

COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 7, 2005

The regular City Council meeting was held on Monday, March 7, 2005 at 7 PM in the Euclid City Hall Council Chamber. President Sustarsic presided.

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

Others Present: Mayor Cervenik, Law Director Frey, Service Director Gulich, Recreation Director Will, CS&ED, Director Pietravoia, Police Chief Maine, Fire Chief Cosgriff, Zoning Commissioner Torowski, Housing Manager Petkovic, Sgt.-at-Arms Nagy, Clerk of Council Cahill.

Invocation was given by Pastor Jeff Branch of Master's Church.

LIQUOR PERMITS

Councilwoman Hufnagle moved to approve without objection a transfer of a C1, C2 liquor permit from Aquaeast Enterprises, Inc. DBA BP Shop, 24310 Lakeland Blvd., to JOSMIKSAM, Inc., 24310 Lakeland Blvd. Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Unanimous.

Council has received a request for a new D1, D2, D3, liquor permit for Italianos Bistro at 494 Euclid Square Mall.

Councilwoman Hufnagle – I just question a liquor license for an establishment at the Mall. Are there any other ones at the Mall, do we know of?

Mayor Cervenik - Not that I'm aware of, although I did have some discussion with the operators of the Mall and they are trying to bring in more traffic to create one wing of the Mall being a food and beverage location. They're trying to get some restaurants to locate there. We can call them and find out if they're looking to have establishments that are strictly serve alcohol, or if they are looking for family business. I can find out for you.

Councilwoman Hufnagle – This is for a specific business, right?

Mayor Cervenik – If you would like to table this or post-poned until the next meeting. No one has contacted me about the urgency. I want you to have a comfort level, that's not a problem.

Councilwoman Hufnagle – I know that we're pretty limited as to exactly what the Council can do regarding a liquor license when it comes right down to the State. However, I just question, I know where this is in the Mall and I just wonder what kind of precedent we're setting. It is the Mall and I was trying to think, I don't ever remember another establishment when the Mall was open and vibrant and I don't know if there's one at Richmond Mall or Great Lakes Mall.

Mayor Cervenik – There used to be one at Richmond Mall. I believe there's also one at Great Lakes Mall. Councilwoman I want you to feel comfortable with this. Would tabling be the right action at this time? We will put it on next Council meeting and I will set up a meeting for you and anyone else who's interested to find out what their plans are for that wing.

Councilwoman Hufnagle moved to table the request for a new liquor permit for Italianos Bistro. Councilman Gruber seconded.

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

Tabled.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Councilman Gruber moved to receive the February 22, 2005 Council Minutes. Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Cervenik – Good evening to all. We've got three Directors that have some comments. The first is Recreation Director Will.

Director Will – To all the residents in the City of Euclid, we have some exciting events coming here at the City of Euclid. I'd like to just take the next couple of moments to explain them to you and invite you to attend them.

The Euclid Blade & Edge club will be hosting the 2005 Cleveland Invitational Championships Competition this weekend at the C.E. Orr Ice Arena. This Competition rotates annually between the area figure skating clubs. It is the 45th year of this competition. There will be over 250 kids that will be competing in this event this weekend. I would like to take this time to thank the Blade & Edge Club for all their preparation and all the organization that they have put into this. I would also like to thank our Parks & Recreation Maintenance employees for giving 200% in making this arena look the best it can.

There will be over 1,500 people visiting the City of Euclid and coming to the Ice Arena this weekend. If you have the opportunity, stop by on any given time on Saturday or Sunday. It is \$3 to come in and watch our wonderful skaters compete in this wonderful event.

Next I'd like to remind everybody that Upstage Players will be performing Grease on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 and on Sunday, March 20th at 2:30. The Friday event is March 18th, Saturday March 19th. Tickets are \$5.50, if you want to purchase a ticket, please call 731-5793.

The next event, the Parks & Recreation Department along with the Euclid Jaycees will be hosting our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 19th at Sims Park. The event will be held rain or shine. It is free for children ages 8 and under. We will also be accepting donations of canned foods for the Euclid Hunger Center. Again, Saturday March 19th at 1:00 at Sims Park.

