

**COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2004**

The regular City Council meeting was held on Monday, March 15, 2004 at 7 PM in the Euclid City Hall Council Chamber. President Sustarsic presided.

Members Present: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso, T. Sustarsic, J. Sustarsic

Others Present: Mayor Cervenik, Law Director Frey, Asst. Law Director Vento, Acting CS&ED Director Gliha, Public Service Director Gulich, Finance Director Johnson, Police Chief Maine, Acting Fire Chief Cosgriff, Housing Manager Tollerup, Zoning Commissioner Petkovic, Police Capt. Doles, Mr. Ryan Cummins, Supt. Gall, Sgt.-at-Arms Nagy, Clerk of Council Cahill.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council received the following communication:

A summary of legislation on tonight's agenda by Law Director Frey.

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Councilman Gruber moved to accept the Council Minutes of March 1, 2004. Councilman T. Sustarsic seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Director Johnson – I'm pleased to inform you that the tax collections for the month of March is actually up \$136,000 more than March of last year. We're still behind for the year in the amount of \$230,000. As we have projected, the first two months would be a little behind. March would start to pick up. The actual is actually coming in according to our projections so we're very encouraged.

Mayor Cervenik – Also this evening we have Mr. Tom Bellish, from Buckeye Energy in the audience. He's not here yet, but he was going to speak on our Vectren Energy Program. Maybe we can get him at the end of the meeting, when he shows up. I would like to turn the program over to Chief Maine. We've got some police citizen awards to give out this evening.

Chief Maine – I would like to make an announcement that on Wednesday, St. Patrick's Day, the City of Euclid, along with a number of other municipal departments in the area will be holding a sobriety check point. Just a word to the wise that if you're going to go out and celebrate, please have a designated driver, or find some alternative means of transportation. We'd certainly would not like to have you as a guest back in our municipal jail. Everybody have a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day.

Chief Maine and Capt. Doles presented Civilian Awards to: Ruby Holderread; Wilbur Berry; Rodriquez Lake; Miss Simone A. Woods; Joseph Zigman and Jon Boyton. Employee of the Year Award went to Karen Cassese.

Mayor Cervenik – Mr. Chairman, Mr. Bellish is here now and I know you wanted to say a few words concerning our program. Please step to the microphone.

Mr. Tom Bellish – President of Buckeye Energy Brokers. Recently the City has entered into an agreement with Vectren Source to do an opt-out natural gas program. What I'd like to do is hand out to members of Council detail about rates on that. There's been some questions on rates. How is your bill different? How is it the same? What is the savings going forward?

The gas cost recovery for Dominion East Ohio is about \$7.89. That does not compare directly to the price that Vectren Source is offering so there's some different adjustments that need to be made. One of those adjustments in the Unrecovered Gas Cost. This is a charge where the local utility can charge up to 12 months to recoup costs or to credit back customers who may have paid too much. Members of the original opt-in program that we did two years ago and members of the opt-out program we had last year with Shell Energy are not subject to this charge or credit, whatever the case maybe. Not subject to it at all because they have been in the energy choice program for more than 12 months. Not subject to it at all. It's just the new members, just starting up just recently, or this month, for example.

Dominion has a .99 cent per mcf unrecovered gas cost right now, which is untypical high. It is normally much smaller than that. Sometimes it is even a credit. That charge, theoretically should be zero. Sometimes its positive, sometimes it negative but theoretically it should be zero.

Since the beginning of the program, it has been pretty close to zero. There's been 5-6 quarters in the row that were actually negative. The people in the program are not subject to that.

Another charge is the operational balancing of capacity cost. That's .08 cents per mcf. That's not a big charge there. But it is something that's in the GCR, gas cost recovery, from Dominion that is not in the Vectren Source offer, for example.

The next difference is sales tax. Anyone with Dominion pays a gross receipts tax 4.9%, that goes on top of the gas cost recovery. If you switch suppliers, you're subject to County sales tax, which is 8%. That's higher as well. If you are taxed at a higher rate on 6.94 which is the Vectren Source number, or 4.9% on the higher GCR tax is about a wash and that is how it was designed to be about the same. It maybe a higher rate, but it is calculated on a lower number. So total tax is really about a wash in this case.

Right now the opt-out window is open so people are welcome to opt-out. Vectren Source isn't getting back a whole lot, maybe 10% or so, which is about average for all of our programs across Ohio. We have about 8 programs going on right now with similar time frame as the City of Euclid's. We do have new additional customers coming on that were not in the Shell Energy program that we had this past winter. If there are any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – Mr. Bellish, I had a call from a resident today who was concerned that there would be a few assessed for switching. I thought that was not the case. Am I correct?

Mr. Bellish – There's no switching fees involved. The only thing that might be involved is early termination fee. If someone switches from Dominion to the Vectren Source in the city's program, there is no switching fee. Behind the scenes, there maybe a cost to Vectren, but they absorb that. There's no fee to the customer to switch. There's no fee to opt-out. Customers should be receiving a rescission letter from Dominion starting are you sure you want to switch your supplier. We've been notified that you want to, is that true. No fee to even respond to that and change your mind. No fee to opt-out at the end of the term either. There's a two year requirement actually that it must be free to opt-out. No charge there as well.

REPORTS & COMMITTEE MINUTES

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail moved to receive and approve the 2003 Housing Report; 2003 Building Report; Humane Officer's Report of Feb. 2004; Henn Mansion 2003 Report; Finance Committee Min. of March 3, 2004; Board of Control Min. of 1/26/04; 2/2/04; 2/9/04; 2/17/04; 2/23/04; 3/1/04. Councilman Gruber seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Councilman Delaney moved to go into the Committee of the Whole for Legislative Matters Only. Councilwoman Mancuso seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

President Sustarsic – Relative to what is on the Agenda this evening, #1, which is the annual appropriation or the budget is tabled and will be sent to a Special Council Meeting on March 29th. There will not be any discussion on that this evening. We'll have a public hearing on #2, relative to oil-field brine, the application to combat snow and ice in the winter. So maybe if you could save your comments towards the public hearing on that.

Mr. Matt Sarver – 26550 Shoreview. Just have a question about #5 on the Agenda. The decision to enter into a contract with CT Consultants. I'm just wondering how many other engineering and surveying firms were polled for that, if that was done as a bidding process, or how it was arrived that CT would do that? I'm just wondering how many other companies were involved in that bidding process? If you could tell me who they were? Just curious.

Mayor Cervenik – I can address that now, if you so desire. Normally we address these things when the agenda item comes up.

Mr. Sarver – Whatever your pleasure. Later is fine. So step up later then?

President Sustarsic – Actually they could address it later if it's the only question you have. That will be addressed later.

Ms. Bernadette Walsh – 651 E. 266. I'm addressing #8. I noticed that the contract for the custodial staff at Shore is being voted on tonight. Part of that contract is uniform allowance. Saturday when I was in the building, I mentioned to one of the Shore Custodial Staff that he was not in uniform and it was provided by the City of Euclid. His reply referenced that he was not given a uniform for the past

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4 years. I as a follower of the budget hearings know that uniforms are a line item in the amount of \$22,000 for all uniforms for Parks & Recreation. Apparently the money is not trickling down, as he said he did not see a uniform from this administration, nor has he in the past. So, what exactly is the \$22,000 being spent for? If its not for uniforms, what are we doing, boxes of Tide or what? I would like to see this question answered before this is voted on tonight.

President Sustarsic – That will be addressed when that item comes up on the Agenda.

Councilman Gruber moved to rise and report. Councilman Daly seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

LEGISLATION

Ord. (072-04) Annual Appropriation – Tabled

An emergency ordinance which makes the annual appropriation for all expenditures for the City of Euclid for the period ending December 31, 2004. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik the entire Council)

Councilman Langman moved to tabled until March 29, 2004. Councilwoman Mancuso seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso, Sustarsic, Sustarsic

Tabled until March 29, 2004.

Ord. 36-2004 (061-04) Salt Application

An ordinance to authorize the surface application of oil-field brine to the roads, streets, highways, and other similar land surfaces situated in the City of Euclid, which the City has the right to administer for the control of ice and dust. (Sponsored by Councilman T. Sustarsic by request of the Service Director)

Councilman T. Sustarsic moved for passage, Councilwoman Hufnagle seconded.

Director Gulich – I think everybody has read something about this product called salt-brine. State of Ohio has been using it on the highways in some circumstances for I believe up to three years now. A couple of other cities are trying it on a trial basis. What is salt brine? Very simple, it is very, very salty water. About 10 times the salinity of sea water. It comes from two sources. You can mix it yourself. You can buy the water, buy the salt, buy the equipment, mix it yourself. There is another place it comes from and that's actually a by-product from many of the mines in Northeast Ohio that are meant to provide natural gas. They also provide an abundance of this product as well. It does come out of the ground with impurities. State of Ohio has studied this thoroughly. They've come out with a set of rules that you have to live by. The whole purpose for this ordinance is to demonstrate that we will comply with all the laws set by the State of Ohio. We will only use an absolutely safe product and absolutely approved.

I know what was just read talks about dust, various surfaces. We're talking strictly road application. State of Ohio requires this general ordinance again so that we can assure everybody that we're adhering to the letter of the law. Salt brine is not meant to replace salt. It is not meant to replace the other products we use. It is basically an enhancer. It gives us the opportunity to be proactive in a business that we haven't been able to in years. We put this product down, if we know it is going to get icy on the hills, we can get it down in the afternoon. We can be fighting those first few flakes of ice and snow that hit the pavement long before a truck gets there. This is a method of enhancing our methods that we have been using up until now. Currently I'm not intending on using this product in the fleeting days of winter where going to have in the next few days. My intention is to possibly secure this product and the apparatus needed to dispense it for potential use in the fall. We do have an opportunity to save money and improve service here. That doesn't come along every day. We will have a public hearing on this and the Ordinance is required by the State of Ohio in order to use this product. If there's any questions, I'll be glad to answer them.

Councilman Gruber – I know in the past we had explored one source of the brine water which is behind the Inland Plant. They have a natural gas well there and they had offered that product to us. Would we be open to looking at that product again if it conforms to the regulations? I believe they would still offer it to us for free if they can produce enough of it back there.

Director Gulich – The product I'm referring to would come from a number of wells in the northern Ohio area. That would be one of the wells. The company that I've been talking to is actually a Euclid firm. They have negotiated with some other cities. There are some start-up costs and I'm attempting to negotiate those start-up costs down on the city's behalf.

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Councilman T. Sustarsic – How long does the brine last on the roads? I know in our winters we'll get a couple of snowy days in a row. Does it last a few days on the road where it will be effective? Or do you have to keep laying it down?

Director Gulich – Good question Councilman Sustarsic. Obviously there's a manual to go by. There's also a learning curve to go by. As everyone is well aware, the conditions on Lake Shore Blvd. could be way different than the conditions on Euclid Ave. at any given moment. The snow could be falling hard and heavy on the hills, and we've got some sunshine at the lake. To answer your question, this product would be put down during daylight hours. Unless there's a heavy rain, it will be there days later on your behalf. It doesn't give the dusting effect that you've seen with the regular salt. It is not meant to replace salt, its just meant as another tool

Councilman Delaney – It is my understanding that the brine will only work at certain temperatures where the rock salt will go to colder temperatures. Can you tell me what those are?

Director Gulich – That is correct. That's why I said that this is meant as an enhancement to the tools that we already have with the other de-icers. Depending on the salinity of the water, it only works in a certain temperature range. Each batch of water would be purified before it came to the city. It would be tested for salinity. We would know what those temperature extremes are that it would be capable working under.

Councilman Delaney – Much like anything else you watch the weather but there could be two applications with the brine and then rock salt in the same day, same night?

Director Gulich – Yes.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – Director Gulich, will this require purchasing new equipment, or will we be able to use existing equipment with some modifications?

Director Gulich – It would require equipment we don't have with the City. That's one of the preventatives to getting into this business. If we wanted to make our own brine water, we already buy tonnage salt. We have plenty of water coming out of our taps. It would require quite an extensive start up cost to get into the manufacturing. We wouldn't have to manufacture, it could be brought on site, stored in tanks. Currently I've been meeting with this firm and again I'm attempting to negotiate in the city's favor to possibly have some, not all of this equipment supplied to the city without cost. This is a by-product. If these people can't purify and use it, they pay to dispose it.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – Was there any plan for this in the current budget that we have? If there is a cost, you'll come back to us?

