

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Lillenthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 68865K

Held

June 24, 2024

20

## **12<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION:**

Kenton City Council met in their 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Session on June 24, 2024, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers. Present: President, Joel Althaus, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Steve Walter, Chad Miller, Pegg Wren, Anda Tudor, Robin Jones, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.

Prayer given by Mr. Althaus:

Gracious and loving creator, tonight we gather, grateful for the opportunity to serve our community. We acknowledge Your presence among us, guiding our hearts and minds as we make decisions that impact the lives of those who live, work and visit the City of Kenton. Grant us wisdom to recognize what is right and just for our city. Give us courage to speak and act with integrity, always mindful of the needs of our citizens, especially those most vulnerable among us. May we approach each issue with compassion and understanding, seeking common ground and unity in our diversity. Help us to listen attentively to one another, respecting differing viewpoints and working together towards the common good. Bless our discussion this evening that they may be filled with clarity and purpose and may our decisions be guided by Your wisdom and inspired by Your love for all people. We lift up to You, Oh Lord, our city, it's leaders, and it's residents. Grant us Your Peace that we may be instruments of your justice and agents of Your healing in our community. In Your holy and precious name we pray, AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

## **MINUTES:**

Althaus: Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes as they were provided in your packets? Seeing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

## **CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:**

Althaus: we don't have anyone on the agenda tonight. I see quite a few faces out there though. So, if you would like to speak to council and to the administration there will be time toward the end of the meeting and we've titled that comments from the public. So, we'll ask for any comments at that time. Yes sir, Dave?

Beazley: Are you going to conduct the public hearing?

Althaus: Oh my gosh, thank you.

Beazley: You're welcome.

Althaus: We blew right through that.

Beazley: You did.

Althaus: So, we will pause and open the floor for a public hearing with regards to...

Beazley: Wildcat Way.

Althaus: Yeah, right. We will open the floor to any comments regarding the change of name from Silver Street to State Route 53, no, from the stop sign just before the elementary school all the way...

Beazley: To Morningside Drive.

Althaus: To Morningside Drive.

Murray: At the stop sign, is there anybody that faces Silver Street? So, it's just from the 600 block...

Althaus: Oh, it isn't the stop sign. There's not a stop sign there.

Murray: The 600, so once you go around the curve. So, it's from the curve...

Schwemer: As soon as it starts curving to the south easterly direction.

Althaus: As soon as it starts curving yes, to the south easterly direction all the way to Morningside Drive, the proposal is to change the name to Wildcat Way. Any comments from the public?

Joe Lawarre: They're going to change Morningside Drive to Wildcat Way?

Althaus: I'd like you to please come up to the podium, if you would. Now to clarify, it's Silver Street from the portion where it starts to curve toward the southeast to where it meets Morningside Drive.

Beazley: In front of the school.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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20

Lawarre: So, they're going to change it from 53 all the way clear around to...  
 Council: No.  
 Althausen: Where Silver Street starts to curve in front of, almost in front of the Elementary school...  
 Beazley: Into the residential all the way through the...  
 Althausen: Towards the southeast, from there to Morningside Drive.  
 Lawarre: So, you're going to have street in the middle of two streets. I deliver things for a living. Do you know what a nightmare that's going to be for any logistics people?  
 Althausen: Right now, yeah, by the way please give names, where...  
 Lawarre: My name is Joe Lawarre. I live on 506 East Ohio.  
 Althausen: Thank you.  
 Lawarre: I'm a commercial driver for twenty-nine years.  
 Althausen: Right now the...  
 Lawarre: That will be the biggest nightmare for people trying to locate or find anything that's not from here. You've got a road that wraps around there, basically. It all ought to be the same name.  
 Althausen: Just to clarify the only addressed on that sections are Kenton City Schools.  
 Lawarre: Right now.  
 Althausen: And Kenton City Schools would control...  
 Lawarre: They don't own both properties in the field behind Kmart and all that.  
 Schwemer: That's on Morningside Drive.  
 Althausen: It goes to Morningside Drive and stops. Morningside Drive...  
 Lawarre: It stops at the curve?  
 Michelle Laubis: Can we get a picture? Do you guys have anything that we can actually visually see?  
 Schwemer: Let me pull it up here. Yeah, just give me a minute.  
 Lawarre: So basically, you're going to have two blocks, roughly.  
 Althausen: Yeah, we'll try to get, I'll tell you what...  
 Lawarre: From about where the new start at the end of Silver Street to the curve?  
 Beazley: Correct.  
 Althausen: Yeah.  
 Buroker: It just runs in front of the school.  
 Lawarre: Yeah, alright. That's, I guess I was under the assumption it was a whole lot more than that.  
 Althausen: No, and we have a lot of questions here. Joe, if you wouldn't mind, if you would take a seat.  
 Lawarre: We're going to go back into Regular Session and Emma is going to try to get this us on the monitor, unless you can do it pretty quick. We're going to try to get it up on the monitor. If there's that many questions.  
 Laubis: Do you have a paper for a hearing?  
 Althausen: We're going to try to get it up on the monitor.  
 Laubis: Or a sign in?  
 Murray: It was a permit. Do we have a copy of the permit that was submitted? Is that over in your office?  
 Clerk: Somewhere, yes.  
 Murray: Yes so there was a permit that was submitted by the...they were just trying to commit some community pride in the schools. So, it's just the two schools, just in front of the two schools right there.  
 Beazley: It's Colt's fault.  
 Murray: If somebody builds a house along there, they will live on Wildcat Way.  
 Beazley: And then put a sign in front of there that says proud to be a wildcat.  
 Althausen: Okay, let's hang on. This is a public hearing so if we're going to have discussion it's going to be over the mic okay? Right now, I'd like a pause until we can get the information the two of you have requested so we can get it in front of you. There it is.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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20

Schwemer: So, I'm going to bring the arrow, if you can see the little arrow going across the school. So, this is the new elementary school.