The Rec Department is going to be hosting a Spring Break Basketball Camp the week of March 28th through April 1st. It will be housed at Shore Cultural Centre, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM. If you're interested in registering for this basketball camp, you can do so at the Recreation Dept. on Tuesday or Thursday from 1:00-4:00 PM. We'll also be hosting our registration for our summer programs, our girl's softball, youth sports, football, swim team, swim passes, etc., on Tuesday and Thursday, April 5th and April 7th from 3:00-7:00 PM and Saturday, April 9th, 9:00 AM to Noon here at City Hall.

Finally, the Euclid Parks & Recreation Dept. along with Euclid Petpals, we've joined forces to bring you our 2nd Annual Cake Auction and Bake Sale. It will be held on Saturday, April 9th from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM at Shore in the Community Room. If you are interested, you can call Tod at 289-2057. We look forward to presenting these events. We have a lot of fun stuff that we have planned for the summer, which I'll be making some announcements about that and hope to see you at one of the events. Thank you very much.

Director Gulich – January 1st when we moved to drop-off recycling, one thing we didn't envision as to just how well the City of Euclid residents would embrace it. We've been very much surprised and quite thankful that everyone has been willing to move to this new system. I did say from the get-go that it was going to need some modifications, it would need some tweaking and we'll continue to do that.

I have a major announcement to make as far as one of those modifications go. As of March 18th, next Friday, we will no longer have the recycling center at the Henn Mansion in Sims Park. Again that location has been very well received, but we do want to move it out of the park. I feel that when the summer months come, a lot of children in the park, it will be much safer out of there, we won't have any animal trouble if we move it out of there.

The location it will be moved to will be the municipal parking lot between Lake Shore Blvd. and Shore Center Drive. We feel that will be a much better location as far as access goes. Accessible from Lake Shore, accessible from Shore Center, it's accessible from Babbitt Road. Lots more room there, plenty of lighting. We won't have children playing back there for sure. We won't have animals roaming back there for sure. We will play this over and over on local TV. We will ask the local papers to print it. I've already discussed this with one of them. We will post appropriate signage. I'll just mention those dates one more time. March 18th will be the last day for recycling stations at Sims. Area people that were using that spot, I would suggest they use the municipal spot. Again it will be well marked and highly visible. That's a large parking lot, these are large bins. I don't think you'll miss them. The idea here is not to create confusion by changing a system around. We did realize it was going to need some modification and we think this one will be one for the better all the way around. Thank you Mayor.

Council Minutes

March 7, 2005

Page 3

Chief Maine – I just wanted to formally announce that the 2004 Annual Report has been submitted to the Mayor and this evening to Council. This report does a pretty good job of chronicling the efforts and contributions of the department officers and employees as well as the volunteers who have put in so much during this last year. Not only are these copies available to Council and to the Mayor, but we also have them for the different Department Heads and we also have a number of copies that we give to the Library so that anybody from the community can take a look at them also. It is also our hope to be able to put this on our website so anyone can access it from their computer.

I'd just like to take this opportunity to thank Council and the community and especially you Mayor for the support that you've shown our department over the last year. It's been well appreciated. Thank you.

Mayor Cervenik – That concludes administration reports and communications.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail moved to receive the Fire Report of January, 2005 and Board of Control Minutes of 2/14/05 & 2/22/05. Councilman Delaney seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

President Sustarsic – The only thing that I'm aware of this evening is that #1 will be a third reading. Consequently there will be, wouldn't necessarily be any need for conversation on that. When we do have the public hearing, you'll be more than, we'll be looking more than forward to having your participation on that.

Director Pietravoia – I just wanted to note to Council and to members in the audience that we are asking for withdrawal of #5, relating to the update of the National Electric Code. In preparing our report for this evening, we conferred again with our Building Commissioner and we received a notification from the State that they're giving us a 6 month extension. For members of Council you may recall in the past about every 3 years the National Electric Code is updated and we automatically pass legislation that incorporates that as part of our codes. This year there's a slight difference because the State is adopting what is being referred to as an Ohio Residential Code within the next six months. It is going to incorporate both the electrical code and updated building codes. They are advising us and it is our recommendation of our Building Commissioner, Bill Gallagher, that we hold off on this update and take advantage of the 6 month extension and wait until we get the Ohio Residential Code and adopt everything at one time. We are asking for withdrawal of that item.

