

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 68685K

Held

May 8, 2023

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9th REGULAR SESSION:

Kenton City Council met in their 9th Regular Session on May 8, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Robin Jones, Anda Tudor, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.

Prayer given by Mr. Althausser:

Father, thank you for the many blessings that our local community has. I pray for those who are here this evening; may they make wise and Godly decisions, which are always in the best interest of our community. I'm glad that we have the freedom to speak up and vote for those who oppose our set of values. Even if I differ from these leaders, I pray for them to be blessed by You. I also pray for the Kenton Police and Fire Departments. Please protect them in their line of duty so that they might protect those of us who have placed our trust in them. God, please bless these men and women in city government, the mayor's office, City Council, all elected officials, and certainly those who put themselves in harms way. I am so thankful we have these people protecting and serving our city. In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

MINUTES:

Althausser: Welcome everyone, I can't help but think every time we do those two things; I am so impressed, we do them at every council meeting. I don't know if you saw the House Judiciary Committee argued for, I don't know how long.

Beazley: Far too long.

Althausser: Far too long on the proper, whether they should or should not begin every committee meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, and there were absolutely people against doing that. Let's move on then and get things rolling; we had minutes from the prior meeting. Were there any additions or corrections to those minutes. I don't believe that's what the quiz is with regard to Dave's minutes, the Finance Committee minutes. So, any additions or corrections to the regular minutes? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Althausser: You all saw the Freedom Celebration Flyer, any comments on, I believe that's probably in the budget but David...

Beazley: Yeah Mr. President I would just note that there's both a Council Special Project Line at \$500.00 and Council and Clerk Incidentals at \$800.00. We've typically donated from one of those two lines in the amount of \$500.00 and that was the intent.

Althausser: Any other questions or concerns about that? I know of no other communications. Does anyone else have any communications to share?

PETITIONS:

None.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Althausser: Chief Musser?

Musser: Nothing at the moment, thank you.

Althausser: Chief Donnelly?

Donnelly: Only thing I've got is, this coming week May 15th we're going to be starting to flow hydrants in the northwest section of the town. So basically, it's going to be from Columbus Street North, and Detroit Street to the west. So basically, third ward. So, typically we can typically get that done in about three days. Hopefully, without any interruptions or anything we can keep it on a pretty fast paced schedule, so that's all we've got.

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Althaus: Alright, thanks Bruce. Any questions? Okay, I don't see Jacqueline; so, I don't think anything from Parks & Rec or Economic Development. Income do you have anything, do you want to talk about income tax? Okay, how about Auditor?

Hattery: Yes. Good evening, we have made a replacement for the Assistant Deputy Auditor; she's here this evening. So, I'm going to ask her to come up and introduce herself. Her name is Sierra Trout.

Trout: Hi. So, as they said, my name is Sierra Trout. I just moved to Kenton going on two years this October. I've always kind of been in the area. I went to Ridgemont, growing up, so I was always in Mt. Victory, Ridgeway, West Mansfield area. Before this I worked for the City of Urbana in the Zoning and Engineering Community Development Department. I was the Administrative Assistant so I kind of got to have my hands in on all three of those things, and then got to kind of handle some of the city events. So that was a very nice job. I loved it there, I loved the people I worked with but obviously Urbana is an hour away and my husband and I just welcomed our first baby, so it was kind of time to find something a little closer to home that made a little more sense logistically, and I've told everyone this job kind of happened by what seemed like divine intervention. It came at just the right time, and happened very quickly, and I'm really, really happy to be here.

Beazley: Welcome.

Althaus: Welcome Sierra. We're really glad to have you here, also. Especially with all the experience you bring from Urbana. Okay, we'll move on then, no treasurer's report. John, anything from the legal deck?