Miller: Can you zoom in a little John?

Schwemer: What's that?

Miller: Can you zoom in any?

Schwemer: I can try a little bit but I'm going to lose part of the street if I get much...see where we're losing part of it? So, the homes are right here, okay. We're going to start, the Silver Street would be names Wildcat Way from this area on down. So again, no effected residences because this is owned by school. This is owned by school. So it goes along this route, all the way down Silver Street, of course the new middle school and highschool is going right here, all the way to Morningside Drive here. So, it's this area all the way to right here. So, there will be no residents that have an address change. The only address change would be the school and of course this school would get the new address or, you know as Cindy would designate at Wildcat Way. There's no homes or anything on this area, and if they were to later develop, then they would get the address on Wildcat Way also.

Althausen: And John, if you could, each of those properties, so Osborn's own the start at the west.

Schwemer: This one.

Althausen: That one. They own the next one too, right?

Schwemer: And then the school owns everything...

Althausen: Have we received anything from Osborn's having any concerns over this? To my knowledge, no nothing at all, and then the school own the rest of it to the stop sign, right?

Schwemer: Right, both sides of the..

Althausen: Both sides, so the school is going to control who, possibly ever buy any of that, other than their use of it right now.

Beazley: And the school deliveries are coming from the North off of the county road. So, that's their delivery address anyways. That doesn't change.

Althausen: So Joe do you have any more comments that you would like to make? If you do, please come on up.

Lawarre No, I mean...

Althausen: If you're going to comment please come up to the microphone. I'm sorry, it's just...

Schwemer: We take verbatim minutes. You know, especially for these hearings.

Althausen: We take minutes word for word. Anyone else?

Laubis: I don't know how hearing work necessarily on City side but are we...do you need to have sign in for a hearing?

Althausen: No.

Laubis: For who comes to the hearing?

Althausen: No.

Schwemer: No, but that's why we want to know who is speaking.

Laubis: Oh, Michelle Laubis, do I need to do my address?

Althausen: No.

Laubis: Oh, Michelle Laubis. So, really you're looking at just changing the address for the schools? So, the schools have Wildcat Way as part of their address?

Althausen: Well, if we're going to say it correctly, we're looking to change the street name, not the address.

Schwemer: And that's at the request of the school.

Althausen: And that's at, yes. At the request...

Laubis: But if you change a street name it changes their address.

Althausen: Correct, but we're not changing their address. We're responding to their request to change the street name to Wildcat Way.

Laubis: Is that significant in the way it's worded? I guess it doesn't matter. I understand. You're changing the street name so that their address changes so that it's more school pride oriented.

Althausen: I mean I don't know that we necessarily can speak to the reasoning. I think it's obvious, but I mean, I don't know that we're....

Beazley: It wasn't our request.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 66665K

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June 24, 2024

20

Althausen: Yeah, that isn't part of our request to speak to.

Beazley: It's their request.

Laubis: I see.

Beazley: The schools petitioned council to rename it.

Laubis: Okay. That's fine.

Schwemer: Yeah and it says to build pride amongst the community is you know, their statement.

Laubis: I just thought, I thought this was a different hearing that was going to happen today and so, I don't know. Maybe I missed the memo of which kind of hearing it was, or...

Murray: That comes up here later on. It's to set a date down here.

Althausen: Yeah, we don't have any other hearings.

Laubis: Well I know but the hearing for today, I guess I didn't...

Althausen: We announced it at the last meeting.

Laubis: Okay.

Althausen: And Emma and I were not on the same page. Normally we put something right at the top and I should've done that.

Laubis: Oh, okay. Yeah, I was just a little taken back by a switcheroo and didn't know what was going on, but I think it's all good.

Althausen: We've had hearings at the beginning of council many times. That has been our practice the last several years.

Laubis: I think that's great. I think it's great. I just was a little taken back that it seemed all very, I didn't know. It's fine. It's fine. Everything is good. I understand what's going on.

Buroker: I just wondered if I could make a comment.

Althausen: Sure. It's not an uncommon practice if you go over to Wapakoneta, they have named their street Redskin Way and there's several other schools that when they utilize a whole large area they will ask the city to name that road might have had another name and from this point to this point in front of the school property it becomes a different name.

Beazley: We did that with R.E. Allen and Joan Allen Parkways in front of the existing high school.

Althausen: Except that was not a street, a name change.

Beazley: That was a designation.