Director Gulich – we have a line item for a de-icing agent, so it will come out of that. I will keep council informed as to if we would move forward with the use of this product.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – I appreciate your efforts at looking for more efficient ways of doing that.

Director Gulich – A chance to save some money. When it comes to getting rid of ice and snow, its about the only opportunity to be pro-active and that would be wonderful.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – This could be used in the place of calcium that we currently use? Or is it a totally separate thing?

Director Gulich – It would be used in addition to the use of the calcium. We use magnesium chloride. We even use the product that has the molasses this past year. That's demonstrated a worthwhile product too. Everything has its limitations and it is best to have all these tools in your toolbox at any given time. You can actually take this brine water, I know it sounds counter-productive. You mix it with the salt as you spread it on the street. You do get a better initial reaction. If you have a street that's already icy, this is not the product that you want to use. You want to use the salt. It just gives us some new options.

Councilman Langman – What other communities in northeast Ohio use this product?

Director Gulich – There's one city that I talked to. Two cities, one was Brunswick and another one is Brecksville. I've gotten mixed reports. Brecksville has used a product similar to this. It comes from a different source. They are very pleased with it. Brunswick, they've given me mixed results. There is a learning curve with this. I've talked with ODOT. They've tried a number of different application systems. They are happy with the application system they've been using this year. I've been taking notes from them and will continue. We will only try something that we know works.

Councilman Daly – The State, they put it on the interstates. Do they also put it on the interstates going through Euclid now? I've seen it going south on I-71. Do you know if they apply it to the interstate in Euclid?

Director Gulich – Yes they do.

President Sustarsic – This is a public hearing, so if there's anyone in the audience that has any questions or comments on this issue.

Mr. Joe Udovic – 21371 Naumann. I do have one quick question. I'm a landscape designer by trade. I know that soils have Ph. We're obviously putting down more salt on the roads. How will the effect current vegetation meaning someone's treelawn, or someone's trees? If you're putting down more salt, will that harm the environment? Will that harm various types of soft-scapes or life-scapes that are in people's yards? You are going to do the streets with this. When you are splashing around, will this get splashed into the sewers, will that cause a higher salt content into the sewer waters as well? Thank you.

Director Gulich – Actually the whole purpose of using the brine is to use less salt. I would hopefully be able to come back to you next year saying that we'll be able to actually save on the tonnage of salt that we put on the streets, whether it be liquid or solid form. Also, whether it is put down in liquid or solid form, it all ends up down the drain.

Mr. Tom Cooke – 23100 Chardon Rd. If this brine goes down in liquid form, correct? What happens to the liquid, the water portion of it when it drops below its active level, its working level? In other words, if its effective say down to 10 degrees, what happens to that liquid on the surface when the surface temperature drops down to like zero, if that was the range? Does it all of a sudden turn into a glaze of ice on the road?

Director Gulich – If it is too cold to use this product, we don't put it on the pavement, it will freeze.

Mr. Cooke – It will freeze if it is below the So you still have a margin of error.

Director Gulich – Just like if we put the salt down and it gets below a certain temperature and atmospheric conditions are just right, you won't get a melting effect. That's why we use the enhancers as the calcium chloride and the magnesium chloride.

Mr. Cooke – The only thing that bothers me is if this stuff does go down, and its laid down and its working temperature range and then say 24-48 hours later it all of a sudden drops well below that, what I'm asking is, how long does that liquid stay on the surface? That liquid on the surface has to dissipate completely in order for it not to become a safety issue, if in fact the temperature drops below that. I don't want to get into a lot of details there, but that's the only thing that kind of bothers me a little bit.

Director Gulich – That is why we're using it as an enhancement and not a replacement. It will only be used under certain circumstances.

Mr. Cooke – I know what you're saying. If it was me and I'm driving along and I know that the temperature is dropping and I see liquid on the road surface, I'm going to get real nervous. Because I don't know if its working in or not, if in fact it is working. Its just a perception. When you see a wet surface and you know the temperature is dropping, especially if its below freezing, it makes me real nervous.

Director Gulich – I know the whole notion of putting the liquid down in freezing weather that looks all in the world like water.

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Mr. Cooke – You’ve got a track record from Brecksville and a little bit of a track record from Brunswick?

Director Gulich – Mainly from ODOT. ODOT’s put on a number of seminars for myself and my fellow Service Directors. It has been quite a learning curve for them. They mix all their own. They don’t use the brine water, what we’re proposing here tonight. That’s still an option for the future that if this product does work good, we could basically mix our own with tap water and the salt we get.

Mr. Cooke – I just want to make sure that it is well tested. I don’t want Euclid to be the guinea pig. Thank you.

Ms. Rose M. Allen – 26241 Lake Shore Blvd. I have a question regarding the by-products of the chemical we’re discussing. Has anyone done any studies or does anyone have any information as to the effect that the by-products or the run-off will have on the purity of the water in Lake Erie and the marine life?

Director Gulich – Yes, that’s been studied exhaustively by the State of Ohio. They have a document out, I’ll be willing to share with anybody. I have a couple of copies of it. If anyone wants to see it, they’re welcome to it. I believe it is also available from the State. They have exhaustively studies this. They’ve determined what purification methods have to be done in order to make this product okay to go down on the streets. That’s why we’re here tonight. We’re abiding by the State regulations. All this is to give people assurance that your by-products have to be removed if indeed they are in there before we put it out on the streets. Each batch would have to be certified.

Ms. Allen – I would like to see a copy of it. We must keep in mind that anything that is run-off into the ground or whatever, has the potential, if not the ultimate destination of Lake Erie. We must be concerned about the purity of the water that we all will eventually consume. Thank you.

Director Gulich – I will make a copy of this document available in the Council Office. That’s probably the easiest way for people to come check it. I’ll do that tomorrow.

Councilman T. Sustarsic moved to suspend the rules, Councilman Gruber seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso, Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

Ord. 37-2004 (067-04) WWT Boiler

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service of the City of Euclid to enter into a contract, after advertising for bids, for the demolition and removal of an existing 3-boiler fuel-oil fired heating system, and the subsequent purchase, installation, and start-up of a new gas-fired heating system at the Lake Shore Waste Water Treatment Plant. (Sponsored by Councilman T. Sustarsic by request of the Service Director)

Councilman T. Sustarsic moved for passage, Councilwoman Hufnagle seconded.

Director Gulich – At our Lake Shore Blvd. plant we’ve been heating with oil down there since as long as there’s been a building. These particular boilers have been in use since 1985 I believe. They do need to be replaced. We need to do something before next winter comes upon us. We’re looking to accomplish this work without hiring an outside engineering consultant. We do this on an design-build basis. Mr. Gall has been hard at work on this process already. I’ve asked him to come to the meeting tonight if there are any questions about this work that we’re going to be needing to do down there. If I can’t answer them, Bob Gall can.

Councilman Gruber – Do we have an approximate cost for the new boiler?

Director Gulich – Yes we do. Total cost of the project and I’ll look over at Bob Gall, we expect to be about \$100,000. All the costs for this will come out of the Waste Water Fund, which of course is also paid by the other user communities who pay their fair share for the cost of this improvement.

Councilman Langman – Director Gulich or Mr. Gall, what would be the savings in fuel and efficiency or the life of the new boilers? Do you have any estimates?

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Director Gulich – As you know we've had Honeywell come in front of us and they have currently gone through a number of our buildings. We're going to be doing a number of energy improving things this summer which I'm excited about. They will be working with us on this and they will be able to make a pretty dog-gone close approximation with the savings that we're talking about. I'd like to share those numbers with Council after they sat down with us and Bob Gall has gone through his design.

Councilman Langman – But you expect some number of saving?

Director Gulich – Yes, absolutely.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – He answered my question.

Councilman T. Sustarsic moved to suspend the rules, Councilman Gruber seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso, Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

Ord. 38-2004 (68-04) Conveyor WWTP

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service of the City of Euclid to enter into a contract, after advertising for bids, for the purchase, delivery, and installation of a conveyor belt system at the Lakeland Sludge Handling Facility. (Sponsored by Councilman T. Sustarsic by request of the Service Director)

Councilman Sustarsic moved for passage, Councilman Daly seconded.

Director Gulich – At our Lakeland facility near the County line on Lakeland Rd., that's where we dry-out sludge and we truck it out to a landfill. Historically we burn the sludge. We haven't done that gone on close to 3 years now. We're saving quite a substantial amount of money by direct trucking it to a landfill. We have a number of filter presses there which you really should see if you haven't. It is a pretty amazing thing. These belts transfer this dry sludge product from the presses to the trucks to be hauled away. The drier we get this product, the cheaper it is to truck. This machinery runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. It has been busy doing this since about 1992. They really need to be replaced. The cost of this replacement is expected to be about \$25,000-\$30,000. All the cost will come out of the Waste Water Funds. The outside user communities will pay their fair share. If there's any questions, Bob Gall's got the answers.

President Sustarsic – Questions or comments because Bob is chomping at the bit over there.

Director Gulich – He wants to tell you about sludge.

President Sustarsic – Everything you always wanted to know but were afraid to ask. Any questions?

Councilman T. Sustarsic moved to suspend the rules, Councilman Gruber seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso, Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

Ord. 39-2004 (69a-04) CT Consultants

An emergency ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid, or his designee, to enter into a contract with CT Consultants, Inc. (CT), 35000 Kaiser Court, Willoughby, Ohio 44094, for Building Department Consulting Services for a yearly amount not to exceed \$28,000.00. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Councilwoman Mancuso moved for passage, Councilwoman Hufnagle seconded.

President Sustarsic – Prior to discussing this, I'm an employee of CT Consultants. While it is in a different division than this particular group is working with, I will abstain from voting.

President Sustarsic left the Chamber. Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail became President Pro-Tem.

Director Gliha – I would like to acknowledge a letter the Mayor received on March 5th from the Greater Cleveland Growth Association which congratulated the City of Euclid on becoming a business friendly community. In order to obtain that designation, we had to go through a review process with the Chamber people. A big part of the review was how we treated our business community in relation to our building permit process and in to relation to helping them through our zoning processes. After much discussion with them, we came to a conclusion that there were improvements that were necessary to be made to the Building Dept. We outlined those improvements that we anticipated on undertaking over the next couple of months. The Greater Cleveland Growth Association found that we were in compliance and worthy of the Business Friendly Community Award.

With that in mind, we undertook, or have been undertaking a re-organization of our building dept. We in the past have had some problems where building permits were sitting and not being worked on for a period of time for a number of reasons. We felt that and we presented to the Greater Cleveland Growth Association that we wanted at least a 2 week turn around if not less. In order to accomplish that, we reorganized the department and are proposing the hiring of CT Consultants, at least for the remainder of the year. In order to continue to provide professional services that are required under Section 103.2 of the Ohio Building Code.

This contract will also allow us to remain State certified and in conformance with the Code and Class 1 Certification. Our goal is to train the existing staff to be able to process what's coming into them on the spot. To be able to tell the person whether they have sufficient information contained in their documents that are provided to us that we can immediately start a review or to review those contracts or those papers and be able to tell the business person what is lacking and what we need to get the process going.

CT will provide Mr. William G. Gallagher to us. He is an AIA Plus Examiner with Certificate No. P000380. This will once again allow us to remain State Certified. Bill has been here for the past week reviewing our operations and making suggestions to the department on how we can continue to become more business friendly. I believe Mr. Gallagher is here tonight and if there are any questions you would like to direct to him, he'd be pleased to answer them. Likewise if there are any questions that I can answer, I'd be pleased to.

Councilman Gruber – We had a gentleman ask earlier about the process on how we came to this. Are there other suburbs that use them for this service?

Mayor Cervenik – Originally I thought that our present engineer, Chagrin Valley would be able to handle the chore, but they do not have the staff to provide the services that we need for this type of plan review. The City has used CT Consultants before with good success. They came highly recommended by our Service Director. CT Consultants works for 16 various communities and counties. I believe they recently set up Solon's building dept. I called CT Consultants, had Michael Steinhalter come in he gave us a presentation. I talked to him about doing the review. We also talked about the fee billing that we talked about during the budget hearings. The City of Euclid is one of the only communities that don't bill for plan reviews and we should be billing for plan reviews. We will be instituting that. When Mr. Steinhalter was through with his presentation I felt quite comfortable that that's what we needed to do through the end of the year. We feel we can get it done for about \$28,000. That's why I came to you this evening asking for your support with CT Consultants.

