire trucks and emergency vehicles. I know they want to stop that one lane leading into Mound City. That still doesn't stop the kids from playing on the barriers. We need to protect our kids. Not only that, we're dealing with 4-wheelers in and out of there, motorcycles in and out of there. They don't stop. I don't care about kids having fun, but I do worry about their safety. I almost got hit on Ohio St. There are no sidewalks. I take my life in my hands this time of year. I have 2 granddaughters. We stay in the field and off Ohio St. because we don't know if traffic will stop at the four-way sign or not. Please consider looking into making some accommodations. We're an accident waiting to happen. And we are going to get flooded and stuck.

Rochelle Volen-Smith, 237 Violet Ct. - I know that area and I agree with you. In the Dispatch recently, they talked about not having sidewalks in various areas with a lot of kids and the deaths it caused. I think especially around a park that needs to be a consideration.

Desiree Blake, 125 S. Second St. - I'm with everyone else on the south end. I sat on my porch the other day watching the traffic stop in there, but they don't stop. They keep on going through. I watch these kids go through too. Now that baseball season is going on, I like to see the stop signs with the lights. Because right now, people don't stop. The kids just run across. There's going to be an accident. Cars line up they don't know if someone is stopping ahead of them. There is going to be a long accident. Just for safety. I'm a safety person. Right in that spot that Dreama is talking about, we need something for safety. I'm afraid someone is going to get killed because no one is paying attention to the stop signs. There're so many kids in that area just running around, someone is going to get hurt.

Carolyn McCallister, 217 Fleek Ave. – I have the same concerns. I just brought my husband home on oxygen. The road is uphill you can't see. There are no lights to show you anything. If the emergency squad needs to come in there's no way. There's nowhere to pull over for them to be able to get to my husband. I too am concerned for the children. It's 25 mph on this little road that curves. Can anyone stop if a child runs out? You're not going to when you're on a downhill slope. The kids on the mini bikes, kids on the go carts, the kids and adults on the 4-wheelers with no lights. It's just a matter of time before somebody is killed. I think we need to be proactive. Also, the traffic. I went to the meeting and we expressed our concerns then. This is not working. My home goes underwater every time the river comes out. I can't even get in or out.

Zenaide Burden, 149 S. Webb St. – I've lived there my entire life. The flooding issue, I'm with them 110%. I've never seen water like this until they rerouted the water. Somebody created this because we've never had this issue before. The issue with the bridge, we live down there with Babe Ruth and we've tolerated that our whole life and that's fine, but they took a problem and created a worse problem. Now we have a problem getting in and out of our community with one way in one way out. Now we're going into Mound City with Mound City, Babe Ruth, and Little Texas all coming out and bottle necking on Second St. This is a catastrophe waiting to happen. We were talking with people and we told them we were assured that they were on board with this. And they said, who? I mean this with my whole being, what ever they got set up there is a big mess. There's got to be something that works better for everybody. It's got to be different. It isn't just that tournament last weekend. We've got 700 kids playing down there. Their lives are in danger. They are playing Frogger getting to their cars. This is a primary entry to our homes. It's a primary entry to Babe Ruth. It's going through their ball diamond where they used to play. I'm not an engineer, but I've seen this, and I'm telling you they took one problem down there and made it worse. My concern because I've watched it, one of those children are going to get killed if somebody doesn't do something.

Tim Baldwin, 67 S. Second St. – I was up by Ohio St. and day it was backed up over the bridge. Up Second St. They parked on Second St. They park in our alley. That alley belongs to the people that live on Second St. It did not belong to the ball field. It did not belong to the city. My father is the one that got that alley. They said it was a mistake when they paved that alley. Judges wrote letters to the city saying the alley belong to the people. It does not belong to the city. It does not belong to the ball field. What I want when all this is done, I want the alley back to the people. Don't let the ball field have it for their driveway because kids play in that alley. My nephew plays in that alley. They're going to take it down to Fleek Ave. where other kids on Fleek Ave will get hit. The intersection cannot handle the traffic flow. She's talking about flooding. The ball field in my area by Second St. used to be our safety zone. When it floods, it may be 1-2 feet. A couple of weeks ago when we had that heavy rain was the first time I had water in my basement, because they started building that alley by the ball field. People are getting flooded. That alley belongs to us.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Houser, Mr. Cost

24-14 AN ORDINANCE VACATING PORTIONS OF A FOURTEEN (14) FOOT WIDE ALLEYS AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF LEWIS EVAN'S ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 161 OF THE LICKING COUNTY PLAT RECORDS; SAID ALLEYS ARE LOCATED WEST OF VINE STREET, NORTH OF STATE ROUTE 16.