Althausen: Same as Clay Finn Parkway. That's a designation but it's not...

Buroker: Some areas have actually changed the name.

Beazley: But it did have action by council to do so.

Althausen: Oh did it really?

Beazley: Yes, it did.

Althausen: To my knowledge though it didn't change their address.

Beazley: It did not change their address.

Schwemer: And I guess one thing to always consider when we're doing a name change is well, who named the street? Who dedicated it? Because they may have a reason of why. They created the subdivision. They did this but the person that created Silver Street, initially, the original Silver Street, we're not effecting that area. The group that dedicated Silent Street, as well as Morningside Drive was the school. They're the one that put in the road. So, and they are the ones that's requesting it, so.

Althausen: The part that we're talking about

Schwemer: The part that we're talking about. So, what I'm saying is we don't have a subdivider from back in the years that had some, a reason o name it this and all the sunned we're changing it contrary to the developer's intent. Here the developer was the school because they put the road in. So, and it was just a continuation of Silver.

Althausen: and I'd have to go back and look John, when that dedication was completed is that when that section or that new street became named Silver? Was that a part of that legislation?

Schwemer: It was. It was part of the plat that they put in. It was done in fourteen, October 23<sup>rd</sup> of fourteen is when that was...

Althausen: But I can tell you from, I remember when that came through, I don't know that anyone, I don't think there was a lot of thought put to it. It was just simply; we're going to call it Silver Street for the continuation of the street that it butted into. That's all. Anything else? Anything you'd like to say on behalf of the school Kolt?

Held

June 24, 2024

20

Kolt Buckenroth: Thank you.

Althaus: Comments from council? What do you want our next step to be?

Schwemer: Well, my plan would be since we've had a public hearing I would draw legislation up to have that at the next council meeting, and then council can so do, you know, I do not plan on having emergency language in this ordinance because I don't feel, the school is not going to be up by then, the new school. So, I would plan on drawing just a regular ordinance and having that run through.

Althaus: Read three times.

Schwemer: And then council will have to decide on a vote after reads, if they want to pass this or not. But, that's the process that get it, it's not be drawing this up isn't the decision we're going ahead with. I'm putting it to a vote through legislation. So, they're still time for people to communicate to council, even though we're going to wrap up this hearing the decision is not made if anyone can come up with a good reason of why this shouldn't happen, please submit it to Emma or City Council, and we can review as part of the upcoming meetings, okay.

Althaus: And every, both Joe, your comments, and Michelle, your comments, obviously are included in the minutes tonight from this meeting. Are there any objections to having John go ahead with the legislation and having it ready for a first reading at our meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>? Hearing no objections, then we'll go forward with that. It'll be like any other piece of legislation unless council were to decide to suspend the rules. It will be read three times and as Schwemer said, he will not be adding emergency language which means simply upon passage by council and signed by the mayor it would still have 30 days before it went into place. Now, once the mayor signs it though, during that 30 days isn't like we can just say oh no, we decided not to do that. Council would have to rescind it. So, there will be at least six-weeks where you folks would have time to talk to council members. Alright, thank you David for catching that. We'll go back in to our regular session then, and approved the minutes.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

#### **PETITIONS:**

Althaus: We'll have a discussion in new business regarding a public hearing that needs to come up but it's not really related to a petition from the city. So, I know of no petitions outstanding at this time.

#### **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:**

Althaus: Police Chief, Chief Musser?

Musser: I don't have anything tonight, thank you.

Althaus: Chief Donnelly, Fire?

Donnelly: nothing at this time.

Althaus: I don't think Tim is here.

Murray: I'll get it when it's my turn.

Althaus: Economic Development, probably nothing. Income Tax, you do have a report in your packet. The monthly tax revenue report through the end of May, it appears. Any questions on that? Okay, moving on to Auditor. Darrell, anything you want to report on? Okay, Treasurer is not here. John, Law Director? Cindy?

Murray: Okay, just to give you a little bit of an update on the project out here, they're starting to make the taps into the waterline taps that go into the buildings. They won't be active yet, but that should take them a couple weeks. So, moving along good and not having any real big issues. I also want to say that our trash rates go up here July 1<sup>st</sup>. You will not see them until your September bill. This is the last year for the contract so it's an increase on the senior citizens of \$0.48 and on the standard rate of \$0.62. So, we decided, the utility group decided to leave them as what was voted on last year due to the fact that we don't know what the next contract will look like, and we will have to pay for two months off of the money that we collect now, when we get to the new contract because we bill for two months in the rears, so. That's all I have.

Schwemer: Just for the public so they understand, this rate is the rate increase we agreed from day one with Republic. So, if we don't do this we're going behind because we still owe republic that



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20

amount. So, this isn't a new increase that we've decided. This was from the time we signed the contract, these are the rates we've been looking at. So, we've known this all along. The original ordinance had this amount in there. So, it's nothing new. There should be no surprises here.

Althausen: Okay, Mayor Webb?

Webb: Nothing.

## REPORTS & SCHEDULING OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althausen: Finance have a report?

Beazley: Finance did meet this evening. We discussed a few items and we are preparing to meet again the second meeting of July in advance of the budgeting season. You'll be into August after that, my friend.