Councilwoman Mancuso – Is it our intention to out-source this permanently? It sounds like they are really going to help us keep the State certification temporarily.

Mayor Cervenik – It is temporary only because we have to make these changes and this contract will only run through the end of the year. It is our intention to evaluate it at the end of this year. It appears to me in talking with other communities, that yes, this will be a permanent change. It will be a change that greatly enhances the services we provide to those that use the building dept. And it will be at no cost to us.

Councilman Langman – The fees that we plan on instituting will recover the cost of the contract?

Mayor Cervenik – It will not only recover the cost of the contract, but it will recover the cost of the overhead of the department, just as we do now in the Housing Dept. There will be a formula to determine those fees. They will be presented up front to the users of the department, just like every other community. It will be a cost saving measure for the City and at the same time, in talking with a number of developers that have called me over the last few months wondering where their plans

were, I ran this by them and they are very comfortable with it. In other communities it does get done quicker. I was told that we do have legislation that allows for the charging of these fees. If there is any additional legislation that is needed, I will come to Council and ask for the passage of that. In any event, if we don't need new legislation when the fee schedule is instituted, we will make sure that each of you gets a copy of that fee schedule and that structure.

Councilman Delaney – Will this be revisited every year? Annually? Is there an escape clause if it will come before Council again? Or is it just this vote?

Mayor Cervenik – This contract will expire, Councilman Delaney, at the end of this year. So, yes, we will obviously need to come back to you at that time. At that time if we feel this is going in the direction we feel it is going which is in a positive direction, we could ask for a 2 year contract. We maybe more comfortable with a one year contract. Whatever Council desires as long as we keep the process in the Building Dept. at a pace that keeps everybody moving forward and getting their projects done in a timely manner.

Councilman Delaney- You mentioned the \$28,000 versus the salary of a Commissioner.

Mayor Cervenik – The Commissioner with fringes and all is somewhere around \$78,000-\$80,000. We also do have some other contract people on staff, electrical and plumbing and they also are able to and it is in their existing contract with us that they are able to do some of the other plan reviews. So, they will be helping out in this matter. They have not really been used much in the past in that capacity. We're just working on ways to save the citizens money and at the same time streamline the process.

Councilman Gruber moved to close debate, Councilman Langman seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Councilman Daly moved to suspend the rules, Councilman Delaney seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso,
T. Sustarsic
Abstain: J. Sustarsic

Passed.

Ord. 40-2004 (070-04) Patco Group

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid, or his designee, to enter into a professional services contract with Patricia A. Kost of Patco Group, Inc., 1900 Superior Avenue, Loft #104, Cleveland, Ohio 44114, for the purpose of providing financial advice and to act as a lead negotiator for the Lakefront Development Project, in an amount not to exceed Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00). (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik and Councilman Langman)

Councilwoman Hufnagle moved for passage, Councilman Gruber seconded.

Director Gliha – One quick note before we move onto this piece of legislation. I just wanted to say that the Greater Cleveland Growth Association will be coming to a Council Meeting in the next month or so to present the City with that award and we look forward to that.

Speaking of moving forward, we are at a point in the marina development that is very exciting, but at the same time very serious. We are at the point to where the financing packages have to be made real, have to be put together so that possibly next year at this time we will be actually placing stone in the water and creating breakwaters.

We originally had a contract with Prism Financial Group, who worked us through the analysis of the TIF and several other possible funding sources. Also established numerous contacts for the department to follow through on. Due to a personal health problem with the Prism Financial representative and the fact that he was located in Columbus, it was decided that it would be better for the City to cease that contract and solicit some expert advise from someone that is local.

In order to achieve that, I spoke with several of my fellow Development Directors throughout northeast Ohio and they recommended several names. We did some interviewing and we arrived at the Patco Group because of the expertise she was able to present to us in obtaining gap financing and obtaining financing for public agencies for such projects.

As I've said there are many pieces of the puzzle that must come together to make the marina development a reality. Doug Price, I think you are well aware, has begun the implementation of many of them, such as the purchase of the E. 242 Street homes and the demolition of some of those homes. He has also taken it upon himself to hire professional engineers and principal engineers to begin the complicated permitting process. While that process is being undertaken, it is imperative

that we finally put together a financing package that will not bear any weight on the city's ability to borrow and will not put the city in a bad financial position.

Of course we've all talked about the TIF financing that's going to be the number one source of financing for the bonds, or whatever needs to be issued in order to construct the breakwaters. But there are other sources of funds, such as the Port Authority and the New Market Tax Credit and several other new programs that need to be investigated and need to have a professional financial person work with us in order to take advantage of those programs.

It was also very enlightening today as I was leaving the office, we received a call from Stephanie Tubbs Jones' office. I think you might remember that last year at this time we were in the process of soliciting help from our federal representatives, Tubbs Jones and Senator George Voinovich, to partially fund some of the costs of these breakwaters. They requested today that we put together a letter for the Mayor to send to the Senator and the Senator is going to re-introduce to Congress the possibility of some federal funding for this project. That will be another source that we'll be able to combine hopefully with every other source that Pat Kost and the Patco Group will be able to provide to us.

The ultimate goal, once again, is to come to you hopefully in the fall and present a financing project for the breakwaters that will not put the city's finances in any harms way. If there are any questions, I'll be happy to answer them.

Councilman Langman – For those of you that were on Council last term, when we brought on Mr. Sprague, the goal remains the same. With Patco, they'll be working for our interests, not necessarily the developers. We need that expertise to make sure that, as Mr. Gliha said, at least strike the best deal possible from the city's standpoint. I think everybody that's been involved in the project would agree that Mr. Price has been very cooperative, very flexible. He is willing to go the extra step to make this project happen. This allows us that certainty that in fact the city's interests are protected. I strongly urge that we pass this this evening and I'll let the Mayor speak if he has any comments.

Mayor Cervenik – Councilman Langman, you summed it up pretty good. We are moving forward, probably a little faster in some areas than we predicted. We had a meeting last Wednesday with representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA. Although there are some initial questions by those various groups concerning the design of the marina, we left there being quite sure that with some touching up these plans will be approved. It is very important that Ms. Kost gets started right away. She's got all the information that the former consultant had and she'll be moving forward and fitting right in during the interview process. It was very clear that she was very knowledgeable in the steps that need to be done and she's going to put together a timetable for us as to how quickly we need to move. I'm very excited about this project and as we said, there's a very, very good possibility that sometime early in 2005, they will be putting stone into the water. Again I strongly urge the passage of this legislation. Thank you.

Councilman Langman moved to suspend the rules, Councilwoman Mancuso seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso, Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

Ord. 41-2004 (065-04) Aux. Police Dinner

An emergency ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid to expend an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) to pay for the annual appreciation dinner for Euclid Auxiliary Police Officers to be held at the Manor Party Center. (Sponsored by Councilman Gruber by request of the Chief of Police)

Councilman Gruber moved for passage, Councilman Daly seconded.

Chief Maine – Over the last few years you have authorized the expenditure to pay for the dinner for the auxiliary police officers. These are all volunteers. Last year they put in approximately 2600 hours of volunteer work that equates to about \$75,000. They not only respond to calls, but assist the city and help the school district out. There are at least 3 mini-calamities that befell the city last year. One being the power outage, as well as the recent gas line break up by the freeway where we made vast use of our auxiliary unit. If we didn't have them, I don't know how we would have been able to adequately respond. I think this is a small amount of money to recognize them for their efforts and I hope this would pass without too much of a discussion. Thanks.

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Councilwoman Mancuso moved to suspend the rules, Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail seconded.

Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso,
Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

Res. 42-2004 Union Contract

A resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid to execute an Agreement by and between the City of Euclid and International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Local 1363, as exclusive bargaining agent for all Shore Cultural Centre Custodians. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Councilman Daly moved for passage, Councilman Delaney seconded.

Director Frey – On the back of the ordinance is a summary of the financial impacts. This contract mirrors the contracts given the other non-safety force bargaining units in the city. In that there is no wage increase for 2002; 2 1/2% increase for 2003; 3 1/2% increase for 2004; and 4% increase in 2005. In addition there is the standard medical co-pay and prescription co-pay. Medical payment rather, monthly payment then a prescription co-pay. There is a uniform allowance of \$300 per year per member. This contract mirrors that was given the other bargaining units and approved by Council.

There was a question raised on the uniform monies. Those are allowances to the bargaining unit members that are paid out in either tool allowance or uniform allowances. To my knowledge all of the bargaining units received some type of allowance in that regard. I don't know from a policy point of view whether the Recreation Dept. requires the individuals to put it towards uniforms and be attired in a uniform. Ms Will is not here this evening to answer that.

Mayor Cervenik – Ms. Will's mother had surgery today and we told her to take the evening off. I will find out if in fact we require a specific uniform to be worn. However, I do want to point out that it was \$22,000 was mentioned as the Parks & Recreation's uniform allowance. That's for 3 years. Those contracts were just settled. It is actually about \$7,000 year for the 12 or so employees they have. But as the contract settlement was delayed, we are paying for 2002, 2003 as well as 2004, clothing allowance. That is why that number is so high. We will make sure that if they're supposed to be wearing uniforms over there and I apologize for not knowing, but if that's a requirement of the job, they will wear their uniforms. Normally as the Law Director said, it can be a clothing allowance where you have to wear work cloths and this is part of the maintaining of the cloths and the washing and what have you. Similar to the police uniform allowance.

Councilwoman Hufnagle – So how are they paid that in their paycheck? Every two weeks? Or in one lump sum?

Director Johnson - Usually it is one lump in a single check.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – I know from working with the city for the past few years, we use that money for, the city provides for the uniform. But what I used that money for was to provide for the winter coat, the jump suits and boots, which are not provided. We have to buy that for ourselves.

Councilwoman Mancuso – This is a general question. Do we have any more labor contracts coming due soon?

Director Frey – This is the last contract that's unsettled for this year. However, at the end of 2004, the Motor Maintenance contract. We start with Motor Maintenance at the end of 2004, is the end of that agreement. All of the rest of the agreements expire at the end of 2005 except for Motor Maintenance.

Councilwoman Mancuso – I'd say we all have a lot of work to do before the next negotiations.

Councilman T. Sustarsic moved to close debate, Councilman Gruber seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso,
Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

Res. 43-2004 Arbor Day 4-30-04

A resolution celebrating Arbor Day on Friday, April 30, 2004, in the City of Euclid, and encouraging all residents throughout our community to observe Arbor Day and appreciate the beauty, value, benefit and significance of trees to our City. (Sponsored by Entire Council at the request of Acting Parks & Recreation Director)

Councilwoman Hufnagle moved for passage, Councilman Langman seconded.

Mayor Cervenik – I believe we have a couple of Council members on the Tree Commission.

Councilman Gruber – Councilwoman Hufnagle and myself serve on the Shade Tree Commission. We have decided to have a ceremony at 10 AM at Lincoln School. This year's recipient of the honors will be Fay Miller. We'll be planting a tree in her honor for her service to the schools, to the city and as a former Shade Tree Committee Member. We invite all the public to attend at 10 AM at Lincoln School for the planting of the Fay Miller tree. Thank you.

Roll Call: Yeas: Daly, Delaney, Gruber, Holzheimer Gail, Hufnagle, Langman, Mancuso,
Sustarsic, Sustarsic.

Passed.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Councilman Delaney moved to go into the Committee of the Whole. Councilman Daly seconded.
Yeas: Unanimous.

Miss Jessica Wrenn – 925 E. 248 St. I have an announcement I'd like to make regarding E-Vote. So many young Americans feel disengaged from the political process and yet so many issues have a tremendous affect on their lives.

I received this quote in an e-mail. It is a quote from Governor Howard Dean. Among the many quotes that I received, this is the one that has stuck in my mind. The more I thought about this quote, the more real it became. Young Americans do indeed feel disengaged, yet are full of questions and are not given to many opportunities to ask these questions.

If you were to sit and think about it, the decisions that are being made right now by this very Council affect what the city is going to be like when it comes time for the next generation to take over. That is why I decided to create a group call EVote, Euclid Voters of Tomorrow. With the creation of this group, I plan to get teens involved by inviting them to forum-type meetings where they can ask the questions that they have and learn about the issues that are affecting our city. Our mission is to make today's young people be informed voters of tomorrow. The voting public both and young and old must engage in the political process. Together we can make a difference, shaping our community and our world. The time to get involved is now.