President Sustarsic – Any questions or comments on the issues we have this evening? Seeing none.

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

LEGISLATION

Ord. (284-05) Harbor Town Incentive

An emergency ordinance establishing the Harbor Town Incentive District and declaring improvements to certain parcels of property in the Incentive District to be a public purpose for purposes of Section 5709.40 and 5709.42 of the Ohio Revised Code. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Third Reading.

Res. (294-05) 28-2005 NASA

A resolution opposing President Bush's proposed job cuts at NASA. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik and Councilmen Gruber, T. Sustarsic)

Councilman Gruber moved for passage, Councilman T. Sustarsic seconded.

Councilman Gruber – Being employed at NASA for over nine years in the 10 x 10 supersonic wind tunnel, one of the most unique facilities of its kind in the world, I've realized the research that goes on there and how vital it is to the National Defense along with our local economy.

Council Minutes

March 7, 2005

Page 4

The NASA Glenn Research Center pumps millions of dollars into the local economy. A lot of people live here in Euclid that work there. I'm very proud to put my name on this and at one time John Glenn asked, what good is research? He answered his own question by, you really don't know until you do it. That says a lot about this facility. I urge Council to support this legislation and I hope the President gets a copy of this.

President Sustarsic – I was wondering if we could add everyone else's name on Council could be added to this because of the importance to the area and to the region.

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

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

Passed.

President Sustarsic left Council Chambers.

Ord. 29-2005 (295-05) CT Consultants

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service of the City of Euclid to extend the agreement with CT Consultants, Inc., 35000 Kaiser Court, Willoughby, Ohio 44094, for the purpose of performing routine engineering services for the year 2005. (Sponsored by Councilman T. Sustarsic by request of Service Director)

Councilwoman Hufnagle moved for passage, Councilman Langman seconded.

Director Gulich – The contract we're referring to here is the monthly services contract. This is the daily services that CT will provide to both the Service Department and any other department needing their expertise. They will help us with our Issue II applications and they will help us with our current Issue II jobs that are coming down the pipe. They will consult with us as far as our traffic needs on a day-to-day basis. Our construction needs and our design needs. They will give us advice regarding grant loan applications. Again, they not only service my department, but the other directors as well. The monthly rate will stay the same, \$3,100 per month as it has been, as it was with our previous consultant Chagrin Valley Engineering. CT got this contract approximately June of last year. They've done quite well for us since then and I would ask that we extend this contract to the end of 2005.

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

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

Passed.

Res. 30-2005 (296-05) Motor Maintenance

A resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid to execute a contract extension and amendment between the City of Euclid and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Local 1363, as exclusive bargaining agent for all Motor Maintenance employees. (Sponsored Mayor Cervenik)

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

President Sustarsic returned.

Director Frey – We have two bargaining units to date that are not under contract for the calendar year 2005. The 9 members of the Motor Maintenance unit represented by the Machinists are one of those, the other are the Correction Officers. Correction Officers as an aside are waiting an election by the State Employment Relations Board which is scheduled for April 16th, at which point in time assuming they ratify the Euclid Correction Officers as their bargaining agent, we will commence negotiations with them.

To the Machinists, Motor Maintenance area, this unit accepted a wage freeze for the first two years of the collective bargaining period. In exchange the City agreed not to lay off any members. We have earlier in 2004 through a wage re-opener, we had a wage increase for 2004.

We agree at the end of 2004 that we had to do something on a one year basis for the year 2005. You have Exhibit A attached, that details that. This bargaining unit has not participated in the monthly contribution for health care up to this point in time. The bargaining unit after several negotiating sessions took a vote and approved the proposed one year extension of the collective bargaining agreement that would provide a 4% wage increase, the same percentage increase as the other bargaining units received for the year 2005. Also agreed to participate in the health care co-pay, monthly premium and prescription plan on an equal basis with the other bargaining unit employees for the City of Euclid. There is no change in the uniform allowance. The city did agree to extend the lay off recall period to 24 months from 12 months.