Schwemer: The only thing I would give an update, which is really not much of an update, is obviously you don't have legislation to approve the Detroit Street purchase because I sent them a handful of questions, and they have yet to get back with me on any of that. So, it's still in the pipeline, but it's, I need to know some information. We need to make sure we have enough funds allocated for purchase, closing costs, things of that nature, and I don't have those answers yet. So, maybe next meeting, okay.

Althaus: Okay John, thank you. Cindy, anything from safety service, other than the report you have?

Murray: No, just on Columbus Street; it is back open now. ODOT is going to be coming through and doing some of the ADA compliant curb ramps, and doing some pavement repair, but the total resurfacing will probably be in August. So, everybody just needs to be patient til August. Also, going on this week; now that we've got Columbus Street back open, Choice One will be in town to do a traffic count study out by Morningside Drive, with the new school going in there. That is for the new school. This Thursday we're having a pre-construction meeting for the West North/Scott Avenue waterline project. That's it.

Althaus: Alright, thanks Cindy. Mayor Webb?

Webb: I just want to touch base; Tim did a nice write up in Saturday's paper. We did formally ask the Commissioners for ARPA money that they have remaining that has been unspoken for. So, we did put a formal request in to help with the Phase Two Downtown Project, and that would help fund that sewer line under the north side of the square buildings, and then it runs caddy-corner underneath the yard of the courthouse. So, that was a formal request, and we appreciate the Commissioners hearing it and kind of showed how we've spent the ARPA money that we have. So, that was really good and just for council update too; we have a standing meeting now with the Commissioners every 4th Thursday. So, that's that piece that we really wanted to seal to make sure that we collaborate on that piece. So, that's really good.

Murray: It's at 10 o'clock.

Webb: 4th Thursday of the month. Yeah, that's what I have on that.

Althaus: Any questions for Lynn?

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althaus: Finance?

Beazley: There is a copious and complete set of minutes from our last meeting. It represents the...

Althaus: I hope they're complete; they're defiantly copious.

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Beazley: They are both, Mr. President, and many of the items discussed are represented in the legislation you will see later; some of them deal with some budgeting issues we're planning on for capitol projects beginning next year.

Althaus: That was a good meeting, actually. Kudos to the Fire Department...

Beazley: Agreed.

Althaus: For the information they brought, and the way they presented that.

Beazley: They were thanked in the notes more than once.

Althaus: Okay, anything you want, anything in the future you, okay. Do you have, I'm going to just jump ahead and we'll take care of the meeting here. Do you have anything scheduled meeting-wise?

Beazley: We should meet again; second meeting in June, please.

Althaus: Okay, any questions for Finance?

Beazley: We are on the...

Althaus: Yeah, you're on the back there. MOP

Wren: MOP has not met but we do have a meeting scheduled for May 22nd at 11 am, if that works with everybody.

Althaus: 11 am and I guess the important one would be Muni Court, make certain they can be there. Okay, Public Utilities, anything to report?

Jones: We have a meeting this Wednesday, May 10th at 3:30 here, in chambers.

Althaus: And how about Streets, Alleys, and Sidewalks? Alright, Legislation?

Davis: Nothing at the moment.

Althaus: Alright, move on then, any reports from council members? I don't have one; if anyone else does, speak up now or I'll move on.

Jones: We have Park & Rec meeting this Wednesday, May 10th at 6 o'clock, here in chambers.

Buroker: Shade Tree Commission Should be this Thursday at 1.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**1ST READING**

- **RESOLUTION NO 23-010, TITLE ONLY;** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF KENTON TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF KENTON FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: I'm guessing Cindy's going to talk about this?

Murray: This is for the Phase Two Downtown Project.

Althaus: And we have, time sensitive is the issue right, to get that application in before the deadline? And when you say it's for Phase Two, just so everyone knows, we're not necessarily committing to anything at this point yet. We're getting the application in front of the proper folks.

Motion by Mrs. Davis and second by Mr. Lawrence 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 Mrs. Wren and second by Mrs. Buroker to adopt Resolution No. 23-010.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried)

- **ORDINANCE NO 23-010, TITLE ONLY;** AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: David, or...