EVote's first meeting is March 24th at 7 PM at the Lake Shore Coffee House at Lake Shore and 266. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or would like to participate, please feel free to contact me by phone at 261-8526. Or by e-mail at Jessica@E-VOT. Org. You can also visit our website at www.e-vot.org. Thank you.

Ms. Maria Jukic – 25680 Lake Shore Blvd. I'm Vice-President of the Shore Cultural Centre Board of Trustees. On behalf of the entire Board, I wanted to share with Council, the Administration and all the citizens of Euclid that after meeting with the Mayor a few weeks ago, the Shore Board looks forward to working with the City and the citizens of Euclid to create a mutually beneficial future for Shore Cultural Centre.

We intend to do everything possible to work collaboratively with all involved in order to ensure that Shore continues and thrives. Towards that end, the Board intends to move forward with programs and initiatives, including painting of rooms that could be rented for events associated with the auditorium, development and fund raising initiatives, as well as increased program activity.

Some events and activities coming up at Shore that we hope many of you will attend and support are: The Euclid Orchestra Concert, Sunday March 21st at 3 PM; UpStage Players performances of Annie, Friday April 2, Sat. April 3 and Sun. April 4th; a Community Garage Sale will be held on Sat. April 24th as a fund-raiser; The Music Man will be performed, May 14, 15, 21, 22. For information about these or any other programs, please feel free to call the Shore Cultural Centre.

In addition, the Board recently went through a nomination and election process for new Board members and Officers. In the last few months, 5 new Board Members have been added, new officers elected and an emeritus board has been created. The Shore Board is alive and well and we look forward to seeing you here, often, in the coming weeks and months. Thank you.

Ms. Lisa Kinkoff – 925 E. 248 St. It is no secret that the City of Euclid's finances are approaching fiscal emergency. How we got here is history. Where do we go from here is the issue. Tough times call for tough leaders and these tough leaders must make prudent calculated and tough decisions.

During the budget hearings, Mr. Cervenik proposed that Council allow him to borrow \$2 million to pay the city's bills. When an entity, be it a municipality or an individual starts to borrow money to make ends meet, that entity has chosen to walk down a dangerous path. Any professional financial advisor would tell you that when any entity has to borrow money to make ends meet, it is a red flag indicating financial troubles are here and tough decisions have to be made now.

During the budget hearings, Mr. Cervenik was quick to point out that in the absence of a \$2 million loan, he would have to lay off approximately 28 police officers. A point well taken. But I say to Mr. Cervenik, when you took, want to be Mayor 101, didn't you learn that scare tactics such as the one above are old school and will no longer work in this day in age?

During the campaign of November, 2003, Mr. Cervenik promised no new taxes. Mr. Cervenik, the citizens of Euclid consider this loan and other proposed fees for city services a tax on us. The Administration must do the right thing and balance the budget. You, Mr. Cervenik, cannot borrow money to pay for services. You cannot borrow money to pay for raises. You cannot borrow money to pay for new employees. A promise is a promise. You said no new taxes, and once again, you were talking about fees and a loan, taxes in disguise.

The citizens are watching. I noticed that you like to use terms such as work together, consensus and common goals. These are nothing more than political code words to have the Council make the tough decisions you are refusing to make.

Mr. Sustarsic, I want you to be true to your word. You stated during your campaign, we must live within our means. Borrowing money to pay everyday expenses is not living within our means. Hold the Administration accountable for their budget. Have the Administration make tough decisions. Have the Administration cut pay raises. Have the Administration reduce benefits. Have the Administration balance the budget.

Mr. Cervenik, I am not a big fan of bringing up the past, but you may recall that you used my family's name in the same sentence regarding the election is over. You're right. The election is over, you are the Mayor and now more than ever you must live up to that. Make these tough decisions, it's your job. You must present a balanced budget to Council. Again it is your job to do so. Stop being a politician and be a leader. A leader makes tough decisions. I say to you Mr. Cervenik, balance that budget and by doing so you will gain political blessings. By not doing so, you and you alone are promoting your own political demise. Thank you.

Miss Ashley Allen – 421 G Kenwood Dr. I can't believe that Mayor Bill Cervenik is really considering closing the Shore Cultural Centre. I am only 13 but I have so many memories of the Shore Centre. The wonderful staff at Love-n-Care Day Care to the totally awesome caring crew of UpStage Players. The crew that gives hundreds of kids the chance and the opportunity to perform musicals. I had pottery classes at the Centre. I was also looking forward to getting my babysitting certificate.

All those memories will be a pile of dust if the Mayor continues with his plans. What about the Hunger Center? Where are the citizens of Euclid who rely on the Center for food supposed to go?

I would like to invite the Mayor and all City Council to attend our upcoming production of Annie, that I hope won't be our last performance. Then he will see why Shore should live.

Mr. Tod Guntner – 390 E. 257. You know how I hate to read things, but I've got to read this because there's a lot here. Euclid Animal Shelter held its first Open House presented by Euclid Pet Pals on Saturday, March 13 from 11-3 PM. Included was a bake sale and cake auction. We had approximately 200 people attend this event. We collected 20 volunteer applications in addition to probably another 12-15 the week before. We have 34 new Pet Pal members and one renewal. Our bake sale and cake auction was a tremendous success. 22 cakes were donated for the auction and at least 30 people donated bake sale items. Several other items were donated as well, such as food, cat litter, toys and aluminum cans.

We also adopted 4 dogs. Which leaves our dog cupboard almost bare. We are down to two Sheppard puppies, that are 5 weeks old this week and are ready to go home in 3 weeks. We still have 6 gray cats that need a good home. As you all know, we could fill up again in just a matter of days.

Thank you to all the volunteers. Bake sale donors. Cake Auction donors and everyone who visited us on Saturday and to all the wonderfully generous citizens of Euclid and surrounding communities who donated money to help keep the Animal Shelter open. Stay tuned for more fun and excitement from Euclid Pet Pals in the near future. We are already working on new projects. Thank you again everyone for your support.

There are a couple of special thank-you I would like to give out at this time. I have a neighbor named Steve, I don't know him very well, I met him once 3 years ago when I moved into that neighborhood. He brought two cakes. One of them was the highest bid of \$40. His two cakes, you could actually lift weights. They were that heavy. One was a carrot cake and one was a raspberry supreme and I'm sure it was very good, wasn't it. I'd also like to thank someone for their idea of doing a cake auction in the first place. This was brought to my attention through someone else and without their idea we would not have had the success that we had. Thank you very much.

We had a bidder who bid \$30 on a cake, I think it was a cheesecake. When all was said and done, the check was for \$100. Thank you very much to whoever that was. I do not know who that was, but thank you. There is also a family who donated 10 dozen cookies. They were peanut butter cookies with kiss inside. They were \$3 a dozen. They were the first things to do. They also donated a couple of dozen of muffins. Again, thank you very much.

We had a 50/50 raffle and collected \$283. Half of which is \$141.50. I called the winner to tell them that they won, low and behold, to my surprise, they said keep it, it is for the Animal Shelter. To that person, thank you very much. We greatly appreciated that. We also got a membership and many donated bake goods from that person also. If I missed anyone, thank you and please accept my sincerest apologies. I know you want to know how much we made, and that is coming. Thank you.

Ms. Jan Gajda – 421 E. 257th St. At the last Council meeting I made a plea to the residents of Euclid to help our Animal Shelter to stay open. I asked for volunteers and donations. The response was awesome. In the last two weeks we had about a dozen volunteer applications, mostly in person. Some came in and began to work that day. We got over \$600 in donations both through the mail and in person and donations of all kinds of things for the Shelter, such as paper towels, food, treats, blankets and toys. This past Saturday Euclid Pet Pals held an open house at the Shelter, which I know that I'm repeating some of what Tod said, which included a bake sale and a cake auction, what a goofy idea.

We wanted more volunteers and more money and, boy, did we get it. As Tod mentioned we got 20 more potential volunteers, we got 34 new members and a lot of cash donations. We had 22 beautiful cakes as well as cookies, muffins, cupcakes, pizza and other baked goods. The support from our residents and the residents of neighboring communities and businesses was overwhelming. The only disappointing thing about the day for me was that I forgot to bring my camera. The cakes were unbelievable. All in all, this 4-hour event raised \$3,403 for the Animal Shelter. Thank you to everyone that helped, baked, donated, bought or supported us in any other way.

Upcoming festivities include the Bark-B-Q at the Manor on Friday, May 14th. A two-day event on May 22nd and 23rd to help save Fay's Strays, which will be a door-to-door walk through Euclid, our one-year anniversary party in July and a couple other events that are currently being considered. Check our website to get the information. The web is www.euclidpetpals.org. Again, thank you.

Mr. Dennis Berzinskas – 20890 S. Lakeshore Blvd. I live in Euclid. I'm proud of it. We have so many volunteers. Volunteers that help the Police, help Pet Pals, help the Henn Mansion, help Shore. This is a giving community. We all should be very proud of these people. It's up to the powers-to-be to reach out to the community in a time of need. So many people on the Vision 2020 are sharing their expertise to help make this a better City. We need these people.

You know, I've talked to somebody last Wednesday, but before I get to that, somebody told me once in politics that if you live in the community, it is your right and your duty to come up to this podium and ask questions, hard questions and get the right answers. Because if not, the power-to-be think they run the City. They don't. We are the citizens. We are the community. But getting back to that lady, her name was mentioned in a tirade, in a juvenile attempt to reach out to the community, I don't know how; but anyway, she's ashamed to even come to this chambers any more. I told her she has no right to feel that way. It's the person that was lashing out at the community that helps. And right now, Bill, I'm asking you to formally apologize to every one of those citizens followed up with a call to them personally and ask them to help mend fences. This is our community, Bill. Live with it or leave.

Mr. William Hilf – 891 E. 237th St. I'm here to make an announcement about an organization many of you may recall. Shore Up is starting up again to work as a community-based group to help save Shore Cultural Centre as a cultural center. Not as housing or as any other type of building, but as a community center that serves the community of Euclid and the surrounding area.

We'll be holding our first organizational meeting that we're inviting all Euclid citizens to attend to discuss the future of Shore and to start circulating petitions this Sunday, March 21st, from 2-4 p.m. in the Babbitt Room at the Euclid Public Library. Anyone else interested in contacting myself as leader of this organization to get more details can e-mail me at shorereport@yahoo.com or call me at 216-731-5793. We look forward to working with the other groups at Shore, including the Shore

Board of Trustees and are planning on a positive and bright future for the crown jewel of Euclid, Shore Cultural Centre. Thank you.

Mrs. Rebecca Conway – 291 E. 276th St. After viewing both budget meetings, I am left feeling very discouraged and concerned. How does this Administration justify a 3% for City employees when you want to borrow \$2 million? And at the same time, though, you're going to cut crossing guards, though, that keep our children safe. By borrowing \$2 million we will limit and dangerously risk the future opportunities of new businesses relocating in Euclid. Business is the key to revenue. Revenue creates the features, amenities and superior services we all need, want and pay for. Let's restore the pride in being called the City of Superior Services.

My most serious concern, though, is how the budget was presented. Not only was the first meeting held three months into the year, but where have the cuts been made with the exception of layoffs? Where's the projected revenue amounts of suggestions made by the Mayor to charge for street lighting, garbage pickup, sewage for the rainfall. I feel these fees are hidden taxes. Again though, where's the money amount in revenue the General Fund will be increased by. Wouldn't we need not to borrow as much money with these new fees?

It is ultimately the Administration's job to balance the budget not the Council's. Where is the creativity, the looking outside the box and the financial skills to balance our budget? What happens to us next year? How will the borrowing of \$2 million impact us in 2005? I hope we can hear specific, concrete answers to these questions this evening. You are our elected officials and you are accountable to us.

In addition when the Mayor has stated he does not want to layoff firemen, can you please be more specific. From my understanding the union contract does not allow firemen to be laid off for 2004. I think it is the responsibility and duty of Mr. Johnson to provide the Council a monthly budgetary forecast. How does one budget without seeing previous months' expenditures, what the money was spent on and expected expenditures for the upcoming month?