Althausen: So, that should be what, July 24<sup>th</sup>?

Beazley: 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Althausen: 22<sup>nd</sup>. MOP have any report?

Wren: No. MOP has not met.

Althausen: Public Utilities? You see a Public Utilities meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:30. Any report? Streets, Alleys, and Sidewalks?

Tudor: Next week.

Jones: This week.

Tudor: This week, I'm sorry.

Beazley: Wednesday.

Althausen: Yeah, Wednesday. And Legislation, Codes, and Regulations also meeting right after that, right?

Jones: Mhm.

Althausen: Okay, anything Regional Planning?

Beazley: No, sir.

Althausen: Park & Rec Board? Robin, anything to talk about with Parks & Rec?

Jones: The last meeting we had we just recognized that last Thursday was the longest day of play. So, we had extended pool hours and the Lions are still working at Pioneer Park. They have a Gaga Pit down there. So, you have to take your own ball. I'm not really sure how it all, it's like dodgeball. So, they were trying to like get that off the ground, and we've had a pretty successful tennis camp the month of June, and I think that's about it, honestly. Different things, Elizabeth is doing a really good job. She updates every week what is going on at the pool, if they have a swim meet, if they close early. Wednesday night is high school event from 7-9 so it's \$2 admission and they have a disc jockey and pizza. So we've been really good to get sponsors for those things. So, the pool looks good. Enjoy the pool. It's really nice this summer. So, we do have community involvement with that, and that's it. Thanks.

Althausen: Okay, thanks Robin. Grove Cemetery, Steve?

Walter: Nothing new, our next meeting is next Tuesday.

Althausen: Let's see, they got all the jobs filled they need?

Walter: They had quite a few seasonal; help out there he said, yes. He didn't say they're all fill but he said they had a lot, so.

Althausen: Tree Commission, anything?

Buroker: They did meet on the 13<sup>th</sup> and they're still in discussion of trees that need to be removed and trimmed.

Althausen: And I have nothing to report, nothing new on BKP.

## OLD BUSINESS:

None.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Althausen: We do need to set a date for a public hearing and in your packet there is some information on that. It is a public hearing regarding the rezoning of three parcel numbers that are owned by the county. The request is to rezone from R1 (one & two family residential) to M2 (general

Held

June 24, 2024

20

manufacturing). We need to make that announcement publicly and there had to be at least thirty days until that hearing. So, that puts it past the July meetings so the first eligible meeting if we wanted to have it on the same night as a council meeting would be August 12<sup>th</sup>, one suggestion there were some concerns that were expressed at the meeting. I don't know John, do you want to touch on that at all?

Schwemer: Sure, and yeah there were a couple property owners that had concerns, as well as a couple of people from the public that had concerns about the petition and objecting to the petition. Emma, do you have a ballpark of like a week or two, when do you think you'll have the minutes.

Clerk: I'll have them done by Wednesday.

Schwemer: Okay because we would like to have that available for council, as well as any of the public to review those minutes so you can read through the concerns, and I would expect one or all of those people to come to the public hearing to reiterate those but I still, once those are available we'll have Emma send those to council so you guys can look at that, but yeah it was just objection from a couple on the neighboring property owners that, they didn't think this was a good place to be rezoning that. That's the nuts and bolts but I don't want to get into all the details but you can read through that and you know, I was at the hearing. So, if you guys have any questions let me know but obviously we would have the public hearing, you know, on the date Joel sets.

Althaus: Now did they, what did the..

Schwemer: The Planning Commission made the recommendation to rezone to M2.

Althaus: They did, okay. Which, we'll have that information also but just wanted to know that. So, that would be one suggestions to have. I would say 6 o'clock, like a Finance Committee meeting ahead of a council meeting to give enough folks time to speak. Now, with regards to that though, it's not like we're going to let people talk for twenty minutes. There's only so much they can say, each person. I mean there's only so much data there that can be reviewed. We'll make certain everybody has the minutes. Emma is doing the minutes from the Planning Commission verbatim. So, you will have a hard PDF copy of exactly what was said and so that's a suggestions but it's up to council. You can set that whenever you'd like, after thirty days. August 12<sup>th</sup> would be our meeting night. Suggestion would be 6 o'clock.

**Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Ms. Jones to hold a public hearing regarding the rezoning request by the Hardin County Commissioners to rezone 3 parcels from R1 to M2. Meeting will be held in council Chambers at 6pm, Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Althaus: Any discussion?

**(Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried.)**

#### **ORDINANCES /RESOLUTIONS:**

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

- **ORDINANCE NO. 24-013, TITLE ONLY;** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: Anything on this from the administration that we need to talk about?

Murray: I don't know if anybody has any questions for us or not?

Beazley: I do, only because it contains emergency language, is there any timing issues on going three reads, to your knowledge? Okay, that gives the public sufficient time to respond.

Althaus: So, this is the, my preference, I was hoping we would not...

Beazley: Oh yeah, I just wanted to make sure there was no reason to do so.