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Beazley: Mr. President, under the Hospitalization, which you find under General Fund, Waterworks, and Sewer; the aforementioned Sierra is joining our staff and is coming in as a family member which was a higher amount than we had our previously employee and that will be the appropriations to make sure that she and her family and her newest are well cared for by our health care program. Under Street Funds; we are still working with some of the signalization, as it relates to, this was the Walmart signal, is that correct Cindy?

Murray: Yes, it's..

Beazley: A portion of that and then the other items were the speed indicators, which give us an opportunity to look at the enforcement areas, and the flashing stop signs for those who are...

Davis: Excited.

Beazley: About flashing. Finally, under EMHA Funding, this was radios for the court's vehicle, and it comes out of a dedicated fund for that; having said that Mr. President-

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mr. Lawrence 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. Lawrence and second by Mr. Beazley to adopt Ordinance No. 23-010.

Althausen: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried)

2nd READING

None.

3rd READING

- **ORDINANCE NO. 23-007, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING KENTON CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 1286 RELATING TO SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS IN THE CITY OF KENTON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althausen: Third reading, any questions on that legislation?

Motion by Mrs. Davis and second by Mrs. Wren to adopt Ordinance No. 23-007.

Althausen: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried)

Schwemer: Joel?

Althausen: Yes, John.

Schwemer: Just in relation to that ordinance; obviously, you know, if we find out we've got, we may have some growing pains with that ordinance and need to tweak it in the future, which we will look at it and see how it works with the administration, but what's important to know; just for the public is moving forward, if you're going to be installing solar you do have to apply for a build permit because we want to make sure you're compliant with our regulations and doing so, and making sure it's permitted. So, just keep in mind if you're putting up solar; you need to go through the process because they want to make sure, you know, if it's on residential, it's going to be on the rooftop and complies with our ordinance. So, okay, that's all I have.

Althausen: Alright, thanks John.

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althausen: Okay, I think we kind of hit the highlights of all of the meeting scheduled, anything to add there?

Beazley: I would clarify that the date of the June meeting will be June 26th, for calendar purposes. May 22nd still remains intact.

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Althausen: Would anyone like to address the meeting this evening? Step right up to the podium if you would sir and introduce yourself.

Barnes: Hi, my name is Dave Barnes. I'm here representing the Kenton Times and recently from this meeting it was declared that East Columbus Street, the 200 block might be closed for on-street parking. I'm a business owner there. We have the funeral home across the street. You're eliminating

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parking for customers. Mayor Webb suggests that it's all just renters; presently there's only one set of renters on the 200 block. Mike Styer is a homeowner there, the funeral home, and then us. I mean we've all been to a funeral before when parking is just hard to come by and eliminating that street parking kind of hurt maybe a funeral there; or for us, having customers be able to come in and park. Parking is a priority to have near downtown, or downtown, and eliminating a block, in my mind, just does not make sense. It's the 200 block. You're not eliminating parking in the 100 or 300 block. You're just picking out the 200 block and that effects two businesses, a homeowner, and potential renters there on that block, and I would like you to reconsider eliminating parking in the 200 block of East Columbus Street. If there's a problem with the street width; that should've been addressed when it was all torn up; they could've widened it then. That would've been a great opportunity to, if there was traffic flow problems, to address them then, but I just think that's, you're hurting two businesses and families in the area by eliminating the parking on the 200 block of East Columbus Street. Thank you.

Althaus: Any questions? And you're addressing, in that, that is the Safety Service Director's authority to do so. So, when she's here tonight, but granted; council whether it be Streets and Alleys, or just council as a whole; appreciates hearing that. I don't know if anyone has any questions?

Barnes: I know Mike Styer has spoke with some on City Council and it seems it's fallen upon deaf ears at this point and...