Our Council President said at a previous meeting referring to the Planning & Zoning Committee, they're the experts, well, this Administration including Mr. Johnson are the experts. Let's see what they will do to secure Euclid's financial sector. All of our futures, but most importantly, our children and seniors futures are in your hands. I feel optimistic, though, that a thorough and exhaustive search will be done and our Administration will provide cost-cutting suggestions to trim the budget. When looking at a large number, such as \$32 million, it may not look simple; but we need to keep it simple. We do not need to spend more than we have. We have 8-1/2 months left for 2004. Let's get creative and not borrow \$2 million.

Mr. Mike Mihalich – 101 E. 202 St. First of all, Kirsten, you look good sitting up there in that chairperson's chair up there, and where is the sobriety check point? You asked that question.

First of all, I want to talk about the budget. What's the difference between raising taxes for City services and paying a monthly fee for garbage and recycling? There's really no difference in my estimation. I'm not an accountant, a finance director or even bookkeeper so my apologies for not understanding this budget.

On the increased spending side there's an extra pay period, a wage increase and the insurance fund, that's about \$1.4 million, correct?

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – How much? What did you say, the number?

Mr. Mihalich – 1.4? Okay. Now on the savings side the citizens lose crossing guards, a recreation director, no fireworks, no Euclid Home Days, Shore Cultural Centre is gone either in June or the beginning of the heating season. No golf course improvement and we pay for garbage removal and we have over 80 less people on the payroll. Correct?

Mayor Cervenik – Not completely, not completely, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Mihalich – Either way, now, we're going to have an increase in spending of over \$2-1/2 million over 2003. I just don't get it. Anyway, enough on the budget and a short comment on the Hillandale issue. This is one of the Letters to the Editor that never get published, perhaps it's just me and I got bumped by a 13-year-old I think.

In response to Euclid Council President Sustarsic's comments as reported in the Plain Dealer's Metro section March 2nd, under the title Church Plan Might Be Put to Euclid Vote. It is pretty obvious Jerry Sustarsic has a one-track mind in regards to this project. Even after hours and hours of great debate on the property by numerous residents voicing scores of reasonable concerns, he can only think of one thing, racism. Sustarsic just made an incredible mistake when he insulted at least 30% of the voters in Euclid that signed the petitions, including the African American voters that

make up, I estimate, 30-40% of the signatures gathered when he said racism is behind much of the resistance.

If you ever thought of why the City of Euclid is looked upon as being unattractive by others in the region and by some of our own citizens, you really don't have to look any further than some of our elected officials. They are not interested in moving forward nor are they interested in the City healing. They have their own agenda that does not include what is best for the residents of the City of Euclid. End of letter.

As for the calculated threat of litigation, it's still a possibility that American Church Builders and the Providence Baptist Church would use the court to undermine the popular will of the people. It has been proven in the past what they cannot gain from the ballot box they will attempt to gain through the gavel. Knowing this are we supposed to now be in favor of the project based on threats, accusations and matters beyond our control, I will let the popular vote of Euclid citizens establish that answer in November.

Now I think there's something worth reading again from Ashley Allen; and yes, I did get bumped by a 13-year-old, her letter was printed on the 11th of March. I can't believe that Euclid Mayor Bill Cervenik is really considering closing the Shore Cultural Centre. She is only 13, but I have so many memories of the center from the wonderful staff at the Love-N-Care Daycare to the totally awesome caring crew of the Up Stage Players. The crew that has given hundreds of kids the opportunity to act and put on musicals. I had classes in pottery at the center and I was looking forward to getting my babysitting certificate there this summer. All those memories will be a pile of dust if the Mayor continues with his plans. What about the Hunger Center? Where are the citizens of Euclid who rely on the Center for food supposed to go?

I invite the Mayor to attend our upcoming production of Annie and what I hope won't be our last performance. That he'll see why Shore should live. Again, it was Ashley Allen of Euclid.

To the citizens of Euclid the opening night for Annie is April 2nd. A sellout performance would be beneficial to the cause of retaining Shore.

President Sustarsic – Excuse me, Mr. Mihalich, your 5 minutes is over.

Mr. Mihalich – Two seconds, please? Euclid Awareness...

President Sustarsic – No, no, if I have to give 2 seconds to everyone else that would add up and I appreciate. Thank you.

Mrs. Susan McGinn – 141 Sunnyclyff Dr. I'd like to start off thanking all the Euclid voters who came out on March 2nd and passed the School levy. Gave me, even though my children aren't in public schools, I have two small little boys, that gave me some renewed hope for the City.

I'd like to thank Kirsten Holzheimer Gail, Penny Meaney, Donna Sudar. I'd like to thank my Councilman, Ward 2 Councilman, Daryl Langman, for all his efforts. Councilman Pat Delaney for all his efforts and Charlene Mancuso. And I would in particular like to thank Angela Lisy, who worked really, really hard to get the levy passed.

I am also going to talk about the budget and I've been following the Finance Committee meetings. At the last Finance Committee meeting, it seemed that the Administration deflected the problem of solving the budget crisis to our City Council. It is my understanding that the oneness of balancing the budget is on the Mayor and his Administration. Administration should have the financial expertise and budgetary acumen and if not, it is their responsibility to seek out other experts in finance. Might that expertise be with the Economic Advisory Board that the Mayor spoke about? I don't know if that Board exists yet, but it might be something we'd want to look at. Wouldn't their role be to look at the finances objectively and make some recommendations? I will say that the idea of borrowing \$2 million while simultaneously talking about giving out raises to City employees sounds like fuzzy math to me.

If a family who could not pay, excuse me, pay their bills borrowed money to go on a vacation, we would all criticize that process. A red flag would go up with all of us. Borrowing money and giving raises sends a red flag up with me. Administration has given their version of a balanced budget. Council feels they cannot approve it as it was presented. The answer is more solutions, new solutions, more creative savings. It seems the same services are always put on the chopping block, Shore, crossing guards, residents paying for trash collection, lighting, etc. The Mayor spoke of not raising taxes during his campaign, but isn't more money out of our pockets to pay for established services essentially the same as raising taxes?

Our reality is we have not cut enough or we are out of ideas or we have run out of determination. In my own experience my husband's employer has put a freeze on administrative raises, eliminated some positions, consolidated functions, it's all more work and less money. That is the reality of the private sector. It should also be the reality here. Thank you.

Mr. Tom Cooke – 23100 Chardon Rd. I hadn't planned on really saying anything this evening, but I was pleasantly surprised by a few things. Number 1, the award by the Cleveland Growth Association that was presented to who, the Administration, Mr. Gliha?

Acting Director Gliha – Yes.

Mr. Cooke – That's nice to hear. That's definitely a step in the right direction. I also would like to thank Hank Gulich. I know I've talked to you personally with regard to the streets and your department and how you've been handling everything pretty much with the limited resources and reduced resources that not only you but everybody has had to deal with. And based on what I've seen, your department has done a hell of a job. And I shouldn't have said that I guess. But I just want to thank you, thank you for that.

Also, Ms. Holzheimer Gail, you did look pretty good up there, no offense to Jerry. With regard to the lakefront project, I didn't know it was moving to the extent that it's moving right now or at the pace that it's moving right now. So that's a real, real nice surprise and the only thing I can say is don't stop. Don't let anything get in your way right now. You must extend, you must go beyond what you think you can do to keep this going. That must happen.

With regard to the budget, just briefly, there's two, there's two things that anyone could pretty much do. You can cut your existing expenses to an extent. To the other end you must look for other sources of revenue because things are changing all the time. And to that extent as far as the award to the, from the Cleveland Growth Association that shows me that the City is looking beyond is changing things to look for other sources of revenue. And also with regard to the lakefront development, you know, I see it progressing right now. Obviously, there was a point where I was actually afraid that that thing just kind of died. Thank God it didn't.

With regard to Shore Cultural Centre, everything's on the block. Unfortunately, sometimes things have to change. It must be looked into. It must be reviewed. Nothing is sacred. Thank you.

Mr. Dennis Fricky – 141 E. 280th. I'm going to talk about the budget a little bit. First of all, anybody that's watched the budget meetings should know that Councilwoman Mancuso has done a superior job in it. And she wasn't elected on the Finance Committee so she's doing it on her own. So that's a real kudos to her. And also Daryl Langman has a lot of good questions and Mr. Delaney. I noticed Council President you didn't have any questions about it and that kind of quite concerns me since I got a quote here. But I like the last sentence we have to be prudent. I like that. But I guess that's not going to follow.

But anyhow, I'd like to say also to the Mayor, thank you for the Board of Control back on the air. Thank you very much. Should never have been taken off, but thank you very much.

About the budget itself, it's so confusing. First of all, in the first budget hearing you get, I don't know, 50 papers. Okay, you talk about that. And Mr. Johnson's apologizing about the, you know, everything's in fluid. That's another catch phrase I guess. In other words we don't have firm numbers, but yet, we're going to go to this process again. How can Council make decisions when you don't have firm numbers?

The second meeting, you come back, you get another pack of papers, okay? And the way I understood it, I think the Mayor wanted you all to vote on it then. And you say well, we just got these papers, you know, how can we vote on this. And it seems to me that it's like pulling numbers out of Administration, in other words, every time something is asked it's kind of like around about and something to hide. Now this is just my perception, I'm not saying that's what happening. To all you people out in the audience, at home, why aren't you down here? Don't you know what a user tax is? User fees, that's a tax, you know. I mean, paying for garbage, paying for lighting, paying for water that hits on the roof of your house, I mean, this is kind of where are we going in the City of Euclid? Where are we going?

And this brings me to the biggest thing is the City income tax. And if that goes through, you might as well start planning on building another senior center, Mayor. Because we're going to need it because there's not going to be anybody that's worth, that works, lives in Euclid and works some place else that's going to be staying here. So I think that's definitely, definitely, definitely out.

And what really disturbs me, I just moved here about 7-8 years ago, something like that. But we had \$7 million in 1998, \$7 million and here it is 2004 and we're borrowing \$4 million. Come on, give me a break. Where does all this money go? We could have built a break wall. We could have built a new golf course. We could have done a lot of things and I have a real problem, a real problem with this. I'll give you a little quote, this is pretty funny and then I'll go on to something else if I have time. Who said this? Think out of the box. Can't do things like we've been doing all along. We need new ideas. You know who said that? Tim Hagan. Tim Hagan said that and he's been

around a long time. He's from the old school. So this thing with taxes, I think, is, I mean, it's just, people are moving out. You can't do it with taxes.

So I might as well bring out the, this is the only one I saved. I got a million of them like everybody else did. And streamlining City Hall, making it more business and job friendly, okay? I don't know whether you've done that, if you haven't done it, which it doesn't seem that way, you need to do that. Working to attract and keep young professionals. Well, if you put all these taxes on, I don't think there's a lot of people crazy about moving into a balance that we can't balance a budget to keep on taxing the people. Next, thing is and this is the reason I kept this one was revitalizing Euclid Square Mall. And that's where we need to go. Mayor, that's where we need to go. We need to get jobs in here. I don't know how to do it. I'm not the Mayor. You've reminded us a million times. You are the Mayor. You certainly are. I want you to fulfill these campaign promises. And that'll be really outstanding. I was really impressed with that.

Okay, getting back to one thing that is not a good thing to say. And in the last sentence here, you know, Euclid not Euclid but Lincoln Electric, they said about a plant in China...

President Sustarsic – Excuse me, sir, your time is up.

Mr. Fricky - ...plant in China.

President Sustarsic – Thank you.

Mr. Fricky – If Lincoln Electric leaves, we might as well turn off the lights. So you better be thinking about new businesses.

Mr. Dave Griesmer – 314 E. 216. I, again, would like to thank the people of Euclid for voting for Euclid City Schools Issue 24. Thank you very much. I volunteered on the campaign and I did a little bit, but there's a lot of people out there that did a lot more than me. My disappointment lies in the elected officials sitting in front of me that didn't help out and, like I said again, I didn't do a ton; but I did a little bit. That's a disappointment because everybody on their campaign trail said strong schools, that's what we need in Euclid. When you drive by, randomly drive by a few of these Council members' houses and you don't see a Euclid City School sign, what's the message there? The message is there that they are not for Euclid schools. And another disappointment in the State Rep race for District 7, the people of District 7 decided to vote for Kenny Yuko over a Euclid guy, Kent Smith. Kent Smith was a fine candidate, and I think, there we go, again, the money rules and the person with the most money wins. Thank you. Have a good night.

President Sustarsic – What we're going to do here we're going to take a break for 30 seconds while they change tapes.

