

# City of Willoughby Hills

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## Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation

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### Minutes of November 12, 2024

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The Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation was called to order on November 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. **Council President Kline** presided.

#### **Call to Order 6:00 p.m. (0:08)**

#### **ROLL CALL (Audio: 0:17)**

**Members Present:** Councilman Dan Knecht, Councilwoman Vicki Miller, Councilwoman Kathleen Sivo, Council Vice President Tanya Taylor Draper, and Councilwoman Julie A. Belich, Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz, and Council President Michael Kline

**Also Present:** Mayor Hallum, Finance Director Bruce Scott, and Law Director Michael C. Lucas, City Engineer Pete DiFranco, and Police Chief Naegele

#### **BEGINNING DISPOSITION: (Audio 0:43)**

#### **LEGISLATION:**

#### **ORDINANCE 2024-051-AMENDED-THIRD READING**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, PART FIFTEEN-FIRE PREVENTION CODE, CHAPTER 1511 FIREWORKS, SECTION 1511.99, PENALTY.**

- **Council President Kline:** Chief Police Naegele has joined us this evening. He was the one who wanted changes made to this Ordinance so it will be better able to be enforced the way the City would like it to be. He has been provided the questions that arose a couple meetings back by Council in terms of the purpose of the Ordinance and how this would be enacted.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** I will provide you overview on the Police Department's position on this and if you have any questions you can ask me. For years, the penalty section for this violation basically left our options open for the event that we are going to enforce discharging the possession of fireworks, it was a first degree misdemeanor which is an arrestable offense. There is no citation involved and you are going to jail and are posting a bond. A first-degree misdemeanor is a serious violation. Generally when people are blowing off fireworks, there is a not a criminal element that we are dealing with. You are usually showing up at a Fourth of July picnic and for people that are good law-abiding people 364 days out of the year, you wouldn't necessarily want to put them in handcuffs for blowing off fireworks. Our options were limited in terms of discretion. We can either warn somebody or take them to jail. We took a look at some of the other communities around the area and how they dealt with this issue because

again, it is important to strike a healthy balance between enforcement and mitigating risk to people that are blowing off fireworks and to people that are bystanders. Through our research, we found that many of the local communities have at some point deemed this as a minor misdemeanor and then escalated it there for subsequent offenses. I felt that this was the best option to go based on some discussions I have had with some neighboring Police Chiefs on this matter. It's a lot easier to have a zero tolerance policy when you have some enforcement going on. This is why I think a minor misdemeanor violation is appropriate. We have the ability to both confiscate fireworks that people are discharging while at the same time issue a citation for it much like a citation for disorderly conduct or something similar to that. In the event that we responded to the same residents within the time period that's laid out in the proposed ordinance, this would then escalate to a fourth degree misdemeanor which they can then potentially be arrested by us at that point in time if they are repeat offenders for it. In addition, the court process would go on from there. I think it's fair to say that this would be a best practice that we would be enacting by amending the ordinance here along the lines of the practices of other law enforcement agencies in the county.

- **Councilwoman Miller:** What did it look like this year when somebody called in and there was a major complaint about fireworks going off at somebody else's home.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** Fourth of July, for instance, we had a lot of complaints about fireworks, but again, we are faced with the option of going to a residence where you have an option of either confiscating fireworks and warning somebody or taking them to jail. Law enforcement is afforded a lot of discretion, and this is one of those situations where we should continue to be afforded that discretion situationally. Turning this into a minor misdemeanor doesn't take away any other additional tools that could possibly be in our belt. This doesn't remove from the table that somebody could be arrested for separate criminal activity that's going on at that location, it just provides us more discretion in that area.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** So right now you would respond and tell people there was a complaint and if there was any more fireworks in there you would confiscate them. Is this how it looked this year?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** Like I said, the options would be to warn or take them to jail. This is such a pendulum swing from one side to the other, we don't even handle traffic stops that way. There is usually some gray area that we get the ability to operate in and I think this strikes a healthy balance that affords the ability to enforce the law and also exercise some discretion where it is appropriate.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** Getting the warnings didn't really detour many people from blowing off fireworks correct?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** It is hard to give an accurate answer on this because I don't want to speak for the officers if I wasn't on the scene of the call, every call is different. I think it would have a much greater impact if we had the ability to say next Fourth of July, if we respond to your residents, chances are, if your blowing off fireworks, you are going to get a citation. While I want to strike a healthy balance with discretion, I also empathize with residents that don't want to deal with those unsafe situations on the Fourth of July. If we have the ability to lean more towards the enforcement style of approach, this would not be as over the top and would still be effective for us.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** If someone had an offense one year and offense the next year, would it start over or would it then become a second offense?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** I don't have the legislation in front of me, I believe within 12 months it could be considered a fourth degree misdemeanor. I don't want to speak for the Law Director, but I would

