

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 68665K

Held

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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**6<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION:**

Kenton City Council met in their 6<sup>th</sup> Regular Session on March 27, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Peg Wren, Robin Jones, Anda Tudor, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.

Prayer given by Mr. Althausser:

Heavenly Father, we meet again this evening to consider the business of the City of Kenton. Let us be reminded of the power that we witnessed of You this past week. We thank you that everyone came through it without being injured, and we ask that You watch over us this spring as we go through more weather. Give us the wisdom and give us the tools to be able to cope with mother nature and cope with whatever you put before us. We ask that you watch over all of those who are working very hard to fix the infrastructure that was damaged and please be with those traveling through our town, as they try to navigate through our streets. We ask this all in Your heavenly name. AMEN

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

**MINUTES:**

Althausser: You probably had some time to review the minutes that were in your packet; are there any additions or corrections to those minutes from March 13<sup>th</sup>? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

**CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**PETITIONS:**

None.

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:**

Althausser: Start with Police Chief Musser if he has anything.

Musser: Yeah, real quick I just want to let everybody know we're still working on replacing Sergeant Carroll with a Patrolman of course. We replaced his position with Sergeant Fenwick, as you guys know but we're planning some more interviews later this week; one with the administration and we've been scheduling pre-employment polygraphs, psychologicals, things like that so it's moving ahead there and hopefully we'll have that spot filled very soon. Still waiting on our car to get back from Parr. They're waiting on parts from someone else. It's a supply chain issue that we have no control over but we'll get it here at some point. That's all I've got. I just wanted to give you guys an update.

Althausser: Alright, thank you Chief. Alright, Fire Chief, Bruce Donnelly.

Donnelly: Since our last meeting we did get our official notice from FEMA that we did get part of our AFG grant from 2021. So, we've got just lower of \$52,000.00 in federal funds to go toward our air compressor. Our match on that is a little over \$2,600.00. So, it's a grant total for \$55,000.00. So, we're starting the process of getting bids and quotes for that to get our air compressor replaced, which, there's not dates on it and stuff but based on serial numbers and stuff from what we found out, it's approximately between 40 and 45 years old. So, it's served us well and it's time to move onto something new and hopefully something that will last just as long. Last updated, I talked to Ethan Hunt today, the service manager up at the Atlantic Service Center and it looks like probably, if everything goes right it should be the end of this week we'll get engine 71 back. So, that's all I've got tonight.

Althausser: Thanks Chief. Move on, Jacqueline Fitzgerald, anything with Parks & Rec or Community Development?

Fitzgerald: Nothing at this time.

Althausser: Okay, we don't have Income Tax, no one from Auditor here, Treasurer, Law Director John anything right now? Okay, Cindy?

Murray: Can I give part of my time to Stephanie?

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Althaus: Sure.

Stephanie Carson: they just wanted me to come in tonight and just give a little update on the HR software. We had approved the Civica HR software last year, went through two days of training on it, and realized it was just not the best fit for us. It wasn't going to do the things they had promised us it would do; not to mention the cost was pretty high, \$25,000.00 implementation, \$3,400.00 a year. Went through demos with a lot of companies, found one that's going to work really well for us, it's \$1,400.00 implementation versus \$25,000.00 and it's \$4,200 a year so it's \$800.00 more a year but it will take 30 years to realize the difference in that implementation cost. So, very similar to software I've set up at previous companies so I think it's going to be; make the implementation a lot easier and I think it will be a great asset to the city. Does anybody have any questions on it?

Beazley: I have no questions but I would comment that Finance has heard about this, this is a part of the Ordinance 23-006 to approve the appropriations to take care of this particular item under the Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to get this off the ground and running. Thank you, Stephanie.

Webb: Stephanie, where are we on the, Stephanie also works with Emma on the website. Do you have any updates with the new website?