Althaus: Everything that's been told to me, there's not, right? Yeah. So, this would be, as you saw, it's called preliminary participation legislation for the Hardin US 68/31 roundabout. At this point in time, you can see in the legislation, we're not committing to specific dollar amounts, but we would be committing to funding the project, and they acknowledge the funds that have been earmarked, designated, toward this project from outside of the city and they even go as far as to say that our say would be approximately \$410,000.00. So, we will consider this the first reading, any comments or discussions? I know that was publicized social media wise, several days ago, and if there are any comments, I would even say that anyone, for a limited amount of time, if anyone wants to comment on it tonight you can do so during Public Participation that would be very welcomed and appropriate.

Miller: So, we intend on reading this three times, is that our?

Althaus: That's really up to the seven of you.

Beazley: There's no reason not to.

Held

June 24, 2024

20

Althaus: The email that I sent out...

Miller: There's no reason not to, but there was a public hearing on it in November that people were able to attend. We've had presentations up here by the administration that people did not attend. I mean, we've all probably seen opinions on it. As far as concrete reason why not to enter into this, I just don't, I don't see the value in reading it three times if it's being paid for, which is what we're giving our tax dollars back to our community. We've addressed any kind of concerns that's been brought up. Friday I went up to North Baltimore and watched their roundabout with the CSX is up there with their rail lot. UPS is up there. They're pulling doubles through that. No issues. It's plenty wide enough. It's a three in, three out. It's very fluid, I mean for my lifetime in town I've heard nothing about we drag our feet on doing something about the truck traffic. So, we have the opportunity for something that is funded by federal and state government. It's not out of our local tax dollars, other than \$400,000.00 and it takes the turning off of the square. It puts stuff up through Detroit. I just don't see the value in dragging this out for six weeks.

**Motion by Mr. Miller 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.**

Althaus: There is no discussion in suspension of the rules because they're nothing to discuss. You're either suspending the rules, or you're not. So, just keep in mind you're not voting on the Ordinance. You're voting on whether you're suspending the rules or not, and I'm taking the liberty here, and council if you want to stop me then stop me but, I would also remind everyone it's been stated there is no urgency from ODOT or anyone providing funding that we are aware of to not follow the Ohio Revised Code and read it three times.

Beazley: And it does not change the timing of the project in any way shape or form.

Althaus: It does not change the timing of the project.

Miller: I understand that but in making the motion, I just feel like it, as council, we're putting it out there that we're either supporting this, or we're not and we're enthusiastic about having the opportunity to change. You hear about the truck, the lighting, the traffic lights, that's going to be part of it that the new lights will monitor traffic flow and keep traffic flowing. I just don't see the value in reading this three times and dragging it out for six weeks when it's been in the public limelight for better than six months now.

**(Roll call vote, 2 ayes, 5 nays, motion defeated.)**

Althaus: That will stand as being read one time.

Beazley: Mr. President, may we comment at this point?

Althaus: Yea, council can.

Beazley: I understand what Chad is saying but I also do not want to give any less time for our citizens to respond which is why I voted the way I did in this case because this has been a hot button issue for some people and I do not want to strip them of any ability to address council by reducing the number of weeks this is available for them to comment.

Miller: That wasn't my intend. I appreciate that. I really value the public's opinion. My motion was based on that there has been six month to have that opinion and there's been fifteen council meetings since the November public hearing, and I've yet to hear anybody step forward and come up with a valid reason not to do it. I've heard opinions, but I've not heard valid reasons on not doing it.

Thad Gardner: Are you ready for one?

Miller: I am sir, I am.

Althaus: Whoa, we're going to get to public comments.

Gardner: I withdraw my statement, I'm sorry.

Althaus: We'll get to public comment in a moment folks.

Miller: But I am.

Althaus: So, Chad, it's fine. Appreciate everything you said there and I guess I really appreciate that you did exercise the proper way of addressing that and we did that and I thank every council member for voting how they feel and we've handle that part. So, any other comments from council or administrations regarding that first reading? Okay so, that will be entered as being read the one time.

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

None.

**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

None.



## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

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

Held

June 24, 2024

20

**OTHER MATTERS:**

None.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Michelle Laubis: I just had a quick questions and maybe you already discussed it. I missed it. The last I knew it was \$600,000.00 approximately and now it's down to \$410,000.00. I just wondered if there was, I just was questioning where that came down. That was all I had. Maybe I was wrong.

Murray: the \$600,000.00 includes the design portion of it. The \$410,000.00 is construction only.

Laubis: Okay.

Althausen: and we do want to make something very clear here. This comes from experience that we've all had, especially administration. These numbers are very preliminary still.

Beazley: Fluid.

Althausen: They're very preliminary. That's just the way a project like that works. It is an estimate and it is a rough estimate. ODOT folks wouldn't agree with me that it's a rough estimate, but it's a rough estimate. Number one, they're dealing with things that are two years out. They were talking about spring of twenty-six. So, next.