Althaus: No, no, it didn't fall on deaf ears. Every council member explained to Mr. Styer; and I would explain to you that again, that is not in council's authority. So, but it's good for all of us to hear that and the administration can address those issues.

Barnes: Thank you.

Lawrence: Yeah, it's not voted on or anything.

Althaus: Right.

Lawrence: I mean I chair Streets and I appreciate your concern and I mean, we can sit down and discuss it further, and I'd gladly invite you to any Street meeting that we have; but it isn't...

Barnes: I do know that Cherry Street is also limited in parking on one side of the street. So, you've already limited, kind of the cross sections there. Actually, I don't know if North Wayne is a limited on one side or not. I believe it is; on the west side, I believe there's no parking along the street. So, it's already been kind of scaled back parking-wise, and limited to customer, potential people to shop downtown, and just to be a part of our downtown community. So, eliminating the parking on the 200 street, I think, is not a wise decision.

Buroker: I just wanted to make sure that you understand that I was one that Mike Styer contacted because he's in my ward; and I did bring those concerns. It's not like it didn't, and I also told him that we had a meeting tonight and I had run into the Safety Service Director. So, I've already stated, you know, it didn't fall on deaf ears.

Althaus: And I did the same, and I believe Antwill...

Davis: I did the exact same thing.

Barnes: Maybe numb ears is a better word for it.

Althaus: What was that?

Buroker: I don't have authority to make any changes.

Davis: And we explained it; it's an administration...

Beazley: Mr. Styer...

Althaus: Maybe we can explain this way; I understand your frustration, in that the parking is being removed.

Barnes: So it is being removed? Did sound like it was up for discussion; but now it isn't.

Althaus: I guess I'm trying, I thought I explained; it is not council's ability to go around the administration in that type of a decision.

Barnes: But it would be this administration's maybe oversight to suggest it not be?

Althaus: Well that's, you're talking to them right now. So, they're right here.

Webb: I can assure you that Antwill reached out to me. Sue reached out to me. Joel reached out to me. I spoke with Mike Styer. SO, I can assure you that it didn't fall on deaf ears, and I, again, we can always hear the concerns.

Barnes: Sure, That's why I'm here.

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Webb: I made the call; due to the fact of the narrowing of the road. There is no possible way; the cost to widen the road is something I don't feel the city can take on and I think, like I said to Mike, this, we can look at how this goes. We know that Crates also expanded their parking to the east. So, we can see how all this goes. There's parking on Wayne Street beside the Kenton Times. There's parking beside it on the north end, and there's parking behind it.

Barnes: The parking behind it, and the side of it is also for our employees. Do you want Tim to have to walk further from his car to the office?

Webb: I don't know, sometimes I have to walk two blocks to get here.

Barnes: I'm just saying, that's what you're saying.

Althaus: It does sound like they're wanting to monitor it and see what types of...

Webb: Yeah.

Lawrence: Yeah, yeah, it's, I mean everything is up for debate. I mean, it isn't like parking has been completely eliminated, I mean there are alternative parking for everyone affected. It's not like you've eliminated parking and now I have absolutely no where to park my car. That isn't what'd being done. Everybody that's affected has alternate parking. Am I correct in saying that?

Barnes: Sure. Also, it is suggested that people have been warned because they were parking on the curb, and Mayor Webb does not want them parking on her curb.

Lawrence: It's not her curb. It's our curb, and all the tax payers paid for that curb, and I don't think anybody wants their stuff destroyed either.

Barnes: If people were parking on the curb is that an illegal, is that an infraction? And why weren't they ticketed? That seems to be part of the reason that you don't want us parking there on the street.

Webb: We have spoke with those people a number of times and I'm sure that gentleman to your right could verify that.

Barnes: I'm sorry?

Webb: I'm sure that Chief Musser can verify we have talked with them multiple times. We've towed.

Barnes: If it was an issue though why talk and not ticket?