Carson: Actually, heard from them today, a couple, I tackled one of the items, Emma tackled the other. The last I spoke to them a few weeks ago they told us within 5 months. They're kind of doing all of the behind the scenes work right now. They're migrating our data from our current sight over to the new site. Then, we'll go through a couple days of training and they'll kind of release the site to us and then we'll go through and add all the new things we want to add to the site. So, it'll be a lot of new features; fillable forms, things like that that our current site don't have. So, it'll just take, it'll take a little time to get those things up and running but we're pretty excited with where it's going. Thank you.

Althaus: Thanks Stephanie. Cindy.

Murray: Okay so, the first thing I want to talk about is East Franklin Street and 309; situation that is going on. We heard from AEP that it will at least be Wednesday before they are complete. We did, this afternoon add some additional detour signs and reach out to ODOT to get that put on their website, so we are trying to send all trucks now down to Bales Road and then out to County Road 175, which is behind the golf course, and back out to 309. So, if you sit here and watch them hopefully they catch on before it's opened back up. So, we also added, because people were going down Jacob-Parrot to the credit union and realizing the credit union was closed and going back out and coming to the hospital and realizing there was nowhere to go once they got to the hospital, we added some signs to make them turn onto Washington Boulevard which is right by Lowery's and go around that way. Please do not drive through the grass at the hospital. We put cones up and they're still, they're knocking the cones out of the way. Please everybody just be respectful of what's going on. It's out of our control. There's nothing we can do about it so, that's for 309. Sewer Plant, we've had 3 bypasses in March. I know a couple months ago you had asked what's going on; we are doing a little bit of an investigation. What it appears to be so far is high rainfall is what is the cause of that, but I will give you more of an update here next month. We have, April 6<sup>th</sup> we have the bid opening for the Scott/North Street water line replacement. Also, on April 6<sup>th</sup> the Tree Commission will be meeting with Stephanie Miller from Ohio Department of Natural Resources to begin looking at North Detroit Street to see what kind of trees and also to do some more work around town as to what trees need attention. Speaking of North Detroit Street; that survey, public input period is open. The website is open, so we're had it in the newspaper, we've had it on WKTN, we have it on our website on how to get in there. If you have any comments or questions about North Detroit Street, now's the time to get that out there. Also, an update on Phase 2; OHM is working on getting into the basements to take a deeper dive as to where water lines are coming in and things so that's where we are on Phase 2.

Althaus: Okay, Lynn Webb?

Webb: I'll just reiterate a little bit more on 309; just to be real, crystal, crystal clear; we have these, we've met with the guys out on the lines that's doing the repairs, we talked with ODOT, this wasn't a willy-nilly how to do things. The main problem with Jacob-Parrot, the reason we cannot take a truck down there is because the main power lines go from Quest, catty-cornered clear across that intersection, to the other side of 309 and it's a tremendous amount of slack. Now, like they said there's several truck that about took them all down again. So, that's why we can't have it open to Jacob-Parrot Boulevard for the trucks. There's a reason why we do it. So again, yes people move cones and barricades

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just to go through the grass. I don't understand it. So anyway, we'll work on that. Also, citywide cleanup April 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, it'll be at the fairgrounds again, we'll enter on the east gate, as we always have. It's from 8:00am to 6:30pm and our Facebook has all the list of things that you can take and the things you cannot take, and then no rain dates on that. Storm pickup after those winds, I know there was a lot of people that were picking up their sticks and we still have a lot of brush out there so the guys will, we will implement that and when we don't pick up brush after a big windstorm we most definitely will be picking it up and then Columbus Street; we have an issue with the newly poured curbs and Tim was gracious to get out there and stand by my fury. It's a sad case. I mean it's just say we can't just leave things alone, but we'll have to cut those areas out. I think there's 6. Is that how many we counted? Six so, what happens is, it cracks it. It's cracked. So, it's not, since they're poured, and everybody saw that curbing machine that pours that. So, it's not just adding cement and redoing it. You have to cut those out. So, that's taxpayer money fixing that.