say that this could be situational. If someone were to get a violation, and then another complaint 364 days later, but they are law-abiding citizens, it would be situational and depend on the incident that occurred. We wouldn't be boxed into a corner where they would have to go to jail because it hasn't been an exact year yet. It doesn't take this off the table but we can certainly still cite them for a minor misdemeanor if we so choose to do so.

- **Mayor Hallum:** If a resident had a violation on July 3, and then another one the following year on July 5, would this be starting over?
- **Law Director Lucas:** That is correct.
- **Mayor Hallum:** Perhaps the legislation should say 365 days and a week rather than just 365 days. Also the legislation doesn't say "may" it says "shall." Depending on the misdemeanor, you may not want to go right to the misdemeanor just because it has been a year and they did it again. Is "shall" the right word there or is "may" better to give you more options. Is a fourth degree misdemeanor arrestable?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** A fourth degree misdemeanor is arrestable, but it doesn't give the same degree of penalty, as would a first, second, or third degree misdemeanor would give. It is the lowest offense you can give before a minor misdemeanor, which is a citation.
- **Mayor Hallum:** If we leave the legislation with the word "shall" do you have to arrest them or could you give them a fourth degree citation and leave.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** Yes and no. When your respond to a call for service you don't have a person's court record in front of you. So, the officer may not realize that a person was cited at this time a year earlier because they are working in the real world without a database in front of them to show. There may be situations where someone was cited just another minor misdemeanor at that point in time. In a perfect world, if the officer had the knowledge that this was a fourth degree misdemeanor, they would be taken and charged accordingly for it. Is this something that could be amended at court if it wasn't cited properly?
- **Law Director Lucas:** Yes. It can be amended and also justified to the extent that not every minor misdemeanor is immediately accessible when an officer's investigating the scene of a fireworks shooting for instance. The fourth degree misdemeanor under the Ohio Revised Code has a maximum fine of \$250.00 and it's a maximum jail of 30 days.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** Does it make more sense to focus on their pocketbook especially with fees continuing to rise and get larger especially since you mentioned that officer might not be aware of previous issues that person has and on record? Should we be more worried about monetary consequences rather than fourth degree misdemeanor and potential jail time?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** I don't know if I would be the appropriate person to ask that question to as far as fines and penalties. My position on this and why I brought it forward was because I felt more concerned that our hands were tied in a situation where this immediately escalated to a fairly serious, arrestable offense of a first degree misdemeanor. A second offense was a felony of the fourth degree, which was getting into uncharted territories. I just think that a minor misdemeanor affords us more options to have more effective clear messaging at times like the Fourth of July where we are seeking compliance while also being sensitive to the neighborhoods that are dealing with this that want to see something happen out of this. I would like to think that we would see higher compliance rates at that point in time knowing the police department is going to be doing something like that. As far as the

question in regards to fine amounts and changes in escalating monetary fines, this would be a question better for discussion of Council and the Law Director.