Motion by Mr. Houser to adopt, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion Passed 8-0

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

24-15 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS 417 GARFIELD AVENUE, CITY OF NEWARK, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO, PARCEL TAX ID# 054-196872-00.000, FROM THAT OF SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE RH – HIGH DENSITY DISTRICT TO TFR – TWO-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT, ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO.

Referred to PC.

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

24-30 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO PROCEED WITH THE STEPS NECESSARY TO RENAME TOWNE COMMONS PARK AKA FRONT STREET PARK AKA EASY STREET PARK, PARCEL NO. 054-258866-00.000 AS HOPE PARK.

Motion by Ms. Bline to adopt, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion Passed 8-0

24-32 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT #5 AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Motion by Mr. Rath to adopt, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion Passed 8-0

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

24-35 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING WITH PARK NATIONAL BANK FOR THE LEASE-PURCHASE OF TWO (2) VEHICLES.

Held until 5.20.2024

24-36 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Held until 5.20.2024

24-37 Exp APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive 2 day reading rule, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion Approved 8-0. Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion Passed 8-0

24-38 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK AND NEWARK DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE 2024 CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive 2 day reading rule, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion Approved 8-0. Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion Passed 8-0

24-39 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF HEATH AND THE LICKING COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR PHASE ONE OF THE THORNWOOD DRIVE-FAYE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Held until 5.20.2024

24-40 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE LICKING COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LICKING COUNTY, AND THE CITY OF HEATH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THORNWOOD DRIVE KNOWN AS THE THORNWOOD DRIVE PROJECT

Held until 5.20.2024

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Desiree Blake, 125 S. Second St. – I was wondering about the orange things they put over the sewers. With all this rain, can they take them off because if not the water is going to come up and it's not going to go into the sewers like it's supposed to? I'm right on the corner and there's

four of them. They need up or I can take them up. We need to get them up so the rain can go in the sewer and not in our house.

Shelby Hawkins – I wanted to thank each and every one of you for your vote “yes” on the Towne Commons name change. It truly means a lot to get this name changed.

Daniel Crawford, 163 S. Second St. – After hearing everything about Little Texas, as someone who has lived on Second street for 21 years, and who has walked up and down Little Texas quite a bit over the years, I think the conversation about congestion and public safety is long overdue. I’ve been saying this for years. There should be an alternate, second route out of Little Texas.

MISCELLANEOUS

Brandon Fox, Water Administrator – I appreciate everyone coming out to speak tonight. We don’t know what’s going on unless we hear about it. I want to talk about just a couple of things. First of all, what is there on Second St. and Ohio St. is temporary. It doesn’t make it perfect, but it is temporary. We anticipated issues, we didn’t know what they would be. You plan the best you can. I met Mr. Houser and Mr. Harris down there today to discuss the issues. The first one being existing temporary road that was put in. That is only going to be accessible for another week, because the alley entrances north of that will hopefully take the traffic from Mound City. There is a telephone pole at the entrance on Second St. and the alley that needs moved. Once that’s moved, we’ll put barricades up at the Mound City entrance on Ohio St. so when people are coming from Little Texas and down the hill you won’t have that congestion. That is the plan. It should be done by the end of this week. The old Ohio St. that is closed, and the barricades are there, I’m going to ask people please do not move those. We had those moved this weekend and we had to put those back. That is to keep people out of those construction areas. That was supposed to be already under construction. The contractor went down and closed the street, relocated traffic to the new Ohio St. and found that there was a 4-inch gas line right where we were building our new structure. So that’s a miss during the design process. We are currently working with the consultant, engineer, gas company, and everyone involved to try to figure out how best to do that. We didn’t want to make it more difficult than it already is. We didn’t want to move traffic to the new street, and move it back to Ohio St., and move it back 3 or 4 times. We planned to move traffic one time, and leave it that way. Throughout the duration while the new Ohio St is built, (inaudible). Safety. I did talk to Mr. Hickman this morning about safety, about safety forces getting back to Little Texas and ball parks. Currently, we don’t know of any issues, but after hearing this meeting I’m going to reach out to him again, the Chief of Police, and Chief Metzger to make sure they do have access back there so they can get back there if they need to. I know what they are talking about, that road might need to be widened a couple of feet so we’ll look into that. We did see the flooding on Ohio St. The problem is, there is no storm drains to the north of the new Ohio St. We knew that going into it, so we probably have to go back to our engineering staff to see if that needs raised at all. Hopefully, in 3-4 months we can get the new Ohio St. open. I have spoken to the ball park. We are in constant