Davis: Lynn, do you have any idea what that's going to cost just so people realize what their mistake is, what their...

Beazley: Actions.

Davis: Actions is going to cost?

Webb: Not yet.

Davis: Okay.

Webb: And then also, through the remainder of this project we're working with Republic Trash. So, everybody on first and second, in the first and second ward Monday Tuesday pick-up, that's going to be picked up always on a Tuesday and it'll be picked up by noon. So, don't think you're going to get it at thing because of the trenches that were going across, the trash can get it because it has the extending arm but the recycling does not. It's the guy has to get it so a couple of our Public Works guys helps them get the totes back over so it's a pretty good team event, but that will be Tuesday at noon, until we get that project, until the trash company can get in and out and back to normal. I'm hoping mid-April once the curbs are finished out and then we pour the LSM concrete in the trenches then we should be good to go until the pavement in the summer. That's all I have.

Althaus: Alright, thank you Lynn.

#### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

Althaus: Finance want to add anything to the written report?

Beazley: No Sir, I think it's very comprehensive.

Althaus: Your next meeting, do you have one scheduled?

Beazley: We do not, since we do not know when our finance people will be available.

Althaus: MOP anything to report?

Wren: MOP has not had anything to look at.

Althaus: Any meetings scheduled? Okay, Utilities, anything to report?

Jones: We had a meeting set on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 and whenever last time that we discussed about the engineering company, Wessler, still working with them on different things. So, that will probably be a project for quite a while, I'm sure.

Althaus: Alright, thanks Robin. Streets?

Lawrence: Yea, we did meet and then a couple street lights and stuff and we do have another meeting, I think right now we're looking at the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, it's usually the third Wednesday.

Althaus: Okay, and finally Legislation.

Davis: We are finishing up some legislation on the solar panels, coming into town and working through some nuisance stuff and some new ways to get at that more efficiently and our meeting will be the 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:30.

Althaus: Okay, thanks. Any questions from any of those folks? Alright, David anything with Regional Planning?

Beazley: No, sir.

Althaus: Robin any follow-up on parks & rec?

Jones: I don't think so. We have another meeting May, right?

Althaus: Antwillia, Gove Cemetery Board, anything to report?

Davis: Just the legislation tonight.

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Althaus: Anything, did any of the building back there get damaged?

Davis: I have nothing building-wise. The trees are a little bit, no big trees came down really just lots and lots and lots of limbs and it's going to take a little while. Our guys are going to be huffing getting all of those limbs up.

Althaus: Okay, tree commission, anything new there Sue?

Buroker: Oh no, Cindy covered, they met on the 16<sup>th</sup> and most everything that they talked about; Cindy reported on.

Althaus: And BKP met last Monday. They had a special meeting which I could not attend. It was called rather quickly. They're looking for new council. So when I learn what was incited there, I'll make certain you all know. Alright, before we more on, Mr. Cross? The podium is yours.