- **Mayor Hallum:** We are confiscating whatever fireworks are there, which could be thousands of dollars. Not only would they receive a \$150 citation, but also they may have lost ten thousand dollars in fireworks. This sends a good message of compliance.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** I asked the question because I hear you saying that you want more flexibility in making decisions regarding arrests. I didn't mean to suggest that you would provide specific information about using fines as opposed to the fourth-degree misdemeanors and the potential for jail time. You mentioned you were looking at other communities, so I was curious if you found anything different from what you have shared with us. Perhaps it relates to fees-though I should have phrased the question more clearly. Another question I have is when an officer responds to a situation, do they have discretion to just issue a warning and walk away, or is there a requirement to move forward with charges for each incident that occurs regardless of who it is or where it is occurring.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** In terms of discretionary practices, it is something that is more of a messaging thing from leadership and my position, as well of the City of Willoughby's position took a zero tolerance approach to fireworks on the Fourth of July. They advertised this on social media and through the News Herald. This was a very effective approach to take. There could always be a situation where an officer may exercise discretion for one reason or another. Everything is situational but if the messaging is we're taking a zero tolerance approach to that then by and large there should be a zero tolerance approach that the department leadership is taking on that.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** Will there be warnings part of the process or will there be no further warnings?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** Warnings are always something that officers deal with in any situation. Traffic stops are a good example because officers exercise a vast amount of discretion as to whether they are going to cite someone for the violation they stop them for; Arrest may not always be the most appropriate thing. Sometimes situations are not always that black and white in terms of decision-making so it would not remove officer's discretion. Fourth of July is the one singular day that we deal with where we get complaints on this and as law enforcement, we are going to be citing for discharge of fireworks and confiscating fireworks.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** Are warnings documented?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** Yes they are. It is not going to be as in depth of documentation of an incident, but there are certainly documentation of the response to the call and where it is you went.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** How do you approach the issue where warnings with very little documentation does not seem to result in an anything being done to solve the problem?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** Our officers are fairly in tune with the community. There are areas that they are called to all around the city where they become very aware of certain types issues that may be going on. Fireworks are no different because if we have responded to the same call at the same house for several years somebody on shift is going to be aware of this. We also have a CAD system that documents the residences or the businesses that we have responded to and what we have responded to them for.

- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** I want to make sure there is not a situation where somebody can do this all the time without being caught; I want to make sure that the warnings turn into something substantial.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** We do our best to make sure that things do not become repeat issues. No system is perfect, but this one of the reasons I brought this forward, because this will give us more discretion to go out and effectively address the situation in an effective way.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** Perhaps prior to the Fourth of July, a list of previously visited addresses can be provided for the police to know where the repeat offenders are.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** That information is generally in our CAD system so if we get dispatched to it, our dispatcher would already have that knowledge
- **Councilwoman Miller:** Have you spoken to Willoughby to know how much of a difference was made due to their response to this issue?
- **Police Chief Naegele:** I spoke with Chief Shultz on this and he gave me very positive feedback on it.
- **Council President Kline:** I want to thank Chief Naegele for coming in. If we are not ready to move forward on this, we can keep this on third reading. Fourth of July is not the only holiday where fireworks are an issue. People also use fireworks on New Year's. Everyone should give this thought and decide when we want to move on with this.
- **Police Chief Naegele:** I am available if anyone has any other questions on this.

**ORDINANCE 2024-053-SECOND READING**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT.**

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** This is just a formality to put on record that we received it, we are not making any changes or doing anything to this are we?
- **Law Director Lucas:** We don't make any changes to the Solid Waste Management Plan. Their committee does. If there are any changes, which there were, they have to send this out to their members' communities that are participating in the program itself. This isn't anything more than approving the amendments that the committee has to approve and review and make to update the plan itself.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Is there any time restraint on it?
- **Law Director Lucas:** Yeah, we don't need to pass this as an emergency at all which is why there isn't an emergency clause on it. We have sufficient time.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** So most municipalities just simply pass it, do you know of any that don't? This is simply routine correct?
- **Law Director Lucas:** I don't know any communities that have not approved it. The community generally received this review just for knowledge purposes what was added to it, and then they approve it. I don't recall any community not approving what has been already reviewed under the committee from Lake County Waste Management that is charged with making sure this maintains relevancy as it proceeds forward in time.