communication with them. We're working through the challenges so they can manage their visitors. It's a year and a half long project. This isn't the end of it. We're trying to communicate and be as proactive as we can. The sewer cover, those are a storm water protection. We have to have that on there to protect our sewers from getting overrun with grass, debris, and dirt during construction. There is someone from the construction company that is on call locally. If we happen to get a rain pop up, that person will come to remove those. That is in the plans as we speak.

Tricia Moore, Law Director – I wanted to thank the Newark Police Department for their participation with the Ohio Casino Commission in taking down an illegally operating establishment here in the city. I know how much Safety Director Hickman put into that and the officers at NPD. That was a lot of work and a lot of dedication. I saw a lot of comments about, very sarcastic about thank goodness we're safe from the slot machines. That's not what it's about. That's not why we got involved in changing our ordinances to make sure gaming facilities are operating legally. Illegal activity brings illegal activity. I think we can all recognize the issues in our community. The issue with overdoses in our community. How we were alerted to this, the Central Ohio Drug and Taskforce came to us and said you have a problem. So, what people don't understand is that shutting down this facility wasn't about slot machines. It was about making our community safer. I want to say thank you for your dedication and taking it seriously.

Mayor Hall – I want to expand on that and thank Tricia for her part too because it took a wonderful collaboration. Many things that we do in the city are a success because of collaboration. This has been long and coming. This is a final piece to it. You have to understand when somebody breaks the rules, there are state rules for gambling, and drugs. I've had many conversations with people from the neighborhoods of some of these locations, and it would be midnight, 2 in the morning there would be a lot of rescue squads. So, it was to help clean up neighborhoods where a lot of these reside. There are rules for a reason. There're about 440 legal type gaming machines. Of the 13 locations that were shut down, none of them had one of those. Again, you consent to state certified machines and you consent to state inspectors coming in your door. Kudos to everyone who worked together on this in so many ways. We have a lot of good lodges and clubs that do it the right way with different types of gaming machines. They work very hard. It's not a business in itself. Kudos to everybody. It takes a lot of work and a lot of coordination. I also want to thank everybody down in the S. Second area. We count on your input. Brandon listens. We all listen. You're living down there we appreciate that. Maybe there isn't an exact solution, and we appreciate your patience, but without input, we don't know. There will be some changes. Stuff that's short term that might be hard to deal with, but I hope the communication continues so we know. You're the eyes, you see it all and we want that input. The sewer project is something that is mandated by the EPA. It does help us clean up our rivers. It does a lot of good things. But in that south end, it's tough because that's our deepest, largest pipes coming to the end of the system. It is a big change and we appreciate your patience. Please keep communicating with us. You don't always have to come to council, I'm not trying to discourage you, but you can also call in too.

Mr. Rath – I want to thank everyone from the south end. Thanks for coming out. Thanks Brandon for being responsive to that. I'm sure you do everything you can to make sure they're taken care of. I participated this last Friday in our pub crawl. It was a great event. There were a

lot of people participating, and they were not all from Newark. They were from other areas as well. It was great for them to see the restaurants and bars we have here. That's kind of the idea. To have a good time, and to gain exposure. I want to thank law enforcement for all they do for us. That time is approaching. National Peace Officer week starts the 12th. I'm sure a lot of you see the blue lights. We encourage you to show them your support. I will call a service committee meeting for Monday, May 20th.

Ms. Bline – To Ms. Blakes point, that stop sign is pretty much ignored. The Second St. intersection there was a tremendous bottle neck this weekend. I'm grateful for you addressing that. Dreama, your lighted stop sign might come after. I'd like to thank representative Claggett and his interventions to vacating (inaudible) to alternative ownership. We're hopeful this ownership will be more productive as these present sites are a haven for illegal activity. I'd also like to thank NPD for coming again, and again, and again to those sites to secure the neighborhood. I'd also like to thank Director Mauter for stopping by one of those sites and taking time out of his day to do so. Also, to the point of ATVs, mini bikes, and go carts these are largely minors. 95% of them are minors. And they do go up and down Second St. and in the neighborhoods. I'll be speaking with the Law Director soon. There's an answer. We're going to do our very best to assist our NPD. It's a complicated thing. I'd also like to thank the parks. Ms. Patznick is not here, and the Law Director's office for writing the legislation for that name change. I understood it was not an easy thing. I appreciate your time and research. Finally, the railroads have been coming here frequently. They are finding we are good neighbors and the city of Newark is a great investment. I'm grateful to be able to pursue a couple grants. That will further invest in our area.