Mr. John Conway – 291 E. 276. Tonight I'd like to discuss my views on our current budget situation. Whether you're a member of the Administration, the Council or registered voter, there is one common theme that all the residents of the City of Euclid have and that's the proposed budget impacts all of us.

After sitting in on the last two Finance meeting it is clear to me and many others that the road ahead of us will be very challenging. The hardship is real, but the ultimate destination must be unmistakable a brighter and stronger tomorrow for Euclid. This budget must ensure that Euclid will be a better place tomorrow than it is today. Fiscal responsibility must be restored. The City's economy must be revived and the faith in the Administration and the Council must be renewed.

The way I see it, Mr. Mayor, we could stand here all night and rearrange the deck chairs of the Titanic; but if we do not figure out a way to avoid the iceberg, the ship that we call the City of Euclid will go down. And it'll go down fast. Let me state this clearly. We all know how we arrived at this point. For too long the City has spent too much with too little to show for it. This must stop with this budget and we the residents of Euclid must hold the Administration accountable to live within its means. The budget must be balanced, not just on paper but also in practice. Despite a fiscal crisis of historic proportions, we must have a balanced budget without raising taxes and without sacrificing our bond rating by borrowing \$2 million. When the economy faltered after September 11th, our City government had a choice. To look our problems in the eye or look the other way and it chose the easy road of a temporary fix. Mistakes were made that worsened the situation and merely pushed the tough decisions off to another day and that day has come.

As you proceed, please never forget this. On the other end of these decisions are real people who will feel real pain. You will do what you have to do, but you should do it with respect and understanding towards those that bear the burden. And let's remember this too. Budgets are truly about choices and we will have to make some difficult choices between tonight and the end of the

month. No matter how you believe you should balance the budget, you must choose. When you disagree with the Administration's proposed budget, we are all obligated to get involved and make suggestions. This also applies to the residents. No budget is perfect. Everyone involved in the process must keep an open mind and respect the suggestions that are presented to you. Make no mistake, the choices ahead of you are tough indeed, among the toughest any of you will ever have to make and the residents will need to accept.

I believe that the blueprint for a successful 2004 budget includes 5 key priorities: #1, to distribute budget cuts fairly because we are truly all in this together.

Two, to reduce spending and make government more efficient because if we're going to ask the people of Euclid to accept less, you have to do more with less.

Number 3, to do it once and to do it right. Because we need to get on with Euclid's future not return again and again to the problems of the past, this is what concerns me about the proposal to borrow \$2 million. If I understand bond ratings correctly, my concern is that by borrowing \$2 million to balance the budget our bond rating will be so adversely impacted that no existing company or a company that could potentially move to Euclid would be able to afford a loan, competitive enough to manage their business effectively. This loan cannot be used as leverage to play the blame game. This budget cannot be about well, if I had this loan, then we would not have any problems. And because you did not approve it, other hard decisions were needed to be made. As I stated earlier, we are all in this together and playing the blame game will not allow the City to move forward.

Number 4, not to raise taxes because Euclid taxpayers already pay their fair share. Call it what you want, but the suggestions that the City starts charging residents for trash pickup and street lighting is in essence a tax increase.

Number 5, to protect education, safety forces and recreation services because no matter how deep this crisis is we have to protect what is important. That includes saving the school crossing guard program. How can this be done you ask? Well, if it is possible to reduce the allocated dollars associated with the overtime line item in the General Fund by just 2.5%, it would be possible to completely fund the school crossing guard program while ensuring the safety of our children.

Regarding Briardale Golf Course, Briardale Golf Course is projected to lose money in 2004 per the budget. I do not believe the golf course has ever lost money in previous years. I understand that some of the expenditures related to the purchase of a new net and the addition of another club pro. Both are needed if we want to increase revenue at Briardale to offset expenditures. Perhaps one way to justify the additional expense would be to reevaluate the funds currently allocated to the swimming pools. If we can reduce expenses by 20%...

President Sustarsic – Thank you, your time is up.

Mr. Conway - ...we could do that. Thank you.

Mr. Matt Sarver – 26550 Shoreview. I'd just like to give a little plug this evening to the Up Stage Players and the Shore Cultural Centre. The opening night for Annie is April 2nd and a sellout performance would be beneficial to the cause of retaining the Shore Cultural Centre.

The Euclid Awareness Committee obtained over 4,400 signatures from concerned residents during the referendum drive. And the citizens of Euclid passed a school levy a few weeks ago. Certainly we can gather 1200 culturally-minded citizens to not only support the Up Stage Players but just as important demonstrate that Shore is a community asset that needs to be preserved.

Now please join us. Ticket information is, the e-mail is upstageplayers@aol.com. You can get your tickets, ticket information and won't you please join us for that?

Secondly, Mr. Mayor, I'd like a point of clarification on the CT Consultants contract. I'd like to know first off, is the \$28,000 contract with CT a result of a competitive bidding process? If so, I'd like to know which other firms submitted bids. If it wasn't result of this process, I'd like to know why not.

Secondly, will this contract or the renewal of the contract rather be subject to a bidding process once the contract has run out?

President Sustarsic – Would you like him to answer that during your?

Mr. Sarver – Yes, please.

Mayor Cervenik – As I stated, the selection process is that they have the expertise. We are not required by State law to go out for the bidding process, competitive bidding process. We were at a stage in the office where we needed someone with the expertise to get the job done and get it done immediately. My staff brought up a box of plans that would be an embarrassment to any Building Department. CT Consultants, in my estimation, had the ability to take care of that problem. We will

evaluate this through the year. We will look at the evaluation of our Building Department that they will be providing us with shortly and a decision will be made next year as to what to do. But there is no legal requirement for professional services to be competitively bid.

Mr. Sarver – Okay, thank you.

Mayor Cervenik – You're welcome.

Mrs. Madeline Scarniench – 1511 E. 221. I've officially retired from politics, but one comment. Negotiated contracts, creative financing, the \$7 million was here two years ago. Hopefully, this current Council now will really think about what they do and how they spend money.

On to a lighter note and why I came up here, 3 weeks ago we were put into a predicament at the Shelter. We lost half of our staff. We were told that if we were going to make it we had to do it on our own. Tod, Jan and I worked really hard trying to figure out what we were going to do. When the idea of a bake sale and a cake auction came up, I thought they were absolutely crazy. I was totally against it. Thanks for not listening to me. The people in this City came out. It was absolutely amazing what happened on Saturday.

I want to thank some people. I want to thank Jan and Tod because they did, Tod is out there publicizing everywhere he can publicize. And Jan is doing her thing on the computer and making us look real good on there. And we are. We are constantly, all of our animals are going out. It's wonderful. We're doing a good thing and for somebody who's allergic to cats I go in there and play with the cats and the kitties every day. So I'm sick every night, but that's okay. I like the cats.

Couple other people I'd like to thank, Councilman Delaney, for your donation. We ran out of hot dogs. We've got to make the list a little bigger next time. We would like to thank Ann and Jim because they both stuck around. They didn't have to, but they were there and they have been for the last 3 weeks. Whenever we had a question, they were there to answer them. I would love to thank Councilman Gruber for getting dirty on Thursday nights. He has come in and helped. We decided, I decided I wanted to be open on Thursday night to see what happened and it was great. We adopted out a few animals. Chris, thank you very much for not being afraid to get dirty, he does do what he says.

To Kirsten, thank you for being the only person from Council, from Administration that came to our event on Saturday. She brought her whole family. The kids had a lot of fun. And one last thing on May 1st and 2nd we will be, I hope, we will be participating in a nationwide adopt-a-thon. So we will be open on Saturday and Sunday that weekend and I hope we have animals that people will come out and take them home to their house because they're a lot of fun and you definitely got to come and see those puppies. There's two left. Thank you.

Mr. Joe Udovic – 21371 Naumann. First, I'd like to talk a little about history. Last September I stood at this podium and said this, we need serious leadership. This is serious time for people to make some serious decisions. From what I'm seeing and from what, I've been at both budget hearings and I'm not happy how fast we ramroded through each department. I think it's time we started asking some serious questions. Just myself I am looking through the budget with my personal accountant. I can find ways where we can save some money. I don't see why we aren't asking these very serious questions now. This Council was elected. You ran. Now it's time to ask the serious questions.

One of the serious questions I have to ask this evening regarding capital project funds, I noticed that our ending cash balances are down to zero. Does that mean in 2005, we will not have any capital improvements? Another question I do have from what I understand, 1 million was transferred funds. These were expenses for salaries plus now we're talking to borrow another 2 million for salaries, 5 million will be coming out of streets. We need to start thinking how we're going to solve these problems. The City has problems.

Now I run my own business. I have to live within the means of what I have. If I have to do it, so should this City do the same. I know the Recreation Department does need help. Recreation Department is always advertising on Channel 23, they're looking for volunteers. Can we honestly say we can pay an assistant golf pro? Do we have a schedule this person is going to be working? Are we going to advertise what time this person will be there? Like I said, we have some serious problems. Now we need to solve these serious problems. Hopefully, we will take a complete look at this budget. We will ask the serious questions at the next meeting prior to this being passed. I'm asking each and every one person here to start asking the questions. You have my consent to ask these questions.

Next I would like to talk a little bit about the Hillandale project and the closing of Shore. As was brought up this evening, racism is behind the Hillandale issue. Yet, when I went to Shore and it was confirmed for me also this evening, Shore Cultural Centre is a host of several churches that worship

there. If we close Shore as is proposed by the Mayor, is that not racist? Now some of these churches are African American. I would like to know how this will effect. If you're actually talking about Shore closing, where are you going to be putting all these churches that are worshipping, currently, at Shore? Thank you.

Ms. Bernadette Walsh – 651 E. 266. I'm not up here about the bickering because the bickering has to end. I had a very enjoyable meeting with the Mayor and the Mayor and I have come to a possible projection of what Up Stage Players can do at Shore. One of the things that we as Up Stage Players survived in 10 years is a lot of give and take. We don't charge the kids. We do a lot of creative spaghetti dinners. We put a pie in the previous Mayor's face to raise \$25. We take all that money and we save all that money and we do not charge any child and we've grown to 144 kids this year.

If you're going to succeed in this City, we have to work together and we have to put the bickering aside. If you want the golf course, and sometimes you have to spend money to make money, we understand that concept, too. Then you need the net; you need the golf pro. So how do you get the net and the golf pro, you've got to do some juggling. Juggle the pools. Sure, it may not be a popular thing; but all the pools can stay open they could just juggle their hours. And maybe the kids would lose a little bit because they'd have walk a little further to the other pools.

There was a comment made tonight that we could put Shore on the block. The Mayor and I talked. I'm not necessarily sure that all of Shore is on the block. I don't believe in the lofts. I believe in culture because a city without culture is a vast wasteland.

I moved into Euclid. I don't know what the cost is. I love the flowers on Lake Shore Blvd. You took away the flowers; you took away the fireworks. Why am I paying more taxes to be here? The bickering has to stop. I wasn't here two weeks ago because I don't think I need to be at this podium every week. I am not running for anything nor do I intend to run. My main objective is the 144 kids that Up Stage Players keeps off the street, keeps busy, 144 middle-class, fall in the middle, won't get money because they're not on drugs. Won't get money because they're not the brightest. Middle-class kids, Ashley Allens, who never acted a day in her life, but is the best tech crew anybody would want.

The Cultural Centre, you'd never replace it. You'd sit here 5 years from now and you'd say we threw all those seats away. We threw that auditorium away. We threw the culture of the City of Euclid away. It's not a high school any more. Travel to Parma; travel to Lakewood; travel to Bay; travel to every other suburb. Up Stage Players is it. You closed Wicci. You closed Lake Performing Arts. We got all their kids.

And another thing, Mr. Sustarsic, since I'm up here, so that anybody can condemn you if I don't come back again. I am not a racist. I am not for Hillandale because no pastor should move in a \$250,000 house. That is not racist. And the only house a church should be worried about is my house and selling my soul to God. They should not be in the business of selling houses. That's not racist. That's practicality. So, please, do not imply so that I'm embarrassed to say I'm from Euclid. The first time I was here I told you I loved this City. I love this City and I would stand on a bandwagon and say it.

Shore is history. What limited brain would say that? The Mayor and I are working together. And my final comment, Mr. Daly was the only one that e-mailed me. I am not liar. On the first e-mail I sent. Mr. Daly, thank you.