**ORDINANCE 2024-054-FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FEE PROPOSAL FROM RICHARD L. BOWEN ASSOCIATES INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENGINEERING & SURVEYING IN THE AREA OF THE NORTH SIDE OF CHARDON ROAD BETWEEN WINCHESTER HILLS AND BISHOP ROAD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Is this just for the ordinance or the actually study of plans?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** This is for surveying and the engineering for the sidewalks. We are still waiting for the agreement from the county for the CDBG grant but we wanted to get this approved and ready to go so when we get that which we expect around December, we would be ready to go when that grant is executed.
- **Mayor Hallum:** I received the paper work for that today.

**ORDINANCE 2024-055 FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED BY RICHARD L. BOWEN & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PROVIDE ZONING ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- **City Engineer DiFranco:** This is our biannual task order to provide zoning administration. We do these in 6-month task orders and this is the same as the last task order, there were no changes.

**ORDINANCE 2024-056 FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS TO MEET THE ORDINARY EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, STATE OF OHIO FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2025; REPEALING ALL LEGISLATION INCONSISTENT HEREWITH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- **Finance Director Scott:** Last meeting I promised that I would submit not only the interim budget but the first draft of full budget. That didn't happen. There were a number of revenue items within the budget that are still to be determined. Property taxes have not been certified by the state. If the county submitted, it's going to be a big number as far as where we stand with next year's revenue. I didn't feel comfortable submitting it this time around. I still hope to have it in by the December meeting if we can get confirmation of those numbers. This is very similar to last year's interim budget. The numbers were actually down slightly, but I fully intend to have a budget passed well before it was last year. I am hoping by the end of February we can have it.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** This Ordinance gives us the permission to run the City for the first three months while we are getting a budget together, is that correct?
- **Finance Director Scott:** That is correct.

**ORDINANCE 2024-057 FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEE PROPOSAL FROM STEPHEN HOVANCSEK & ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING OF RECORD DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE LAK-174-00.00 RIVER RD (SR-174) RESURFACING PROJECT (PID 105894)**

## AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- No comments were made.

### ORDINANCE 2024-058-FIRST READING

#### **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER FROM GORDIAN/BREWER-GARRETT FOR THE REPAIR AND UPGRADE OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS FOR THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS' POLICE STATION AND CITY HALL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** Can we get clarification on what is being repaired and what is being upgraded.
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** It's my understanding that the Fire Alarm system at City Hall and at the Police Station isn't working properly. It has false alarms. It is not meeting the requirements of a jail facility for the police station. This will correct that.
- **Mayor Hallum:** This also includes one year of monitoring.
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** Correct. This includes one year of off-site monitoring. There is a company that will monitor the alarms so that if they go off, the Fire Department will be noted. The main thing in this work order is that it replaces the fire panel, which is a big component of the system. If I am not mistaken, I believe this will be paid for from the American Rescue Act.
- **Mayor Hallum:** This will be covered by the Safety Forces Fund.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** After the year is over, do we have to pay for the monitoring then?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** Correct; and the monitoring is about \$800 or \$900 dollars a year.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** And this is 24/7?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** Confirmed.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** Is everything okay with the Fire Department and the Community Center? Is it just this building that is an issue?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** The next ordinance pertains to the Community Center, and there is no fire alarm at the Service Department or Fire Station.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** What happens now? If there is an issue with the panel and we need the monitoring, how does this happen currently even though it's not effective or properly functional in order to make that happen?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** I don't know the specifics, but I know there are false alarms. The Fire Department and Police Department were involved as we were getting these quotes. They would be able to speak on this a little better.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** There is monitoring included for the first year after the repair and install. What happens currently with monitoring? Do we have a monitoring system?

- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** We don't.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Why wasn't this just put all in one ordinance for both sections?
- **Mayor Hallum:** It's because the Police and City Hall portion is being paid for out of the Safety Forces Fund, and the Community Center will be done out of the ARPA funds.