That in essence is the changes. There is one significant change that I've omitted here that's in the summary. We've agreed that in exchange for a no strike provision that we would go through an agree dispute resolution on any future contracts. That is also appended to the legislation.

Councilman Langman made inquiry today of the financial impact of this contract for 2005's budget. The full amount of the wage, pension, Medicare and longevity increases that are reflected by this proposed agreement in the amount \$15,980 are budgeted in the 2005 budget. In addition, the city will save approximately \$1755 in the monthly premium payments for these 9 members and significantly all of our bargaining unit members represented by the Teamsters are not currently, while they're covered by our health insurance, they are not currently paying the monthly premium as a result of an arbitrator's determination that until all other bargaining units were on the monthly payments, they will not be. That will start immediately if Council is to approve this contract. The savings to the city for the balance of 2005 would be nearly \$13,000 for the members covered as part of the Teamsters bargaining unit.

So, the net effect of this contract is quite minimal and importantly it is included in the 2005 budget has already been approved. I'll be glad to attempt to answer any questions you have.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – These guys are pretty much the unsung heroes of the city. They are the ones that keep our trucks moving and everything like that in bad storms and it is really appreciated. They've always worked very, very well with the City with their union and this appears to be a very fair deal for both sides and I support this. Thank you.

Councilwoman Mancuso – Point of clarification. Under #5, you have Section 14.2 immediate family definition includes grandparent-in-law. Is that in our other contracts also, that same definition right now?

Director Frey – It is and it is also included in the definition for non-union employees and this was the one bargaining unit that did not.

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

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

Passed.

Ord. (297-05) Pulled

An ordinance amending Section 1737 of the Building and Housing Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Euclid to adopt by reference the most current edition of the National Electric Code which has already been established in the Ohio Basic Building Code, the addition of a definition section and the subsequent renumbering of the remainder of the section. (Sponsored by Councilwoman Mancuso by request of CS&ED Director)

Ord. (297-05) has been pulled.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

President Sustarsic – Public portion of the meeting, where the audience can address the Council on any issue for the good of the City. Before we begin ladies and gentlemen, I would like to make an announcement and ask that you listen closely to what I have to say.

Beginning tonight and effective for all future Council Meetings, I am providing one warning and this is it. That these proceedings during the public comments will remain civil and will be afforded the respect and protocol these meetings deserve. The City provides the public comments segment for those interested citizens to announce their organizations upcoming events. For those interested persons to ask questions, or to make suggestions, or to comment on business before the city. This is not a venue for personal attacks or for trashing the reputations of others. This is not a marathon to see who can shout down the other person. This is not a venue for the audience to yell out coarse language or personal comments while others are speaking. And this is not a personal venue to launch into lengthy personal opinions that have nothing to do with business before this Council.

Out of respect for those watching at home and out of respect for the proceedings taking place inside our City Hall, the abuse of this segment of our Council meetings stops tonight. Effective tonight, if comments exceed the boundaries of civility, or your statements are peppered with personal attacks, I will immediately rule you Out of Order, your microphone will be shut off and you will take your seat. Those in the audience who speak out or shout out, will also be ruled Out of Order and you will be asked to leave the building.

This statement represents the only warning you will receive prior to being ruled Out of Order, if it becomes necessary. If we could entertain the first speaker please.

Mrs. Dorothy Fike – 20271 Delaware Rd. First question I have, we keep talking about a public hearing on the Harbor Town Incentive District. I must have missed it, when is it going to be? I would have spoken to that but I was waiting for you to say when the public hearing is going to be?

The other one is just a comment, when I drove in tonight I saw piles of plastic bags by the recycling bins out here in the parking lot. Where are they all from and when are they going to be removed or what? That's my other comment is the unsightliness of the plastic bags all along that container. That's the two comments I have.

Director Pietravoia – To address the question about the Harbor Town. At the next meeting of Council, we've had three readings of the legislation regarding the Tax Increment Financing District. At the next meeting it will be open, as it normally is, at the time that Council's going to take action for regular public comment. That's what will occur at the next meeting will be making a presentation, addressing questions and if Council chooses we'll be taking an action on that item at the next meeting.

Mrs. Fike – I said those were my only questions, maybe Council President you can answer this. Why if it's an emergency you've had three readings? Usually an emergency you just do it immediately.