Davis: We towed the car.

Webb: We've towed.

Lawrence: Not just ticketed the car, we towed it and we removed it from the area.

Webb: And they come back, over and over again.

Barnes: Income for the city.

Jones: No, it's really a loss for the city when you have to have something towed.

Barnes: Well, increase the rate. I mean, there's positives here.

Webb: That's a suggestion we can take into account.

Althaus: One place I would say that, I'm not going to speak to all of the parking in that block, but there in front of the Times; that has always been very tight if they park all the way up because to get over into the right lane as you approach the light, if they're parked all the way...

Barnes: There is no right lane. There's a straight line, and a turn lane.

Althaus: Okay. The right lane is actually even with the parking, where you park along the street. Go down there and look at it. You'll see exactly what I'm talking about. So, if it is parked full as you approach the light; to not be in the left turn lane, you have to swing right. It is not a lot of room if a car is parked in every parking spot there, to get over. Just take a look at it.

Barnes: I'm familiar with it. Just wish this maybe wouldn't...

Althaus: But that's only one or two spots.

Barnes: When the street was torn up, maybe forward thinking at that point, in widening the street, or helping with the traffic patterns at that point would've been a great time to help with those things.

Althaus: Widening that street is an impossibility.

Barnes: It kind of already was widened four feet on each side when they dug out the curbs.

Althaus: No, we didn't widen that street at all.

Barnes: From my point of view, you see the street torn up on each side of the curb; they were torn out, they put dirt in, I mean, it was pretty close to being widened.

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Althaus: Okay.

Barnes: No?

Althaus: No, we did not widen the street.

Barnes: You didn't widen it. I'm just saying, it looked like it was torn up; it could've been widened at that point, that's all.

Althaus: I'm only talking about those one or two spots.

Davis: We don't own that. The tree line is technically, we have access but it's technically the homeowner's property.

Barnes: It's beyond the point now. All I'm saying is at that point, that could've been something that was brought up to landowners with congestion and the whole turn lane and everything at that point. It's too late now, the curbs..

Althaus: There were studies that cooled at widening Columbus, and it would be astronomical, the cost.

Barnes: All I'm just suggesting was that block. It doesn't even matter. I'm just frustrated, and things come to mind, and I'm still up here jibber-jabbing about things, so.

Althaus: I would encourage you to go look at the part I spoke of, and again that only addressed one or two parking spots. So, that's all. You're address...I mean, again, it's, it isn't something, every council member can speak with the Mayor, the Safety Service Director, and voice some opinion either in support, or questions; in the end though, that is within their authority.

Barnes: Thank you.

Althaus: Okay. So, obviously keep talking to them about that; about how it's working, or not working. Anyone else? Yes, come right up. Just introduce yourself, and...

Oates: My name is Robin Oates and I live and work in Hardin County; in Kenton specifically. I do a lot of work in resources. So, people need things; where I work, we try to find those resources for them. Today we got wind that a patient went to her new home and her deposit was going to be paid by Community Action and it was brought to my attention that the Kenton Water Department no longer accepts payment for deposits from Community Action, or Love in the Name of Christ. Love in the Name of Christ never did deposits anyway. I have lots of questions. I have lots of questions on who gets to decide that, and how are we going to determine that if somebody gets their water bill, or their deposit paid by Community Action that they can't paid any bill going forward? Now, Community Action and Love in the Name of Christ can make payments and will take checks on delinquent bills; so, the city is going to get their money, but we can't help anybody that comes into this town and needs? So, let's say that an abused mom has left her husband; let's say that there's a teenager who has now aged out of foster care, and really do we have to go that far? It doesn't matter. Somebody needs help with water, water.

Althaus: Was this specifically deposits, or?

Oates: Specifically, deposits.

Murray: So, let's let Cindy address that, and then we can get into...