State Representative, Jon Cross: I wanted to have a chance to come visit. It's been a little bit since we've had a chance to say hello. We're in the middle of budget season at the State House. I'm actually heading down tonight to get ready for a busy 3 days, hopefully to wrap up the transportation budget. So, let's start there; transportation budget went really well in the house. We were able to put a lot of good things in there; particularly the billion dollar rural development fund to support our rural highways. So, as long as you don't have a county that has a municipality of 65,000 or more; those funds can be used to help improve highways to major economic centers, and so we're smack dab into five state routes that go to economic centers and we don't have 65,000 people here. I'm sure the mayor would like to have that, and you'd all like to have that funding. Now the Senate took that out; So, we're hoping to work hard to put that back in the final bill. The rub seems to be on forced accounts. Forced accounts are basically a determination of how far and how much we will let our County Engineers do bridge and road work versus the private sector and the laborers and it got down to seven words, I think, we got close to about seven words to negotiate it and the House before we had to kick it to the Senate. It got down to a 10 foot culvert and determining who could deal with 10 foot culverts. So, that's how detailed these negotiations get, but overall it is the largest jobs bill that we will have passed in the history of Ohio. It is the largest Transportation Budget that we have passed in the State of Ohio and there's a lot of good things in there for the 83<sup>rd</sup> District and Hancock County will be taking care of a lot of projects on 15 and 30. The 99 interchange to spur more economic development opportunity on the north side of Findlay. Here in Kenton, it will be extremely important for all of our State Routes, quite frankly, we hope, fingers crossed, that this will also be used to improve Route 23, as you come North. Route 23 is a tricky road to navigate getting out of Columbus and into North and Northwest Ohio. So, we hope that will help us. Somedays I feel like ODOT is taking really good care of us because 31 and 33 is just really well taken care of and well paved and I always joke with the Director; you know when you must need something from me because the road is really well taken care of on the route I take to Columbus but and then obviously the train derailment and a lot of the railroad stuff. Please know, as we deal with railroad issues, and particularly as we try to deal with the railroad issues in Mt. Victory it is all Federally regulated. So, we have zero power and it's a humbling experience for a Legislator to say we can't do anything. We have zero power. It's very true; the Feds have to step up and do something. So, we've encouraged a lot of things to help prevent that, issues, and things like that to happen in the future but we definitely know partners in Congress will step up and act upon that because it could be East Palestine could be Kenton, Ohio. I mean we had the runaway train here that stopped here; God forbid that happens again, or to another community. So, we know how important rail safety is and goods and products that move through rail. So, that's an issue, so we're hoping to button this transportation budget up this week from Conference Committee and pass it and we're hopefully that we can get some of the things that the house wanted back in, and Senate gets what they want, and we can put a bow on it and call it a day. As we are smack-dab in the middle of the operating budget, I want to try to provide some calmness, and I don't think anyone from here has called to scream through the phone just yet, but I wanted to provide some calming words on House Bill 1. House Bill 1 is a priority bill of the Ohio House; to basically do a couple things. First, it is no secret that the Ohio House wants to do another income tax reduction. It is a goal, I think of some of us, now we may not be there long enough as Legislators to get this accomplished; but it is the goal for us to make Ohio one of the very few no income tax states. For all the competitive reason you can think of; business, economic development, housing, growth, populations, whatever it may be, to stay competitive amongst the other no oncome tax states. If we were to pass a bill today with no income tax it would take 11 billion dollars off the table in a, I don't