Director Frey – When we initially drafted this we weren't certain exactly when the meeting with the school board was going to occur. At the point in time that the City Council if the negotiations with the School Board are culminated and Council in fact acts on this piece, we're going to need it to have immediate effect, as opposed to having a 30 day wait for the legislation to become effective. That's so the property is assessed at its optimal value to give us the most benefit on the tax increment financing. The emergency provision is really to give it an immediate effective date once action is taken.

Director Gulich – Mrs. Fike I agree when the bins do fill up and people do leave the bags on the ground, it does look unsightly. We've initiated a couple of steps to try to prevent that from happening. First of all we have the containers switched out as late as possible on Friday. We have them replaced again on Monday as soon as possible. Again, we had a real nice day today. We probably had an extra lot of drop offs. I didn't look myself to see if that bin was full. Unfortunately we do have a bin that is not quite full and it seems like when the first person leaves a bag on the ground, they start a new ground rule.

The other step we have in place to try to keep this from happening and I want to thank Ms. Will for her department's help, we do have the fine workers that are out everyday. This is a regular stop for them, this and the other two locations to try to keep this from happening. Again, I agree it is unsightly and we're taking every step possible to minimalize this. When we have a windy day, like today, we don't want it blowing around.

Mrs. Fike – Thank you very much for allowing me another question after I said I only had two. Thank you all.

Mr. Tom Cooke – 25641 Edgecliff. I have a few issues I would like to address regarding public education. Over the past 14 years the Ohio Supreme Court has ruled four times that the State's method of funding schools, which relies heavily on property taxes, is unconstitutional because it favors wealthier communities over poorer communities.

To date the Ohio Legislature has yet to come up with a plan to address the issue of school funding and its only been 14 years since it has been ruled unconstitutional. The reason no plan has yet been developed is because the State legislators know that local school districts can go to the voters for more money via property tax increases. As long as the spigot of money that pours into the local school district's coffer's via property tax remains turned on, legislators have no incentive to change the current method of school funding. When that spigot is turned off and voters say no more to property tax increases for education, then and only then will Ohio Legislatures be forced to change the current method of school funding.

This brings me to the Euclid School District's 7.9 mil levy that will be on the ballot for this May. If this levy is passed, according to the Euclid Sun Journal articles dated February 3rd and 17th of 2005, it will cost the owner of a \$100,000 house \$276.50 additional taxes a year. Or, the owner of a \$150,000-\$200,000 house like the homes in the Indian Hills area, the Beverly Hills area and north of Lake Shore Blvd. area, an additional \$415 to \$553 a year. Or, the owners of a \$300,000 to \$700,000 home, like those on Edgecliff an additional \$823 to \$1800 additional a year.

Even this levy request passes we are already being told by Dr. Joffrey Jones that unless the State of Ohio changes the way public schools are funded, the Euclid School District will be back in front of voters with another levy request in 2007. If School Districts continue to pass levies, do you think the State of Ohio has any incentive to change the way public schools are funded? Even if this 7.9 mil levy passes, the Euclid School District will still have to make an additional \$4.4 million in cuts over the next few years. Of the \$4.4 million in spending cuts that would have to be made, Dr. Jones has stated that no decisions have been made on the specifics of the spending cuts. Essentially what the Euclid School Board is asking the residents of Euclid to do is to give us your hard earned money first, we'll tell you where the cuts will come from later. The Euclid School Board wants the residents of Euclid to vote for higher property taxes this May and then come back to the residents for another property tax increase in a couple of years from now and they have not even detailed for the citizens of Euclid the \$4.4 million in cost reductions that must take place now.

In the Euclid Sun Journal article regarding the 7.9 mil school levy, one of the reasons cited for needing the 7.9 mil levy was to pay for costs associated with the 11% increases in wages and salaries. How many Euclid residents have gotten an 11% increase in wages in the last few years? How many Euclid residents took a pay cut in the last few years? How many Euclid residents have lost their jobs in the last few years? The Euclid School Board can't even tell us how or where they're going to make the \$4.4 million in cuts.