Joe Lawarre: Actually, I've got a couple issues; the one seems to be the building construction methods going on in the neighborhoods. Due to recent storm events down at Indian Lake everybody can see that construction types matter. Stuff built with metal siding just blows away, barns, it just blows away. I think it's long overdue that council put some building standards in this city about what is allowed in a residential area. Of course, Ohio Street is looking like a pole barn city because yet another one is going up. Since I have lived down there almost twenty years there has been one, two, three, four, four or five of them and there's another one going up. I guess this one is a barndominium going up. Pole barn, certainly suitable for agricultural. I have no issues out in the country. I work for a farmer but once again, barns are good to last what, forty years, fifty years until the rot off in the ground then you've got a dump because it's falling in, or you've got major structural issues, unlike my house that was started in 1860 and it was slowly added on, added on, added on and I'm sure Mrs. Buroker's is the same way. It was old. These houses they're putting up and these barns are never going to stand the test of time. It makes our property go down in the neck of the woods. I'm not asking to be Dublin, Delaware, I'm just asking for, you go down to Indian Lake and look. Everybody has been down there and saw the dramatic impact of the storm. The blue house on the stilts down by Indian Head withstand that tornado. Someone ought to look at how it was built. Maybe we need to put in some considerations for. I don't know. Just a little oversight because you can do anything you want to your house in this community and there's no oversight, nothing, no electrician, no codes, nothing. Someone might drive by and look to make sure you're within your property, I guess but the amount of taxes I'm paying in this community is equal to Findlay, Bellefontaine, Lima. I think it's time the city actually make the residents come up to the level it needs to be because they sure are making the business community do it as example, the Dairy Queen. Mr. Conkle's down here is going to be put through the ringer bringing his building back to standard that he can operate in, and enough on that. Now, the roundabout ordeal and...

Althausen: Can I ask a questions please?

Lawarre: Yes.

Althausen: You mentioned the Dairy Queen, like they were put through the ringer. Do you want to elaborate on that a little bit.

Lawarre: It took two years to get the building back to operating?

Althausen: And do you have information as to the cause of that?

Lawarre: I was told it was a fight over the insurance wanting them to, the health department said the codes had to come up but the man wasn't doing a renovation. He was just wanting to put back his building like it was.

Althausen: I guess my point there was I don't think it was anything in city regulations that...

Lawarre: No.

Beazley: It was not zoning. It was Health Department.

Lawarre: Yes. The city doesn't do that but the other, if they're made to go through that we could do a little bit to make our neighborhoods better.

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Minutes of

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June 24, 2024

20

Althausen: Yes.

Lawarre: The type of quality and material that we let in our neighborhoods. I want my property value to increase and it has over the years, but...

Althausen: Would you have some suggestions that you might jot down sometime on what you think those would include as far as in the residential areas?

Lawarre: You see livestock living in it out in the country. Should you really allow it in town?

Althausen: But would you be interested in providing some of this...

Lawarre: I've talked to Mr. Beazley about it a number of years ago and he said our hands was tied, but you couldn't tell someone what they could build their house out of, or their garages. I mean, I feel differently.

Althausen: Joe, what I'm looking for though is...

Lawarre: Oh I'll help.

Althausen: Okay.

Lawarre: Just ask. I'll..

Althausen: I am.

Lawarre: And, and I'll...

Althausen: Okay so, if you might want to take a little time and jot down what you think some of those ordinances should include.

Lawarre: Oh yeah, you're probably going to want some more information when I get done here.

Althausen: Okay.

Lawarre: The next thing is the big gray ape in the town is the trucks, and I spoke with the mayor when the proposal came out about the roundabout. Yes, I have been through the North Baltimore pulling a fifty-three-foot trailer, doubles are the easiest thing to get around and community with a set trailer. That is the worst thing to, you're, if you want to judge something on getting around in a neighborhood you want to look at a long nosed Peterbuilt with a fifty-three foot trailer, or better yet, let's put it even in a bigger perspective, propeller coming through town. Everybody knows the propellers come right down 68 when they was going out here to over sites.

Thad Gardner: Wind Turbine Rotor Blade?

Lawarre: Yes.

Gardner: Gotcha.

Lawarre: I don't know. I have not seen size or dimensions but I know where they're talking about wanting to put the roundabout. Put this in perspective, North Baltimore is one of the largest roundabouts I've even been around, and I've driven three million miles. I don't know what size they're putting. The ones going to Lima are awful. I aim the cab to the roundabout. Trailer runs over everything. It just, it's the way it is.

Miller: I felt like the one in North Baltimore, not to interject you, I apologize, I felt like the one in North Baltimore had a wide footprint.

Lawarre: Yes.

Miller: A wider footprint, as far as for trucks like...

Lawarre: Yes.

Miller: The center was smaller as opposed to 309's that has the larger center cap, so to speak.

Lawarre: Well, it was probably someone that knew about trucking helped design it.

Miller: Right, right and...

Lawarre: Cause the railhead is why that was put in.

Miller: Right, and UPS is up there.

Lawarre: UPS pulls pumps and them will go around...

Miller: well, they do fifty-threes as well but yeah.