Mr. Brian Palisin – 27100 Oriole Ave. I'll try to make this on a more lighter note for a change. I'd like to thank everybody, City Council and the Mayor and his Administration for their assistance in the passage, successful passage of Issue 24. It was very heartening and was wonderful to see the community support for such a good cause. It's going to do so much for Euclid City Schools. From alleviating overcrowding to by opening up two new, by reopening two previously closed elementary schools. It's going to provide a better source of capital project funding for the district to help maintain the facilities for things such as, roofs, windows, boilers, concrete driveways and the like. It's going to reorganize our schools into more neighborhood-friendly schools by taking the transformation of four schools doing, during a child's educational process down to three. Kids will stay within the buildings for a longer period of time. The first transformation will be K through 5. Then there'll be two middle schools; they're 6, 7 and 8 and then high school, obviously, is 9 through 12. The implementation of all-day kindergarten, all-day every day kindergarten with other academic initiatives that are underway should definitely help the performance both in the classroom and eventually on the proficiency test scores.

Again, everyone here has their differences; but I wholeheartedly want to thank the residents of this City, the supporters, the levy volunteers, the local papers, the Sun Journal and the Observer. It was a total community effort, total community effort. Even though a lot of us share differences of opinion whether it be from City Council or the Mayor or his Administration, I am in great appreciation and thankful for your help and that's all I wanted to say.

Mr. Kent Smith – 34 Charleston Square. I'm a member of the School Board. Brian and I just came out of our School Board meeting or else we would have been here for all the festival, but we wanted to come by and say thank you. Say thank you to this body, both on the stage but also in the audience but also say thank you to the folks watching at home for their support of Issue 24.

I believe it is nothing short of historic that we are able to reopen elementary schools in this day and age. I think it will benefit the community. I think it will also benefit the school system and the citizens at large. But while I'm here thanking people, I'd like to, on a personal note, thank the voters of Euclid for their support of me on March 2nd. As many of you know if you picked up a paper recently, I finished second in a two-way race. I took the silver medal, very proud of that. I would have been very disappointed if I took the bronze medal in a two-way race. I lost by 1500 votes, yet, I won Euclid by 800 votes. I won every ward. I'm very humbled that my hometown would support me in this endeavor to serve the residents of the 7th District as potentially their next State Representative. I won Euclid. I lost the areas further south in the district so I would politely like to ask the Administration that we, that you, Mayor Cervenik, pursue an annexation policy. And I think the easy way to do this is just Hank, if you, I know you're understaffed, but if you can just go out in the middle of the night and change the South Euclid sides and put up welcome to Euclid signs. That might be the easy way to pull this off.

But I do, I do appreciate the support of my hometown, the support of many folks here tonight and, again, I'm very humbled by their support. And you know, some folks have asked what, well, Kent, what does your future hold? It's amazing that people will ask you about your future so quickly after losing an election. And quite frankly, you know, I only really had one plan and that was serving the residents of this town as the next State Rep and I supposed if I would have won, I would only have one option for my future. And now that I haven't been saddled with a victory, I suppose I have every option but being the next State Representative. And that is certainly something I will mull over in the future and we'll see how that future unfolds. But again, I wanted to say thank you to the residents of the town for passing Issue 24 and thank you very much for their support of me. Thanks very much, Euclid.

Mr. Greg Miller – 564 Babbitt Rd. Thank you for that warm applause greeting me. Oh, I'm sorry, confused. And the first thing I wanted to speak to was the school's issue so it's very appropriate that I'm following Kent. Thank you to Kent and the School Board members and others that worked so hard on the campaign for the passage of that levy. I really think that that was vital to the not just the health and well being of our community as it stands right now, but to the future full of hope that all of us really hold for the City. I mean, that's why we're here.

And secondly, I wanted to speak to the, what I see as being a spirit of civility and cooperation on Council. There are no doubt strong differences of opinion and properly so, but I do see a greater civility. I do see greater professionalism in the conduct of the meetings and I really appreciate that. I commend the Chairman in particular for that 'cause I know that's a burden that weighs particularly on your shoulders. But everyone participates in that and I appreciate that. And that is not in by any means meant as criticism toward former Council members. I very much respect the spirit and the fervor that was brought to those meetings.

Thirdly, and this ties into that, I believe with the difficult circumstances that we have as a City and all the challenges. The fiscal challenges and related challenges that we have that the best answers are going to come through a spirit of cooperation. Not, not that we're all going to think the same, but hopefully, that we'll address one another respectfully and in doing so not drive one another into partisanship that is unnecessary. And instead will be able to continue to see one another as just being individuals with whom maybe we agree or perhaps we disagree but in all circumstances we deal respectfully. And I think that enhances the process and through an enhanced process we end up with a better outcome for the sake of everyone involved.

Dealing specifically then, let me identify that on the Hillandale issue, I've spoken to that personally as one who was in favor of the passage of the zoning ordinance. Not that I didn't have reservations and I addressed those reservations and concerns to the pastor and the rest of the Hillandale, I mean, the rest of the Baptist church community that was sitting here at the time, at least until my time ran out. But the point is my reservations with regard to it weren't race-based, okay? The reservations were legitimate reservations about whether they understood the needs of this community for the Hillandale project to add value to this community, to really represent growth in this community and improvement in this community, okay? And I still hold fast to the concerns in that regard even as I recognize that they, I believe, earned the vote for the rezoning, okay? And the reason I raise that at this point is that I think it's very important for us not to race-label opponents of the Hillandale project, okay? Let's not put the racist label on. Let's recognize that those who disagree with the Baptist church's petition and those who agree with the church's position in that

regard are by and large acting in good faith and speaking in good faith and not necessarily preceding from the standpoint of a racist bias.

Finally, with regard to the financial circumstances where we're in, my gosh, this last election campaign I identified concerns and discussed these with Fred Lisy and with others that the budget projected for 2004 was easily going to be, we're easily going to run a deficit of over \$2 million, easily, because of the carryovers from past years as well as the unavoidable. The 26th or the 27th pay period, the 4% increases that were already there, the deferred compensation, etc., etc. This in other words is not a budget of this Administration's making. Let's make it a joint solution recognizing that all we need to do is deal with one another respectfully. Thank you.

Mr. Dennis Glasney – 731 E. 263rd St. I'd like to thank the gentleman who spoke previous to me. He said a lot of the things that I wanted to say. And I hope that, the one thing that we do seem to be in agreement on here tonight is that we are in dire straits and it's going to take the cooperation of the Council, the Administration and the citizens of this community to pull us through. And it sounds like there are people who are willing to do that and, hopefully, we can get to that point where we can, we can get over this hump and move on with pulling this City forward.

I have a couple of questions about the Hillendale property myself and I'm not sure who I should direct these questions to so, Mr. Gliha, I'm going to start with you and see if maybe you can answer these questions for me. And if not, we can find someone else who may.

Prior to the church obtaining this property, can you tell me the name of the owners that owned it prior to the church?

Acting Director Gliha – It was Associated Estates, the Millstein group.

Mr. Glasney – Associated Estates?

Acting Director Gliha – Yes.

Mr. Glasney – During the time that Associated Estates owned this property, did they ever approach the City with a plan to develop that property for light industrial use? Did they ever have anyone who was interested in purchasing it for light industrial use?

Acting Director Gliha – I think I spoke to this at one of the various meetings we had on the Church Builders acquisition of the property. In, I believe, it was 1990, 1988, they did approach the City with a plan for the City to put in about \$4 or 5 million infrastructure improvements and they would then try to develop and attract businesses into the property after the City had developed it.

Well, back in '88 the City did not have \$5 million to invest in such a project. Just like we don't at this point in time. But in all my years with the City that was the only serious attempt that the ownership made to the City in relation to developing the property. We have over the years sent many interested parties to the owners and nothing came of those meetings with those interested parties. So I hope I answered your question.

Mr. Glasney – Yes, okay. So basically since 1988, which I believe was 16 years ago, we've had no one else express any interest in developing this property for light industrial use, have made no commitments, no offers, anything of that nature?

Acting Director Gliha – None that I'm aware of, sir.

Mr. Glasney – Okay, the dollars that you spoke of in 1988, I believe, you said \$4-5 million, let's just say for the sake of this conversation that someone in the last couple of months came to the City and made a similar proposal. Can you tell me what those dollars would be valued at in today's market?

Acting Director Gliha – That would be, if I had my computer in front of me, I could, I have a program that I could run, but off the top of my head I wouldn't...

Mr. Glasney – Okay, would it be safe to say that we'd probably be looking at 2-3 times if not more?

Acting Director Gliha – I'd say that's probably in the neighborhood.

Mr. Glasney – There's been a lot of talk from this room and by other people here that the City needs to make some sound financial and prudent financial decisions here to help us get through this. And the tax abatement that was on the property if the City were to go ahead and make an investment like that, how long would it be before they would start to recoup some of that money?

Acting Director Gliha – It would all depend on what type of businesses we attracted the number of jobs that were related to those businesses. The income tax could offset the real property or personal property taxes depending upon the number of employees. We were working on one proposal in another area where we calculated out that it would take about 6 to 7 years to recoup and make more money than we were abating at the time. But the future of that project, since it would only be a six-year period, would start turning a profit to us after that and the fact that the company would be here after the term of abatement. So in order to make up that 4 or 5 million it would depend upon what the end users were and what type of other revenue they would be generating.

Mr. Glasney – Okay, the estimates on the church property going through with their development and putting in the number of homes and the value that they were trying to set on those, did we have a number of what that might generate?

Acting Director Gliha – If we were looking at 110 homes with an average sales price of, let's say, 180-200,000. Each home would probably have an, a real property tax in the 3+, 3,000+ range. So yes it would be generating 110 times the 3,000+ for that kind of construction.

Mr. Glasney – And that would begin to be generated immediately upon the houses being built, correct?

Acting Director Gliha – Correct.

Mr. Glasney – If we're looking for sound financial decisions, that sounds a lot sounder to me than letting that land sit there vacant and hoping that somebody comes knocking on our door. Thank you.

Mrs. Perlitha Taylor – 1495 E. 193rd St. I just want to say I came here tonight with nothing to say, but just to listen to what everyone else had to say and how Council, body language and emotion was going toward the budget. But now I see a stage play. And I just feel that Council been playing a game with the citizen of Euclid.

Number 1, the Hillandale property, you knew in the beginning what basically the vote would be before we even start talking about the Hillandale project. You seen every time there's a vote, when it's something important, it always end up the same way, 5-4, the same 5 and 4 people. So we wondering who is really listen to the need of the citizen. Are you think this a game? You talking about our livelihood. We are the citizen of Euclid. We are the one that put you in office. You are the ones supposed to work for our good, not to fill your pocket or not to play politics with another city. And you know, I'm starting to get really fed up with Council and what are you really doing? I'm listen to this game you're playing. You come in and bring in somebody come in about the Hillandale property. Okay, fine, but you all are playing games.

You know, I wonder do any of you know God. Do any of you sleep good at night with the things you are doing to your citizen? These are the people that put you in office. These are the people you supposed to work for and to represent to make sure that we get the best not the less. It look like you giving us the less. We've been over the Hillandale property several times. The citizen have spoken. They want it on ballot. Although the Council President go and say oh, there's going to be a lawsuit. Oh, it's prejudice. Well, when I was out, what happened? I read the newspaper. It's in the paper. And you're putting your own citizens down. You know, it make me ashamed to say I am a citizen of Euclid. I love Euclid. I love Euclid. I raised my kids here. I like to see my grandkids raised here. But do what do Euclid have to offer anyone? A church and some hack-built homes? If you read a Free Times, it even told you how Paul Taylor played the game with the church on 144th Street, but no one in here seems to care. No one seems to care what is going on. You take no record, no portfolio, nothing of this man. Just come here, take over our City, do whatever you want to do. Here you'd have people even with the citizen of Cleveland, now no one say a race there when Owen Moss wanted to build a church in the Miles and Lee-Harvard area. Nine hundred citizen came out and said no. And you know what I'm hearing now that Rev. Moss is thinking about pulling out 'cause he feel why should he do something that the people doesn't want. But here Euclid, you stand and you promote this. You encourage this, but you say you for the people. How can you live with yourself?

You say you want to charge us for lights? Streetlights, you want to charge us for sewers, but yet you want to bring a new project in when they don't even have the money. If you read the paper, it stated the only way they can build this church is to sell the homes. They don't have the money, but you encouraging them still. What do the City get out of this or what are Council getting out of it? It's some questions we need to ask ourselves. And everyone sitting up here, you need to ask yourself a question. What are you here for? Are you here to take bribes or are you here to serve the people?