This is the way I see it. I'm a Euclid resident and I am a consumer. The Euclid School Board is a sales person trying to sell me a product, the publicly educated student. Right now you are telling me this student that you are trying to sell me on is going to cost me substantially more money over the next few years. You have failed to tell me how you have improved on this product of what added value I may realize by further purchase and use of this product. You have failed to justify why this product is going to cost me more. More important than increased costs, you have failed to show me how you have made this product I am paying for a better performing product.

On the contrary over the past few years, it has been my personal experience that this product's performance has been in decline. For in my case, I am the end user of this product. I am the final test. I am the only test of this product that matters. I am the employer and in the end I am the only test that counts. Thank you.

Mr. Mike Mihalich – 101 E. 202 St. I believe that Tom Cooke has a right to say what he wants to say, but I think differently. I've got the top ten reasons why you should support the schools.

- 1) To keep responsible fiscal management.
- 2) To keep quality, neighborhood schools.
- 3) They do keep improving their test scores.
- 4) Manageable class sizes.
- 5) You keep quality teachers and skilled tutors.
- 6) You hang onto all day Kindergarten which is basically a foundation for good education.

President Sustarsic – Mr. Mihalich, please address the Chair.

Mr. Mihalich –

- 7) Safe buildings.
- 8) Keep a positive learning environment
- 9) Keep your extra-curricular activities, again a foundation for kids.
- 10) You keep the investment in your homes and your community.

These are good things for the community and its worth the 75 cents a day.

The Euclid High School is having the Anything Goes play which actually starts on March 17th and March 18th at 7:00 PM. March 19th, 2:00 & 7:00. It is actually a classic tale of boy meets girl. You can buy your tickets at the door and enjoy the show.

I am working for the School levy. I think it is very important to this community. One of the things I'm a firm believer in is that you can't have a strong community without a strong school system. They simply cannot exist without each other. I'll be up here talking about that a little more over the next couple of weeks, thanks.

Mr. Victor Goodman – 20201 Glen Russ Lane. About ten years ago I was invited by Bowling Green University to give a lecture on Holocaust. Born in 1943 I was too young to have witnessed what I was about to speak about. So what gave me the right to speak when I hadn't even lived the Holocaust experience?

As anyone who has ever given a speech knows, you must have a hook that grabs the audience and makes them interested in the subject to be presented. As I drove up, I pondered how would I accomplish this goal? How would I make them understand that I, too, was a survivor of the Holocaust? If World II had been lost, I would have not been able to give such a lecture.

Here is the hook I used that day. Let me tell you the greatest lie of mankind. It's called race. We have been told since the beginning of time that race is based on color. Thus, to the amazement of some I am a man of color. But race based on color, is a total lie. We have been taught that man is divided into four races, thus four colors: white, black, red and yellow. I am not white. This is white. There is no such thing as a black person. They are brown. Have you ever seen a person who is yellow? Or how about red? The answer, no.

If we can't even get the colors right, how does a city commissioner have the nerve to stand up here and proclaim she speaks for an entire race of color? As a man of color, I object. She does not speak for me now or ever. She even called me a person of non-color. Well look at any box of crayons, I am a color. I am peach, I am tan, I maybe even flesh. I am a man of color. Know your color history, please.

As a teacher of prejudice for more than 17 years, I have discovered a term that applies to people who condemn their own. It is called reverse racism. And among my people it is called reverse anti-Semitism. Instead of attacking those outside your circle, you attack the people within it. It is by and far the worst and most deadly form of prejudice.

Tonight I stand here wearing this hat as a sign of solidarity with a fellow citizen. At 94 years old, I am in awe of her zeal and passion. Although I cannot agree with her continued use of a certain contractor's name, I affirm her right to her opinion. I am also weary of the hypocrisy of the Council President. I witnessed the Mayor getting the attention of the Council President ...

President Sustarsic – Mr. Goodman you're Out of Order.

Mr. Goodman – Why am I Out of Order?

President Sustarsic – You're Out of Order because

Mr. Goodman – Tell me, you have to explain it to me. You mean I'm not allowed to say Council President?

President Sustarsic – If you would have listened to the rules at the beginning and before that where it was mentioned that there was

Mr. Goodman – What word have I said that is incorrect sir?