Lawarre: The one up on 224 between 23 and Tiffin is a large one, as well as the one down in 47 and 235. I'm not a fan of them. I think they're the most stupidest things ever come up with, as bad as a diamond intersection at the crossover is what they're going to do at the 161 exit up in Findlay, but traffic flow, residential I have no problem with them. So, I get it. They're a big thing over in Europe. I don't know what the fascination is with them, but as for the modern trucking world, no. It will slow traffic down coming around that because you go around it ten mile an hour, fifteen mile an hour and you can see on a Friday night trucks will like up clear up 68 here now because you're dumping at the traffic to

Held

June 24, 2024

20

one side. So, you've almost in return created your roundabout set up of what that volume of traffic is going to be on 38. Now, here's the million-dollar question is what happens when that needs maintenance? Where's the traffic going to go? I don't know, I mean I'm not a civil engineer but there is a couple other way, and no I cannot make the meeting of the state because I was probably in Mississippi when it was going on. Just the life of a truck driver and I was told, I know Mr. Jack Rensing and I guess somebody asked the State of Ohio person have you ever ridden in a truck and they said no, the computer told us that it will work. I don't know. Computers don't drive trucks. Now, to the trucks not following the road closed signs, that's because they're not blocked. You need to get the road closed signs in the middle of the damn intersections where they can't make the swing to turn on to the streets they shouldn't be. Almost make them have to go around. I noticed at one point we had a cruise sitting down at Jump'n Jims, they was leaving a, I don't know, one of the police cars was left sitting down there. Stuff like that, I do think helps because people see it and they don't know if a cop is sitting in it or not so they was turning. Going fairground, but by the time they hit the second round about they're turning on Ohio Street. I personally received a citation for being on Ohio Street. This has been fifteen years ago because I pulled across there, stopped there, I pulled off the side where the old welfare building used to be, it's gone. It was all busted up concrete and walked to Wendy's, I come back, officer was there giving me a citation for being off the State Route. I seem to think them rules is evidently flew out the window or they don't enforce no one or at least give these guys warnings and say next time we'll nail ya. I don't know what the solution is but they're supposed to be able to read English to drive truck. I don't know why they can't follow a big, closed signs, and part of it I do think is when they change the signs from one side to the other, the Franklin to Columbus, they go back and forth with working on it then they flip it back. The signage don't get flipped. Some of it does, some of it doesn't. Like when you're coming down Detroit, that left hand turn they all like to make on Carrol, why don't they have that whole left-hand lane just completely blocked off where you can't even get in it to make the left? I don't, I don't know. That would stop a lot of the trucks from ending up over in front of the churches.

Althausen: Joe, if you could, could you get to your final points?

Lawarre: But, I said I'm gone a lot of the time so I was, I don't get to all of these but that's really the, I guess most of it. If anybody has any questions about any of the commercial side, I'm more than happy to help but I just got to be asked. I don't have time to come to the meetings like a normal citizen would, so, but alright.

Jones: Thank you.

Miller: thank you, Joe.

Althausen: Thank you for all your comments, Joe, appreciate it. We'll reach out to you on the residential side of things.

Lawarre: Oh yeah, I'll fill out some stuff and get it to you.

Althausen: Would anyone else like to address council? I should at least introduce the young man.

Beazley: Please.

Althausen: We have a scout with us tonight. Would you like to come up and introduce yourself and maybe tell us why you're here? Tell us your name and why you came to the City Council meeting.

Frederick Spiese: I'm Frederick Spiese, and I'm here to do Citizenship in the Nation merit badge.

Beazley: Excellent.

Althausen: Great.

Beazley: Welcome.

Althausen: Go ahead, David.

Beazley: All I said was welcome.

Althausen: What troop? I didn't see your...

Spiese: Uh troop 318 of Arlington.

Althausen: Okay, well welcome. As David said we really appreciate you being here and I hope you gained a little bit of knowledge and thanks for coming.  
(applause)

Althausen: Does anyone else want to address council this evening? Just want to make a couple comments regarding comments from the public, comments from council, every, anyone and everyone. As those who have been here several years that I've been council president, I'm pretty liberal with that. I mean, maybe Michelle, you would disagree with me but I'm pretty liberal with letting people speak, and

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20

want to continue to do so. As we get into some topics that I think we're going to have a lot of people want to speak there will probably come a time where I may tend to try to say, let's get to our point because I want other people to have time to speak as well. This council has not set any requirements, as far as limits to speaking time. I'm certain I could ask Kolt, I know Kenton Board of education has specific requirement as to the number of minute that you can speak. We have not done that, and my opinion is, we have no intention of doing that unless we need to. So Joe, I hated to urge you along but I didn't know if other people did want to speak, so and at least right now, with council as well we'll try to give everybody a chance to talk but we also can't be here until 11 o'clock at night either.

## COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

None.

## COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Althausen: We'll go back through the administration, Darrell anything you want to add after tonight, so far?

Alexander: Not so far, no.

Althausen: Musser?

Musser: No, thank you.

Althausen: Chief Donnelly? Kolt, thank you for being here tonight. I appreciate that. Cindy, anything you want to add? Alright then, we'll go around the table here starting with Sue.

Buroker: Just wishing everybody a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Beazley: Mr. President I will be absent from the next council meeting and would ask that you would excuse me for that, and I would also like to say how much I appreciated how our rules worked tonight.

Althausen: Yes. Steve? Chad?