**ORDINANCE 2024-059-FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A WORK ORDER FROM GORDIAN/BREWER-GARRETT FOR THE REPAIR AND UPGRADE OF THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM FOR THE WILLOUGHBY HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** The cost of this is coming out of the ARPA funds?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Correct.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Are all those funds accounted for this year already?
- **Mayor Hallum:** There are funds remaining in the account with this amount here and with the amount that we are putting towards the sidewalk project on the west end. This leaves us with about \$71,000 that is not appropriated at this point.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Is this something that we will try to appropriate before the end of the year?
- **Mayor Hallum:** We have multiple places to use it, but we are waiting for the end of the year to see where to use it. The cell tower would absolutely take up the rest of anything we have.
- **Finance Director Scott:** This is not under ARPA, rather it is under Capital Improvement. It can be under ARPA if necessary, I did a quick calculation of where we are with ARPA. A lot of it is going towards the sidewalks. The balance, as of today, with some projected revenue, is around \$231,000 our portion of the CBDG grant is \$95,000. The ordinance with Richard Bowen is \$28,000. CVE \$36,000 leaves approximately \$71,000 left. As the Mayor alluded to, hopefully we can fix the cell tower issue with that remaining money; it will probably be more than that. We can certainly allocate towards those projects. We have to make sure that it is all allocated by the end of the year.
- **Mayor Hallum:** The CVE is the engineering and grant project that is working for the multipurpose path and sidewalk project on the east side of 91.

**RESOLUTION 2024-024 FIRST READING**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY RICHARD L. BOWEN & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PROVIDE A POLICE STATION AND SERVICE GARAGE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- **City Engineer DiFranco:** This would be to study options for the Police Station and Service Garage. The Service Garage had severe damage during the major storm this year. Rather than fix it, Service Director Mark Grubiss thought it would be better to build a new garage. The existing garage is falling apart. It has a lot of deterioration because it had a lot of salt in there. The mechanics area is very old and inefficient; you can barely get a truck inside the doors and there's no lift in there. As far as the Police Station, it's also getting old and it's very segmented. The administrative offices are on the upper

level and all the police officers and their areas are on the lower level. They are constantly going up and down the stairs. They have 7 jail cells which they no longer use. They only use a couple as they are transferring patients to another facility. It is very inefficient. This would study both buildings, as well as the campus. The City's insurance provider said we should fix people driving through the service yard, as it's not a safe condition. A lot of people drive through there to get to the park and pickle ball courts. It was decided to get on to look at it comprehensively and come up with the best long-term solution. Ideally, the police station we would be able to remodel and do an addition rather than build a new building. We would be looking at all the options.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Where would the funds from this be coming from?
- **Finance Director Scott:** Safety Forces fund.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** Would the proposed objective be to put everything in the Police Department on one level?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** It would make the Police Department more efficient, which would mean moving some operations upstairs or moving them, downstairs. I don't think they could put everything on one level, but they could make everything as efficient as possible.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** Would that include some of the area downstairs in the basement that's just space that is not being used?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** That will be looked at.
- **Council President Kline:** How long would this feasibility study take in terms of when we can review it again?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** My guess would be a few months.

**Discussion of motion to accept check in the amount of \$3,364.71 on behalf of the Gulick Family Charitable Remainder Unitrust to be used for the W.H.I.S.P.E.R. program.**

- No comments were made.

**Discussion of motion to forego November 28, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.**

- **Council President Kline:** Just because we are foregoing this meeting, does not mean that this is the last meeting of the month. We always forego this meeting and almost always have a special meeting in the latter part of November.

**Discussion of motion to accept six 3,650 Watt Portable Craftsman Generators, model number CMXGGFMP03633 (Value Approximately \$3,900) from the Willoughby Lowe's Store to be used by the Fire Department to keep traffic lights functioning during power outages.**

- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** Where are these being stored right now?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Mark has them stored in the Service Department?
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** And there is plenty of room for them?

- **Mayor Hallum:** Confirmed.