President Sustarsic – You're Out of Order, please take your seat.

Mr. Goodman – What word have I said that is incorrect?

President Sustarsic – Please take your seat Mr. Goodman.

Mr. Goodman – You're a hypocrite all the way. You will not be around soon.

President Sustarsic – You're Out of Order.

Mr. Goodman – You're a hypocrite.

President Sustarsic – Next speaker please?

Mrs. Audrey Kaplan Goodman – 20201 Glen Russ Lane. Civil disobedience is a form of protest in which protestors deliberately violate a law or rule that they refuse to obey because they regard it to be unjust. Most activists who perform civil disobedience are scrupulously non-violent. The purpose of civil disobedience can be to publicize an unjust law or rule and appeal to the conscience of the public or to force negotiation with recalcitrant officials. Recalcitrant means stubborn or unyielding.

While civil disobedience in a broad sense is as old as the Hebrew's mid-wives defiance of Pharaoh, most of the moral and legal theory surrounding it have been inspired by Thoreau, Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King.

For over a year in this forum, civil disobedience has been practiced due to the fact that rules and ordinances declared valid here have been continually re-routed at the whim of the administration and/or Council President. In this forum, what is good for the goose, does not apply to the gander. Examples, when a councilwoman can repeatedly read an ordinance on how the public is to act at this podium with civility and respect, yet she is allowed to be sarcastic, mean-spirited and name-call citizens at her pleasure and not be called Out of Order, then civil disobedience is the only option.

Another example, when a Council President can reprimand one citizen for using a name other than a public official ...

President Sustarsic – Mrs. Goodman, are we going in a different direction here, or are you going to get more civil as was asked and requested at the beginning of the meeting? Because of you can't and if it's just going to be again a complete attack on the administration, members of Council or anything else like that ...

Mrs. Goodman – Why am I not allowed to speak how I feel, sir? Why am I not allowed to speak what I feel goes on here?

President Sustarsic – You're Out of Order, please take your seat. Thank you.

Mr. Goodman – You're Out of Order.

Mrs. Goodman – You're Out of Order Jerry.

Mr. Goodman – You're Out of Order. Look Jerry, I brought a gavel. You're Out of Order.

President Sustarsic – Could we have the Goodman's escorted outside of the building please?

Mr. Goodman – You're a hypocrite.

President Sustarsic – Next speaker please.

Mrs. Ginger Lennon – 22450 Seabrooke Ave. in Euclid. I'm here to give you some information about Euclid High School's Big Show. I would like everyone in the City to come out and give us support for the school. The play is going to be Anything Goes. It March 17, 18, 19. We are in charge of the dinner show. The tickets for the dinner show will \$20 and for the play it will be \$8.

For the dinner show we have chicken parmesan, penne pasta with marina sauce, green beans, salad and bread sticks, a yummy meal. We have a nautical theme. You will be issued a passport. You will be boarding a ship and when you come in you will absolutely love it. We also have space for anyone to come in, we'll decorate the wall and you'll be able to pose with your children or anybody that you want. Council people, we'd love to see you there.

I also have some information here for the Elvis Shake Rattle & Roll Fan Club. We are having a Gospel sing at the Euclid Public Library. This is free to the public. We only have 100 seats available. It will be on March 26th from 2:00-4:00. It will feature Walt Sanders which is the gentleman that appeared at our Council Meeting. He will sing Elvis gospel. He will not be in custom out of respect for the Easter Season, but he will give you a fantastic gospel sing. I would like everyone that is interested call 216 310-2149 and reserve your seat. As I said, there will be coffee and desserts and this is free to anyone.

Also we have the play coming up, the show One Night With You, also featuring Walt Sanders and the Cadillac Band. This is our Elvis Tribute Artist. This is on April 16th and the show will start at 7:00. For tickets you can go through Shore Cultural Centre, this will be at the Shore Cultural Centre auditorium. You can call 216 289-8107. The tickets are \$17 advanced, \$20 the day of the show. If you come the day of the show, we will give you \$1 off if you bring a new teddy bear. Those teddy bears will be issued to Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. So then you will be paying \$19 the day of the show.