Miller: So, on an unrelated topic, I had taken some stuff out to the transfer station last week and there was a line out there, and you could tell it was just residential people. I'd like to thank the members of the community that are utilizing their vouchers and taking advantage of that clean-up program. Just with the opportunity that brings, you know, summer, don't lose perspective but I'd ask that it kind of be, you know, just people remember it's hot out right now but you've got the whole rest of the year to take stuff out. I appreciate the ones that I've seen out there. I know I seen like May's report there was, it was taken advantage of quite a bit in May, and I would just encourage the public to continue to take advantage of that to clean up, you know, their properties or brush, or whatever and utilize that system.

Althausen: Alright, thanks Chad. Pegg?

Wren: I have nothing.

Althausen: Anda? Robin?

Jones: We have fireworks, fourth of July, we have the parade fourth of July. So, those are things that the community can jump in and support and enjoy. We've got a great set of young people, great leaders that are working at the pool really hard. So, if you get a chance drive out there and look at the pool and tell them thank you for the job that they do because I know a lot of people thinks that we need longer hours but they have to also understand that these kids are just learning and it's their job and they take their jobs very seriously for safety and they show up to work everyday so, we've got to give them kudos because they might stick around here and be another leader someday. So, I think they do a fine job out there. That's all I have to say.

Althausen: Alright, thanks Robin. John, anything?

Schwemer: Just fourth of July, just a reminder, some communities when they changed law in the State of Ohio said it's alright to use fireworks. We did not. We wanted to continue the prohibition of fireworks in town. So, everyone needs to be aware of that. You're not allowed to have fireworks in town, unless it's a public event of approved. You know, the fireworks at the fairground is, you know separate organization, but you're doing private fireworks you need to be licensed, okay. So, I just wanted to remind everyone about that and I also will not be at the next meeting. If anything comes up Joel, you have my cell phone. I could call in if there's something urgent or you need to speak to me. I'll make sure I'm available during that window if need be.

Held

June 24, 2024

20

Althausen: Okay, thank you. Lynn?

Webb: Just to kind of piggy back off Chad on, you know, if you drive around the town you can get in a rut of looking at the negative and we're really pushing, you know, Cindy has really challenged us all to come in everyday to see the positive and if you drive around you can really see a lot of properties that people are really starting to change, and I think it's catching a little bit of fire. So, on that note I think everybody who is really putting forth the good effort, you know, to clean up their properties and put a good show on. I think pride is coming back and it's only going to get better. Also, just to touch base on the pool because it's kind of a topic that people don't understand, maybe. You know, the reason that we went from 1-6pm was data driven. We try to do everything but what we see and it's not just a knee-jerk, oh we don't want to stay open at night. So, what happens is when we've done data, we have a mass exodus at 5 o'clock. Everybody leaves to go home. Nobody comes back. There's no one there. We send guards home. So, it's not like we can't, again we want to be responsible for taxpayer money and the kids are not to sit seven guards out there or six guard out there and concession and no one comes to the pool. We would keep open, and I know the kids would probably like more money on their paycheck but the issue becomes, no one is there in the evening, and I understand even when we did some, we stayed open late the first night there wasn't hardly any, and on a hot night. There wasn't anybody that, it was a very few people. So, again it's data driven. We try to make those decisions that really impact how we operate. So, I just wanted to clear that up.

Clerk: I just want to welcome Whitney. Everybody who doesn't know Whitney she's our HR and she is my fill-in for when I'm not here and I won't be here either meeting in July. So, be kind to her. She's been trained well.

Althausen: And Whitney, that's a fairly normal occurrence that I fumble the ball really badly so... (laughter) Just a follow up on what Mayor Webb said, we've had a lot, not a lot, but there have been a number of comments about staying open late and not to repeat everything, just, it was data driven and on top of that we all need to remember if you just isolate the pool... First of all, we have a pool that's been run better under this administration than it's been run for years because we have a parks & rec board that cares, we have administration that really has a lot of desire and some key council members, especially Robin that take in interest in it, that want to see that run well. That being said, the pool loses money. I mean, when we struggled with this ten years ago and we were contracting the pool out to the Y, everyone remembers all of that. I remember talking with Findlay, just called up there and talked to them for a while to see what they do and their auditor is like Joel, you've got to get it through your head the pool loses money. You're never going to make money on the pool. It's done as a public service. It's done because it's public health, public entertainment, the whole nine yards, but there's a point and if the data is telling us almost every dollar that we're spending after 5-6 o'clock is going down the drain, that's not very wise use of you all's taxpayer dollars. So, that's where that comes from. Appreciate all the discussion here this evening and to echo what Councilman Beazley said, appreciate the fact that we utilize Robert's rules, we utilize the Ohio Revised Code to look at a piece of legislation and see if we can handle that expeditiously, and council decided not to, which is fine. I just appreciate the fact that we had multiple different votes other than just seven yeses or seven noes, and we'll continue to try to do so. Our next meeting then is July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, of course we announced the Public Hearing August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with regards to the potential change of zoning on the parcels located west of town. I encourage all council members to do more research on that and when Emma gets those minutes typed up, that was what an hour-long meeting?

Clerk: Mhm.

Althausen: So, you'll get those via e-mail unless the email server says the file is too big. Alright, with that then, if there are no objections, we're adjourned.

Joel Althausen, President of Council

Emma Nelson, Clerk