**PUBLIC PORTION: (Audio 50:23)**

**An opportunity for the public to address Council with any comments, issues, or concerns.**

- Public Portion opened at 6:50 p.m.
- **Laurie Feltham 2605 Timberline Rd:** I was without power for 6 days. And I called Mark on his cell phone and asked if he had a generator. I never got a reply and I know that he has bigger problems than just me not having power. I am still looking for a generator. I am thinking about a dual generator, one that uses natural gas and regular gas. My question is are these gas power or are they dual? I was wondering about this.
- I am a yellow bag lady and I have been a yellow bag lady for many years. The price for 10 bags goes up and up. We get 10 bags and sometimes we need to use 1 bag a month, but with only 10 bags, I have to go out and buy another roll of bags. I was wondering if maybe 12 bags could be added to the initial roll and the price remains the same? Thank you.
- **Brittany Matlock 2886 Bishop Rd:** I apologize, I came in a bit late but I will make an assumption that the celebration of the opening of Bishop Road may have been discussed or acknowledged. I would love to bring up, as someone who lives on the stretch and enjoyed the enclosure. Those of us who live on Bishop Road do endure quite a bit of stress and even though it's only been open a hair over 24 hours, it back to the grind of folks going down the road. I wanted to proposed some kind of study, or whatever you would need to do to accomplish checking it out. With the road closure the way that it's been, on Chardon, [when you are still on Bishop close to Sheetz, that corner before you cross over Chardon Road to go to the other side of Bishop that has been closed] that particular set of lanes has a lane that comes down to Chardon, a lane that goes across to the other side of Bishop, and a lane that takes you to Sheetz. I would really like the City to consider a study of making that a permanent placement. What I will tell you is, I live right next to where the four lanes converge into two. I have been here with my family, my three kids, and my husband since last June. I am very happy to be part of Willoughby Hills and put down roots in the City. But what I fear is that because the four lanes converge into two right there at my driveway, what we have is a drag race competition every day. My husband is an RN and I cannot tell you how frustrating and fearful I am when I'm constantly concerned that I'm going to have to wake up my husband because there's a crash in front of my driveway. Because of people going. There is also Evergreen Drive going across Bishop on that side, and you have residents who are fearful to stop to make to make the turn. You have people tailgating and they are drag racing down that little stretch which turns from 25 to 35 almost immediately. So, I come to the Council tonight asking for what has been working exceptionally for the past few months. I am asking this to be how it was since the construction started, where that right lane was made a permanent right hand turning lane, so that there is only one lane of traffic that goes from the Sheetz side of Bishop over across Chardon into the residential side of Bishop. Thank you.
- Public Portion closed at 6:56 p.m.

- **Mayor Hallum:** They are gas generators, and just for the resident's knowledge, we do not allow residents to lease, buy, or borrow generators from us. This is City property. With regard to Bishop, I see this all the time and I agree that it is concerning. I ask that our City engineer take note of it. We will take a look at it.
- **Council President Kline:** Pertaining to the yellow bags, during the beginning of the year or end of last year, that question did come up and it was presented to Republic. They said that the contract is in place and it will be up for renewal in the Spring of 2025 and this is something that we can address with them. We can discuss that when the terms of their proposal comes out. This should come out within a couple months from now.
- **Vice President Taylor Draper:** I would like to thank Brittany for coming out. I know that this is a serious issue, the safety of our residents is always a serious concern. I would appreciate and be interested in City Engineer DiFranco's response.

**LEGISLATION: (Audio 57:52)**

- **City Engineer DiFranco:** Ordinance 2024-054, the project name is not in the heading, having it in the heading would make it easier to find it in the future. Ordinance 2024-055, in Section 1, it lists the dates of the work as 2024 rather than 2025. In Ordinance 2024-058 and 2024-059, in the first Whereas Clause, it has the cost as a per year cost, the per year should be removed, as this is a onetime fee. On the agenda, Resolution 2024-025 was listed as Resolution 2024-024.

**ADJOURNMENT: (Audio 1:00:46)**

**Roll Call: AYES: Knecht, Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline**

**NAYS: None**

**Vote: 7/0**

**The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.**

**APPROVED:** DECEMBER 12, 2024  
Date

  
Michael Kline  
President of Council

**ATTEST:**   
Nicholas Aiello  
Clerk of Council