Mr. Chute – Thank you, Mr. President. I'll pass.

Mr. Cost- I'd like to thank Director Mauter for all his information tonight. I'd also like to thank the south side folks for coming and letting us know what you're dealing with. I'm sure Brandon is all over it. I appreciate your explanation and how you are going to approach this whole thing.

Mr. Houser – I think I'm right in saying happy birthday to you for you tomorrow, am I right? Happy birthday. I would also like to thank the people who came out to discuss the Belle Vista zoning. I'm glad they were able to come speak about that. I also want to thank everyone from Little Texas for coming out. It's definitely been a difficult situation I've observed down there. Difficulty with traffic. As Brandon said, we were out there this afternoon, so hopefully we can come up with some solutions. I also want to thank Director Mauter for all the explanations. I appreciate that.

Mr. Labutis – I would also like to thank everyone that came out from the south side. You gave us feedback on all the issues down there I appreciate that. I appreciate Brandon for working on the issues there as well. I also want to thank the Newark Fire Department for a great day a couple of weeks ago. Some people got to work with them, I was not one of them, maybe next time. But it was eye opening to see the day in the life of what you guys deal with every day to serve our city and keep us safe. I also want to wish President Harris a happy birthday tomorrow, and you share that with my wife who has a birthday tomorrow.

Mr. Lang – Shelby, congratulations on Resolution No. 24-30. Glad to see it pass. I know it's been a long time coming for you. I was really happy to see your reaction as all of us voted. It was fun to watch that. Congratulations. I did also want to thank the Newark Firefighters for hosting us for the fire ops 101. It was a pretty incredible day. An educational day. I was able to participate

along with Councilman Houser, our Law Director, Councilman Chute. Mr. Neely was there as well. Kevin Miller. All suited up. We had a great experience. I thought the firefighters did a great job taking care of us. They really pushed us. We were doing some heavy lifting. We were sweating pretty hard. Some pretty intense training stuff that pushed us and helped us see what they deal with every day. But they took care of us. They made sure we didn't keel over. Really glad I got the opportunity to do that.

Mr. Marmie – I need to call a finance committee meeting for May 20th. I want to thank everybody that came out and voiced their concerns. I do understand a lot of the concerns. I appreciate that Superintendent Fox is addressing them. I guarantee he will do the best he can. It doesn't mean you'll get all the answers, but he'll do the best he can to address the concerns. Just like where I currently live. We had a situation where we had no entrance, we're probably going to face it again next year. You have to go 5 miles around in order to get to our location. But, with any progress sometimes we have to sacrifice. I don't want you to have to sacrifice very long, I know Superintendent Fox is working to reduce the sacrificing. As the Mayor indicated, this was something that was mandated by the EPA. We have no alternative to changing our sewer system in the downtown area. So, I feel for you. I understand, and I know they're going to do the best they can. The ATVs, mini bikes, and go carts it's more than complicated. Our NPD cannot pursue, because if an accident happens when you pursue, then there's liability. If it's all juveniles, it's a parenting problem. They shouldn't be on there. If our NPD does get involved, their going to have to catch them when they get home because you cannot pursue. It's a safety concern just like safety concerns about the children you just mentioned. Hopefully, we can get that into a better situation. I want to say congratulations to Munchies. I'm so happy they finally got their liquor license. I know they had issues getting that. They are a small business that started just with a food truck and now they built it up and I love success stories like that. I want to wish President Harris a happy birthday. The day with the firefighters was fantastic. Those that participated love oxygen.

Mr. Harris – I want to thank everybody for coming tonight and speaking. I want to thank Mr. Fox for explaining that and like Mr. Marmie and the rest of them said, hopefully we can come up with a solution to get you guys through this. I want to wish Mr. Labutis a happy birthday. Your birthday is Saturday, correct? I'd like to wish all the mothers a happy Mother's Day on Sunday. If your mother is still around, please take some time out and tell her how much you appreciate her. Our next meeting is May 20th.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Cost, second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation

Jeff Harris, President of Council