Webb: I'll address it; so, what has happened is, I spoke with Community Action because we have, it started out with an account, like we'll get Community Action money for a delinquent account that was \$1400.00. So, that's where Community Action comes into play. We have a tremendous amount of delinquent accounts. So, naturally that's a product that we sell as a city, water. So, of course we want to be able to recoup that money. So, what happens is when we go into Community Action for a new water thing we have, I talked to Community Action, and they said you have the ability to accept it or deny it. You don't have to accept it; other communities have don't the same thing. So, right now because we are swamped with delinquents. So, right now we have put a hold on new accounts only. We are still accepting Community Action for delinquent accounts, but what we've run into is when you start a new account; a lot of these delinquent accounts become delinquent immediately after.

Oates: And so, do they become delinquent because the homeowner already has a delinquent bill, and when that new tenant comes in because this can't, I have city water and there's no way that you can go past two months without getting a shut off notice and they will be there come Monday morning by ten.

Davis: I'm sorry, the water bills go from person to person.

Oates: Correct.

Davis: So, it's not, they're not already delinquent from an old person living there.

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Oates: Correct.

Davis: Oh, I thought that was the question was because you said is that old bill from an old tenant?

Oates: Right, are these?

Davis: No, because the bill goes with the person.

Oates: So, then there's, I'm going to tell you now, there's no way that anybody in town can run up a \$1,400.00 water bill, and are we saying; again...

Althaus: Oh yeah, they can.

Murray: Yeah, we do.

Wren: I've seen them.

Murray: We've got lots of those.

Oates: Then there's something wrong with the property.

Murray: Yes, there is.

Oates: There's something we need to address that.

Murray: We do. We try to.

Althaus: It's on their property.

Murray: Right.

Oates: What I'm saying to you is this; there's no way that this town should be discriminating about who gets a deposit paid. It's not up to us, or this administration, to decide who gets a deposit, and who doesn't based on their ability, or inability to pay. If that's the case then we have to address every person who gets a new water, a new tenant; what is your ability to pay? Can you pay?

Webb: It has nothing to do with it.

Oates: It does Lynn. You just said that.

Webb: We just said, yeah that has a delinquent thing.

Beazley: The source.

Webb: We just said we took this action, as of now, that we are not accepting Community Action.

Oates: Again, and you said other cities are doing the same? I talked to Community Action too; there's not.

Webb: And who...I talked to Findlay, and I talked here.

Oates: And Findlay is not one of them. Findlay takes them. Findlay is the main hub.

Webb: I know, but Findlay is where the main source is out of, that is who they sit under. Our community sits under Hancock.

Oates: I understand; Hancock, Hardin, HWWP stands for Hardin, Hancock, and Wyandot County.

Webb: Right.

Oates: So, it's not up to us to decide if you can pay your bill later. I could come into this town; drop \$250.00 and do a water deposit and leave two months later.

Webb: Correct.

Oates: I paid my own, what is that? You're discriminating against folks who cannot pay.

Webb: I hear what you're saying.

Oates: I understand, but after this guy, all that is, is I hear you, I understand, we can talk about it, we can discuss but I don't feel like it goes any further. I've talked. I've reached out,

Webb: I've responded.

Oates: And you alone said...you made that decision.

Webb: And I responded to you.

Oates: And you alone said you made that decision.

Webb: I did.

Oates: Which is sad for this town. How could one person decide how people are going to be helped and by whom. That's all.

Lawrence: With Community Action, I mean, I guess my stand is I personally don't care where the money comes from, as long as the city is getting the money, but, so I don't agree on that part; but, what I would also ask, through you or Community Action, if Community Action wants to pay it, does it matter whether Community Action gives them the money or the person the money to give to the city?

Oates: Yes, it does matter.

Lawrence: Why is that? Why is that?

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Oates: Well, no resource gives cash to the person.

Lawrence: Okay, why not? Do they not trust that person either?

Oates: It's just not the way...

Lawrence: I'm just asking.