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know, 90-100 billion dollar biennium budget, and that is problematic. You would suffer greatly by losing 11 billion dollars. So, we can't do that. We don't want to do that. So, what we're proposing is this; the House version is proposing a flat tax. We would like to do a 2.75% flat tax amongst the various folks that pay taxes. Currently, in Ohio, those that make \$25,000 or less pay no income taxes already, and I think there are 4 tax brackets. Last budget we went from 5 tax brackets to 4, and those who pay the highest tax bracket I think is 3.9%, 3.99%, making more than \$115,300. So, we're trying to, we could maybe go down and eliminate another tax bracket and squeeze it. That's one possible way, but we like the flat tax idea proposal. We'll see what the senate wants to do and we'll see where negotiations can go but I generally think, enough to speak for the Senate, I hear similar thoughts in the Senate that they too would like to see an income tax break; so just a matter of how we get there, and what we want to do. The part that gets a little troublesome for our local government, library, schools, is where I take 40- or 50-year-old tax policy and break it up, and the reason why we want to tackle this is now because we're very flush with cash. The State of Ohio is doing very, very well financially, and so you don't want to do these kinds of policies when you're very thin margins and times are tough, and you have to do a lot of cutting, and so we want to look at detangling property taxes and income taxes and property taxes and income taxes are all tied to local governments and schools. So, every time we move the levers in Columbus it had a cause and effect. The money that you all get, the schools get, and so there's a lot of articles that say if you do this you're going to take, you know, we're going to lose 1.2 million here, we're going to lose millions there, you're going to raise our taxes. I wouldn't worry about losing money because if you detangle it, as long as we go over here and fill the bucket of money to support local governments, to support police and fire, to support our schools and pass the fair school funding formula, which we think we can do in 4 or 5 years versus 6 years. So, we've got a pretty good verbal commitment from our Finance Chairman; he'd like to see it done in 4 or 5 years, versus 6, of which, meeting with the Superintendents' today. All the County schools will do very well financially in Hardin County underneath that plan. As long as we go over here and dedicate dollars to those entities that would have the cause and effect by redoing property taxes and income taxes, then you'll be successful. If you don't, then certainly you could be in trouble, and we don't want that. Why would we want to do that? I don't know anyone that would want to do that. So, property taxes; most people don't realize, I quite frankly didn't until I became a Legislator that the State of Ohio, the general revenue fund, pays for 10% of your property taxes, and so we are going to do a couple of things in this proposal. We would like to, House Bill 1, we'd like to reduce the percentage of a property value that is taxed. Right now the assessable value of a home that is taxed is at 35% of it's true value. House Bill 1 would reduce that to 31.5%. We would look to roll back the 10% that we take care of in addition to a tax break but ultimately; if A connects to B, and B connects to C, the end result is a 35% taxable value down to 31.5%; so, a tax reduction. Here's the problem; why are we getting involved in tax policy like this? Ohio's taxes are extremely complicated. We are one, it is one of the downsides to doing business and attracting business to Ohio is our political jurisdictions and our complicated tax structure. We want to try to unwind some of that. Secondly, 41 counties; including Hardin County, is going to see drastic property tax increases in 2024. So, if you thought your property tax bill was high now; hold onto your seat. You're going to see a huge increase because home values have gone up. Now, the problem I have with that is that you and I only here, in the residence of the City of Kenton; we only voted on the school levy. So, I understand that our taxes went up because we're paying for a new school but I didn't vote, last time I looked, to increase my taxes 20-30%. Franklin County is going to see a 35% increase in property taxes. That means they're calling you all, they're calling me, they're calling commissioners, and someone's going to start complaining because there's a lot of people on fixed incomes around here and money can only go so far. What we're trying to do is slow the inflation of property taxes. If someone is not looking out for the taxpayer right now, and trying to figure out how we slow the inflation of property taxes they're going to go gang busters. So, that is the intent and I'm trying to play a little defense here because I'm sure there are some Auditors, and Tax Collectors, and Treasurers, and folks that are bent out of shape because we're going to go challenge 40 years of tax policy. Now, will House Bill 1 pass? I don't know; kind of like my old man used to say if you want to win the lottery, you've got to buy a ticket. Well, we got to drop a bill, shake things up a little bit, and see what comes out of it. Who knows, the bill might change completely based upon its original design, but I just wanted to come do a couple things. No need to panic, don't hit the alarm button, I want to tell you want our intent is. Our intent is to take care of all of