Now enough is enough. The people and the citizen of Euclid is tired. Now come on. We want to work together. We should work together, but why is Council and President of Council and the Mayor of Euclid working so much against the citizen? You won't sit with us and talk with us. You fight and it's enough is enough. Come on. Do what you was voted to do. Thank you.

Mr. Jim Pajk – 120 E. 206 St. I got to tell you I'm pretty upset right now with what's going on. It's been several days already since Tony, Jr. had a baby and you didn't give me a cigar. Congratulation, Tony, that's all I got to say.

President Sustarsic – Okay, seeing no more comments or questions from the audience.

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

Councilman Daly moved to rise and report; seconded by Councilman Delaney.

Councilman Sustarsic – It's been a busy two weeks for me. Being at the birth of our baby boy, last or two weeks ago tomorrow. So I got home from the Council meeting last time and then at 4 o'clock in the morning my wife's ready to go to the hospital. And everybody's doing good. Thank everyone for all the, all the phone calls and cards and e-mails I got like that. Me and my wife appreciate it.

Last Saturday before the Saturday past, I had the opportunity to meet with the residents of Ward 3 Precinct F and that includes the neighborhood of Mills and Sidney and Tungsten. I got to sit down with their neighborhood and hear their concerns. It's always good to get together like that and talk about things that are a concern to all of us and try to work out solutions. Thank you.

President Sustarsic – Yeah, the baby is doing fine, very healthy. We're over there more times than not and having two grandchildren it really makes a difference. And for all of those to think Bill and I are cold-hearted and not caring, we do have grandchildren that are growing up in this City and were looking out for the best interests of them. I want to prove beyond a doubt that we still are a good City.

The various, the two meetings that went by for the budget hearings was a presentation by the Administration, by the Mayor. If anybody was watching it as far as how we came to this particular point and suggestions that they had as to how to address the deficit that we do have. There is nothing, there have been no decisions made yet. As a matter of fact, there are several Councilmen that have a lot more questions and so, consequently, because of their request and with the agreement of the Mayor we are going to have a Special Council meeting at the end of the month to address these. But at the same time I feel it very, very important that instead of just asking questions and keeping on asking questions, I think solutions should be given as to how to approach the problems possibly in a different way. But at the same time to add the constructive criticism because, again, the Administration they do have the expertise as far as the different fields of finance, law and the like. But at the same time, like I said, with these members of Council, my colleagues, we bring something more to the table. Sure, we're representatives of the people; but at the same time, if the people have concerns, they should express these concerns to us as the legislative representatives and, consequently, we can bring those questions but not only questions, solutions to the forefront. We can have marathons where you keep asking questions, but at the same time I believe the only way it can happen is if we can keep a dialog open between this Council between the citizenry and between the Administration. So again, I would urge with approximately a week or so left, two weeks is more like it, to again, keep those lines of communication open and I'm saying if you do have suggestions, make those suggestions. Don't just keep asking questions and brow beat each other because we're all in the same particular circumstance. We're all in the same boat. We all want the City of Euclid to prosper and so again, I think it's time to just join together and do what we were elected to do.

I have a sad note, also. I found today that Mr. Bill Kapel passed away this past weekend, former employee with the City of Euclid. Long-time family and friend, as a matter of fact, the Kapel family was very instrumental in building up a lot of 4th ward. He'll be sorely missed. He was a terrific guy. My condolences to his family and to his friends.

Like I said, there will be another, it'll be a Special Council meeting and that has been designated for March 29th. And like I say, I'm looking for suggestions to supplement the budget as opposed to more questions because I think that's the only thing that, the only way that we'll get things accomplished. Again, the Administration presented their case. Now, it's time to present our case.

Councilman Daly – I also would like to thank the residents of Ward, Precinct 3F for inviting us out to their meeting, their joint meeting. It was some different organizations and streets.

I'd like to thank the residents of Euclid Villa. I was able to fill in for Councilman Gruber when he was under the weather and enjoyed that meeting.

And lastly, I'd just like to announce that I've called a meeting for the Recreation Committee, one week from tonight on March 22nd at 7 here in Council Chambers and we will review the Golf Course Clubhouse. Thank you.

Councilman Delaney – I hope what didn't get lost in all this is that I'd like to congratulate the Up Stage Players. This is their 10th anniversary and that's quite a feat for a performing arts troupe that would have that consistency. I think they even brought up that the Lake Performing Arts is disbanded as well as the Wicci Performing Arts. And I'd like to be brief but I do remiss not to say for everyone to have a very safe and happy St. Patrick's Day.

Councilman Gruber – I'd like to thank Councilman Daly for going to the Euclid Villas for me. They enjoyed your presentation. And also the people in Ward 3, we had a nice meeting over there with the Mills Condos association's members.

Also I'd like to thank the residents of Ward 4, who passed the School Board levy in record numbers. Nearly every precinct in Ward 4, it passed. And it will directly benefit Indian Hills School and our community up there. When I was working the polls on Election Day, I got a lot of positive response and it was good to see that people are willing to invest in the community, especially their children again.

On a lighter note, I would like to thank Madeline Scarniench for the work she puts in at the Pound. I know she worked diligently over the weekend. She's there on Thursday nights. Those dogs are flying out the door, no pun intended. But Madeline's doing a really great job. In fact, we're looking for other fundraisers. A couple of weeks ago I mentioned maybe a cookbook. We are in the planning stages of that. We have a working title. It'll be called Bone-appetit. The proceeds from the cookbook will be going to the Euclid Animal Shelter. Beach Club Pizza has agreed to give us some of their recipes along with John Christy's. And at this point in time I would like to ask any citizens that would like to send some recipes in for consideration for the book. You will be noted in the book. Send it to C. Gruber at 585 E. 222nd St., Euclid, Ohio 44123-2099. Regina, make room in the Council office there for those mail bags that will be coming in. But all proceeds will go to benefit the Euclid Animal Shelter and it's really heart-warming to work over there on Thursdays. We had one individual come in. He brought his son in with him. He's a City employee. He drove by the kennels and saw one of the dogs out when he was going to work in the morning and he brought his son back in the afternoon and there was an instant bond. It's really nice to see what goes on there. So I enjoy working down there and I encourage people to support the Animal Shelter and come on down and we'll try to save a dog for you. But there's really not many left, couple puppies. And have a happy and safe St. Patrick's Day.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – Congratulations to Pet Pals and the Shelter Commission, they did a wonderful job Saturday. And who would of thought you could raise that much money with a bake sale. And the gentleman that made the triple layer chocolate cake filled with raspberries was delicious and definitely put that in the cookbook.

Also, I'd like to thank the residents who supported Issue 24 as well as all the members, residents, parents, everybody who helped passed the School Levy. There really were a tremendous number of volunteers who worked very hard on that. There, thanks to them. And exciting, I know the schools are working hard preparing to reopen the two elementary schools and there's really good things happening there. I would extend the invitation on behalf of the schools for residents to stop in and see the schools. I know they'll be planning some public events as the schools are opening and the changes are happening. But it's really exciting to me to watch the changes and the progress that's being made and the bottom line is the education will improve for our residents. So that's a wonderful thing. Thanks to everyone who helped with that. And to those who could not vote for that I would urge you to contact the State legislatures and Governor and ask that they work harder on fixing education funding. Thank you.

Councilwoman Hufnagle – In our Council packet this week we received this newsletter titled Siren and I would just like to make note that, oh, I'm sorry. That there's a nice article in here about the Euclid Fire Department and I would like to commend those gentlemen and it's nice to see that in print what we already know. So thank you.

I, too, would like to thank the residents of Euclid for passing Issue 24. I would like to say that I am honored to serve on a Council and with an Administration that unanimously supported that school issue. I'm honored to serve with colleagues that worked so diligently in getting that Issue passed. And I'm a parent of a child, who will be directly affected by the passing of that, in that he attends Forest Park. And because of this he will now get to stay, he will be in a smaller school environment and get to stay at the school around the corner from his house until 8th grade. And I'm very thankful of that.

And speaking of the schools, one of my favorite things to do since being on Council is that I get invited to the schools and I was invited two Fridays ago by Mrs. Smolic's 4th grade class at Thomas Jefferson. I had the opportunity to go into there and speak to the children about city government and how our government works and my role in that. And they sent me very nice cards and I want to thank them and I want to thank Mrs. Smolic for giving me that opportunity.

And I would also like to say that I was very honored last week to be asked by the Republican Party to serve our President as he was in Cleveland for a visit. I was chosen along with 10 other people from the County to just be on hand should the President's staff need anything and that enabled me to listen to his speech. And I listened to his speech and you would have thought that he was standing in Council Chambers speaking to Euclid. He spoke about many issues that are directly affecting our City and it's nice to see that we have a President that is so concerned. He spoke about volunteering and we heard this evening how important volunteering is in Euclid and how successful it is with Pet Pals and I'm very proud of our citizens.

He spoke about small business growth and the need for that. And I'm very thankful and proud this evening, I've spent time over the last couple of weeks in the Economic Development Department there. Mr. DeWine has been very gracious in giving me his time and talking about the opportunities that are coming forth in Euclid and the interest. And a lot of them are small business, but we know that those small businesses add up. And we'll take the small jobs along with the big ones.

He spoke, the President spoke about the re-education of the workforce. And I know that, as I mentioned last time, we're in preliminary talks with Kent State and part of that program would be re-educating workforce so that people that lose their jobs can go back into the workforce.

The President said, and I quote, the real strength of America is in the hearts and souls of its citizens. And I think that one thing we could all agree on is that it's certainly true in Euclid. And I was very honored after the President spoke, to personally be able to greet him, so I just want relate these things to the citizens tonight. I think that things are looking up in Euclid and things are going in the right direction and I'm thankful for that. I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve the citizens. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Councilman Langman – I, too, would like to thank all the residents, members of the School Board, the school staff, members of Council that came out in support of Issue 24. I had the opportunity to work the polls in the evening at St. William's. I will say it was much colder on March the 2nd than it was on November the 4th so. But the folks were very positive and I would like to especially thank Mike DiDomenico and Angie Lisy and all handed out some literature for a last second push in the second ward. And I think we did very well. For all the citizens it was a great victory. Now it makes all the development that we're pushing forward on mean that much more.

And speaking of which we did talk about the Harbor Town development. It's moving along nicely. But I had the opportunity last Thursday, along with my colleague, Councilman Gruber, who seemed to have disappeared at the moment. We had the opportunity to tour the Watergate. Now the Watergate knowing that there's competition down the Boulevard, they've undertaken a multi-million dollar investment besides the parking garage, which I think everyone was familiar with, there was significant problems. Their lobby along, they're investing over a million dollars to create new office space and to update the whole lobby structure. And there are more dollars to be invested. I had the opportunity to visit some of the convenient shops. They are looking forward to gating the community to create a true community on the lakefront so things are definitely looking up at the Watergate. Again, now that you're here, Councilman Gruber.

And finally about the budget, Director Johnson, still waiting for some figures from either you or Mr. Beckwith and I would appreciate an estimate of when I might get those. And I think that's about it for this evening. Thank you.

Councilwoman Mancuso – Yes, I also would like the residents of the Ward 3. We met with the, probably about 4 of us, on a Saturday morning. I was also quite impressed to see how many people from the City were actually there on a Saturday morning to talk about the residents' concerns. Although we can't cure everything and we can't fix everything, I do believe there was a great deal of constructive dialog that went on both the Council people and the residents who were there and the City departments which were represented, which is kind of nice on a Saturday morning.

Also, I would like to say I came up with or I was provided the opportunity to go to the Ohio Municipal League last Saturday, which Mr. Johnson had said he had been to a long time ago and wished he could back. It was really beneficial. It made you feel not quite so unique as a freshman Councilman that everybody else in the room was looking around and asking identical questions. It was kind of strange to talk with people who only had 5,000 people in their township and were still dealing with some of the same issues, just smaller budgets. So it isn't, we're not unique. It's happening across northeast Ohio, at least, at this particular group gathering. Everybody had the same issues.

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They did come up with some ideas that I will be passing along, suggestions, I'm not sure if we're already doing some of these things or they're things we need to be entertaining. But at this point in time, we need to be looking at every option we have. That's all I have tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Mancuso moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Gruber. Yeas: Unanimous.

Attest:

Clerk of Council

President of Council