Oates: It's just not the way it's done. So that would be like...

Lawrence: It's not?

Oates: No, that would be like if I...

Lawrence: Then why can't that aspect be changed?

Althausser: Let her finish, Ray.

Oates: that would be like me coming up here and saying I need help with CHIP and CHIP is going to help me do my electric and CHIP is going to say to me, here's \$5,000.00, get your electric fixed, check you later. Does that sound like good business to you? Because it doesn't sound like good business to me. I'm a pretty trustworthy person, but I still wouldn't give cash to just anybody because it's human, let's be honest. So, I don't like being felt like I'm put into a corner of, well can we change giving cash, why can't we do that? Would you give cash to somebody to take it down and pay their bill that you didn't know? So, you're an agency, Community Foundation, would you ask them to give Antwillia cash to fix her house? It doesn't work that way, and I think you know that. There's not one resource in this town or across this county that is going to say, Sue, here's \$250.00, run on down to the Water Department and pay that.

Lawrence: Okay.

Oates: that's not how it works.

Althausser: Robin, one real quick comment, we are talking specifically about the deposit.

Oates: I am today talking specifically about the deposits, in particular, from Community Action.

Althausser: Right, and in a perfect world though, even though a lot of times I think that deposit ends up going toward the last month.

Oates: It does.

Althausser: But in a perfect world the deposit is really a credit on the individual's account. If Community Action is paying that; really wouldn't they want that deposit back?

Oates: So, I worked for Love in the Name of Christ and that truly is not how it works. We also attempted to like hey just put us back on for, but because the last bills come out of that; truthfully, that tenant's probably going to get \$3.28.

Althausser: Yeah, okay. I just wanted to, it is, there is a difference since it is the deposit from an accounting standpoint.

Oates: It is a difference. I don't feel...

Althausser: But you're right. It ends up getting absorbed by the last month so...

Oates: It does get absorbed. The city is getting money, so I don't understand where this, we sold a product and we're not getting paid for it comes in. That's not the truth.

Althausser: We have noticed an awful lot of folks will only be somewhere for a month or two, move on, and it's hard to keep up with them. Isn't that a correct way to say it?

Oates: Joel, I'd be hard pressed to even think, as hard as housing is to come by in this town, as hard as it is to come up with \$650.00 for move in for first month, last month, and deposit; people are not moving like that. What you have is people not being able to pay their bills, and again, Community Action, you'll take that money for them, but you're not going to take it to help somebody out, and you can't discriminate. It can't be okay for the lady who is being abused, and not okay for this family that is just moving into town that maybe is going to get a job at GPI.

Webb: Are there other agencies that allow, that help, is there other people that help with the deposit?

Murray: Well, I think you said, did you say Love INC does not do deposits?

Oates: Love in the name of Christ does not do deposits, as a rule, and hasn't forever.

Webb: Why is that?

Oates: You'd have to ask that board.

Webb: Okay.

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Oates: But I do know that 90% of our church donate to Love in the Name of Christ and so you take away CAC, you take away a big chunk of people that can be helped, and today one of my patients was one of them.

Webb: I guess when I talked, what I learned from CAC is they said you guys have the ability to accept or reject.

Oates: And I hear you say that Lynn, and you took that as okay well we're out then. I have a decision, I'm going to decide, no.

Webb: Right but right, right, I did. So, is there not other ways?

Oates: Did you not think of another way before you said no? Did you not think of what people might be affected?

Webb: That's not my, that's not where I, I don't have to come in to that.

Oates: Nice. Very nice. So, you don't have to think about our community.

Murray: So...

Oates: No, no, no, no.

Althaus: No, I, yes, yes, yes.

Oates: No.

Althaus: Hang on a minute Robin. Lynn, explain, why don't you explain to Robin the, what is the circumstances why you don't want to accept deposits anymore from Community Action.