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our taxpayers, and our citizens, and the City of Kenton, Hardin County, to make sure we don't let property taxes go run amuck, unchecked, and continue to reduce income taxes. Now, most of you are probably saying, well how does the City of Kenton make some money? How do we get more money if all this is going to happen? I would be, I don't know if I'm one of few but I think, my own personal opinion, and I would support this, is that sales tax is what has saved Ohio, during Covid: We bought things. Now, whether or not you believe the Federal Government should've written you that check and turned on the printing presses to run the printing presses, we can debate that but we bought a lot of things, and it has helped tremendously, our bottom line. So, I would not be opposed that cities have access to sales tax. You all are missing out on a lot of money because of e-commerce and sales and transactions that are taking place that only the county gets. Oh, Jon how could you say this? Now the Commissions will be upset at you because you said that. Well, at the end of the day, we, the cities have a lot of things that they have to fund. You are working on some major infrastructure projects, by the way, curbs never looked so good. Who thought we'd ever, I mean, I drove past there like, my God those are beautiful curbs. I've never seen curbs so beautiful before. It's the little things that we get excited about. But that costs somebody money, and we've worked our tail off with the department of transportation to make sure that Kenton and Hardin County doesn't get left behind and if we're going to keep funding these kind of projects and you stay 8,000 people like we have since 1800, which is fine, if that's the dynamic we want to be, then something's going to have to change how you make revenue and you know, I'm sure the sales tax will be highly debated whether cities can have it or not. You add a little sales tax on top of sales tax but most constituents that I've talked to said listen, if we buy it and we use it, it's not the government taxing this it's either a user fee or you know, we bought it, we know it, we want it. You pay a lot of taxes when you buy cigarettes because we tax the hell out of cigarettes but you still buy them. So, that is one possible way to look at spreading revenue better and it's not that we want to take away revenue from the county or the townships, but I don't think Townships get sales tax. I don't think Townships get sales tax, just the county. So, we have to look at other ways to figure out how you can generate revenue. The best way to generate revenue obviously is continuing to widen your tax-base. Right, so if you pick-up 1000 more people inside the city limits then you did before but that comes with hurdles. Right, if you want to do that you got to have more housing. You've got to have more housing. You've got to have more streets, more sewer, more plumbing, more water, and where does that money come from? So it is the great chicken or egg, which comes first, and it's always highly debated, and so that's the intent of House Bill 1. Long story short. School, the other think we're working with the new school. It's a beautiful school. We'll be very proud to see the new school go up. Again, thanking the voters even as a taxpayer myself, pleased to see that this new school is going to be built, but I will tell you the State is not doing a really good job with the Ohio School Facilities Commission has some pretty outdated language. So, already we're 9 million dollars behind and cuts another 1.4 million-dollar because of inflation cost and so the \$315.00 per square foot cost is now going to cost the schools \$355.00 per square foot which is going to cause a shortage of 5.8 million. So, at the end of the day the taxpayers deserve what the taxpayer voted for and if the Ohio Facilities School commission is going to get in the way of that because the rules are outdated then we just need to go update the book. Now, what are those outdated rules? I don't know why Ohio has to be in the number one LEEDs Certified school building in Ohio but we spend 3 million dollars builds LEEDs Certified school building here for the new school in Kenton which means all the light fixtures and the hundred trees you plant, all the great green things you got to do takes money out of the classroom. Takes money away from the student, takes money away from performing arts and teaching and band and choir, and in 3 years you're going to take all these junky switches and lights that you spend 3 million dollars on and replace them with real things. When I used to work in real estate development you built LEEDs certified because it was a cool thing like shiplap. Well, shiplap ain't cool anymore, so I've heard, and so isn't LEEDs and you did it cause we sold more building to make more value on LEEDs certified, we're not selling school buildings. So, I don't know why we have to be LEEDs certified in Ohio, but that's taking significant money away from here. So, I'm going to do whatever I can. I may be in a position of great failure where there's nothing I can do, but we're going to look at every corner and see if we can; not necessarily bend rules, but fix rules or change the revised code and see if we can't help find some funding to help with the school. It may happen, it may not happen, but it's pretty frustrating when the voters soundly said we want the Cadillac Plan and now you're getting a Buick, no offense to anyone who drives Buick. So, we've had that conversation so

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there's a lot of things happening. You have a fabulous, fabulous ODOT District 1 Director, Chris Hughes. I was really pleased that he called me and said, hey we're going to move forward with this ODOT study to figure out maybe a potential crossover bridge for the 31/68 exchange. Safety is a big concern for ODOT right now. So, we're pleased with that. I'd really like to see the downtown get done and we are still, as the Mayor knows, advocating, you know, to the executive branch to get as much of the 10 million that you've asked for and I think you've got some of it through the EPA for wastewater. So, we're a little short on water money so we're still advocating and twisting arms to get that then for you. So, just a lot of behind the scenes work to try to help the city out. So, that is the report. You know the other thing that came up last time that might come up this time; I've given the Mayor well-well advance notice that, you might disagree with me but I will likely support and future legislation that comes before the House to fix the imbalance between the Police and Fire Pension Fund. It will put some financial stress on our cities. I think the City of Kenton, under the last bill proposed was an additional, what was it \$50,000? \$150,000? It was additional. It was a significant amount, it was a chunk of change but we have to get it fixed right because if not, it will cause only more problems down the road. So, I have said to all of our cities and our friends, like the Mayor's Alliance, and Municipal League, if I vote to do this, I am definitely willing to come over here and help you figure out how you could find more revenue to pay for the offset of the Police and Fire Pension Fund to make sure it's balanced. So, that's the quick report. President Althaus, I'm happy to take any questions, concerns, things that you're all working on, things you're hearing, good/bad, all these nuggets of information are always helpful to try to be an advocate for you all down in Columbus.

Althaus: Are you off the hook?

Jon Cross: For a moment. So don't be afraid off-line if you want to have a conversation off-line but as the Mayor knows we're probably talking once a week, and we're staying in the loop and so you're definitely, the City of Kenton is, you have a safe table, and because of my peers were very kind to elect me into leadership you definitely have a seat at the table when we're making really important decisions for the State of Ohio. So, it's very good for you all to be in that spot.

Webb: Appreciate you Jon.

Jon Cross: Yup, so thank you for allowing me to come and say hi.

Althaus: Sure, Thanks Jon. At this time, I'd ask council to consider a closed session; it would be for potential purchase and sale of property for public use, which is disclosed under Section 121.22(G)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code.

**Motion by Mrs. Davis and second by Mrs. Wren to go out of Regular Session and enter into Closed Session under Section 121.22(G)(2) Property Acquisition.**

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried. Time 7:37 PM)

**Motion by Mrs. Buroker and second by Ms. Jones to go out of Closed Session & return to Regular Session.**

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried. Time 8:03 PM)

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

## **ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

### **1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

- **ORDINANCE NO. 23-006, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: This is an item we'd like to, council to consider tonight. I don't know if anyone wants to talk a little bit about this ordinance?

Beazley: There is copious explanation within the Finance notes for those of you who took a look at those. I'd be happy to answer any questions, but Finance has recommended this Legislation going forward in the time frame recommended.

Althaus: So, if there are no questions; entertain a motion to suspend the rules?

Held

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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**Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Ms. Jones that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried.**

**Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Wren to adopt Ordinance No. 23-006.**

Althausen: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried)

- **RESOLUTION NO. 23-008, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**  
Althausen: My understanding, there is no urgency on these, getting these items sold. So, if there are no objections, we will read that again in 2 weeks.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> READING

- **ORDINANCE NO. 23-007, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED OF THE TAXING AUTHORITY.**  
Althausen: And again, my understanding that can also go another read; any objections to that? Okay then, we'll read that at the next meeting as well.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> READING

None.

#### SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althausen: We took care of meetings when we talked about committee reports.

#### OTHER MATTERS:

None.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

None.

#### COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Althausen: Starting with Sue.

Buroker: I have nothing.

Althausen: David? Antwill? Ray? Pegg?

Wren: Thank you everybody for excusing me the last meeting. My daughter did end up having to have surgery. She's recuperating now, so.

Althausen: Anda? Robin?

Jones: There was a huge tree that fell down at the end of my block on North Wayne Street and the City Crew did a fantastic job cleaning that up. I mean it was like they, I mean, it was very professional, very quick and so I'm thankful that we have the City Crew we have because it was a huge tree. If it would've fallen on somebody walking by there, or a car. They did a great job!

Althausen: Alright, thanks Robin. John anything you want to add? Cindy?

Murray: Go Bucks!

Althausen: Anybody else, city-wise? Lynn?

Webb: No.

Althausen: Alright, our next meeting, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, right here. If there are no objections; we're adjourned.

Joel Althausen, President of Council

Emma Boutwell, Clerk