Webb: And again, it all stemmed from the meeting we had and I said, we, I don't want to take on, that was, it all started off this \$1,400.00 bill, again where we are resourced out, and you can talk statistic, and it's about not caring, and you can say I don't care, and that's how you feel.

Oates: I didn't say that. I said you're not looking out for your entire community.

Webb: Oh, I look out for them.

Oates: No, you just, Lynn, you just said you made the choice.

Althaus: Robin, we need to address the issue.

Webb: Three taxpayers for every ten. Thirty percent of our citizens pay all the bills in this community. That's where we are, okay. Who's going to pay all those bills on these delinquents? So, I just made the call. Can we change it? Absolutely. Is there other ways I think people can come and get money to put a deposit? Or is Community Action the only one?

Oates: Yes. And then I would say to you...

Webb: The veterans offer that, don't they?

Oates: For veterans only.

Webb: Okay.

Oates: So, again I think if you use the resources that you have in Hardin County or in Kenton specifically, you might not have been as quick because this effects deposits. It's not about paying your bill; this is a deposit to get water turned on.

Jones: But then what if they don't pay their bill?

Oates: What if you don't pay your bill?

Jones: I pay my bill.

Oates: I do too. That \$250.00 that if you pay the deposit; next month your bill is \$98.00, you don't pay it, you move out. That \$250.00, that \$98.00 is going to come out of it. No one is so naive that we don't understand how it works. I've only lived in this town less than twenty years. I know the resources here. You all know the resources here, and I feel you took one away without even talking to anybody but CAC, and I talked to CAC too, and it didn't sound like it was a meeting. It sounded like this is what we're going to do, and we don't want to do this anymore. You don't have anything to do with it. You don't have to budget anything. You don't have to oversee anything. You're telling CAC how they can spend their money and...

Webb: I think it's a bigger process at the Water Department.

Oates: It's a bigger process what?

Murray: At the Water Department; when CAC has to call, they have to confirm how much people owe, then they have to send all that and then we have to keep track of who we're waiting on checks on.

Oates: I worked for Love in the Name of Christ, and it was not that easy. Your Water Department was more than willing to work with people. You call them up, hey I'm going to be helping

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 66865K

Held

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Robin Jones today, can you tell me what her, she's saying she owes \$98.00, can you confirm that? Sure, and then we call Community Action and then Community Action takes care of it. Through Love in the Name of Christ there's not all that rigamarole, but we're going outside of what this conversation is which is the deposits, and the deposits are not affected by someone's bill. They're trying to establish service.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

Althausser: Thank you, Robin. Okay, who else would like to address council this evening? Alright, then we will move on to comments from the news media?

Brennen Byrne: Well, I guess I'll just say this is Shane, he's with us now. Might be is some of these meetings.

Althausser: Nice to meet you, Shane.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Althausser: We'll start with Sue.

Buroker: I don't have anything to add.

Beazley: Nothing to add.

Davis: I have nothing to add.

Althausser: Anda?

Tudor: I would say that we had a really good event having the Art in the Alley for our community and that went very well, and you know it could encourage other people to do the kind of art thing for us and draw people in.

Althausser: Robin? John, anything to add? Chief Musser? Chief Donnelly, anything else to add? Brian?

Hattery: Nothing.

Althausser: Cindy?

Murray: Nope.

Althausser: Lynn?

Webb: No.

Althausser: Okay well, I want to say I really appreciate both of you coming this evening. After all, this is about the only opportunity to address, publicly, everyone at one place. I know council members, I know these seven folks, and myself, we will look into these as well and we have a very good dialog with the administration. No a one person feel intimidated, and feels like they can't discuss with Lynn and/or Cindy because they are very conscientious of what may be. We appreciate you bringing more information for both these topics. Anything else for the good of the order? Okay, our next regular meeting is May 22nd at 7pm, and until then, we're adjourned.

Joel Althausser, President of Council

Emma Boutwell, Clerk