Also you can get tickets 216 310-2149. This is to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis and the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation and a little bit goes back to Shore Cultural Centre for their auditorium. I would like to see everyone come out and have a great night on April 16th. Thank you and have a good day.

Mr. Doug Patterson – I'm President of Production Plus Productions. I've been hired as a new Director of Entertainment for Euclid Square Mall. Every Saturday from 2:00-4:00, sponsored by Magic 105.7, we're inviting the community to come out to Euclid Square Mall, the way it was, the groove is back again. We're telling the community to come out and just enjoy themselves. We're playing 60's Motown music and 70's Old school music. What we're doing is saying Euclid is not dead. Euclid is still surviving. I've working with a lot of different malls in a lot of communities. I moved into the Euclid community. I am a talent agent and right now my office has been moved into Euclid Square Mall to try to bring back the attitudes and fairness of Euclid. I've seen other malls take our community. I don't have to mention the different malls, you know where all the malls are at. We're saying Euclid is not there yet. We're still live and kicking and the groove is back every Saturday from 2:00-4:00 pm. You can spin the wheel, win prizes, gifts up to \$25,000. If you want a poster in your window, a lot of businesses in the area have been supporting us and they have been placing posters in their different facilities. We're saying once you have supported us, we'd like for you to say its okay. That's the thumb up that they're giving in the community. If you would like to put a poster to support the way it was, the groove is back, Euclid Square Mall, you can call us, 216 731-8070. Councilwoman was here the last time, cut the ribbon for us and we appreciate that. Come on out, every Saturday you can dance from 2:00-4:00 costs you nothing. Just conversation, ice cream, Euclid Beach and everything else. Thank you.

Mr. James Foreman – 23555 Euclid Ave. Euclid, Ohio. Owner of Forko Enterprises. The rental agent for the community center. Just wanted to give you guys a quick update on the less than two weeks that we've had to prepare on this. On Wednesday, the day after the Council Meeting, we had 36 calls between 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Of the 106 names that I got from the City to call back, there was a great effort on all of my staff's part to get in touch with everybody. We got in touch with everybody in two days time. We had over 150 calls the first day. We have now set up a new phone answering message machine to alleviate some of the calls that just want to know about certain rates and things like that, which is going very well.

We've also booked every Saturday in June, so those of you getting married in June, you're out of luck at the community center. In allocated money already for the whole year just in the past 11 days, we have deposits held by credit card coming in over \$7,500. That's a good start and hope to do more. The number again is 692-6600. Thank you.

President Sustarsic – Thank you, next speaker please.

Mr. Tod Guntner – 390 E. 257. Last fall the President of neighborhood association, I think it's called Fox Hollow. I got a call from them and they asked me if I would come speak at their Association meeting, which I immediately jumped on. Due to his call, I had the idea of well, maybe other associations would like new speakers and new things to talk about. So I had written a letter and had it distributed to every single neighborhood association that we do have in Euclid. I'm proud to say, to date, and I would like to thank Fox Hollow, Heritage Park and Euclid Trail for having us, Euclid Petpals to speak at their association meetings. I will be going to Euclid Homeowner's the first part of April and I want to extend the invitation again to all the

Council Minutes

March 7, 2005

Page 11

homeowner's associations. If you would like a different type of speaker to come speak at one of your meetings, I would be glad too. Again, my name is Tod Guntner and you can reach me at 289-2057 on Thursday & Friday. Any other time you can reach me at 731-8336 and leave me a message.

Now, I want everybody to know that on April 9th you can have your cake and eat it too. Euclid Petpals has joined forces with Euclid Parks & Recreation Dept. to bring you the Euclid Petpals 2nd Annual Cake Auction and Bake Sale. This will be Saturday April 9th from 10:00-2:00 at the Shore Cultural Centre, 291 E. 222 in the community room. If you would like to donate bake goods, or you would like to donate a cake for the auction, we would greatly appreciate that. You can come anytime after 9:00. The bake sale itself starts at 10 so try to get there early. You can also come to the shelter on Friday, if you have sealed bake goods and we will take them over. On Saturday we do need you to bring those directly to the Shore Cultural Centre community room. The auction will begin promptly at noon. We'll have door prizes and all kinds of fun. I'll have a small membership drive. We're also in need of a few volunteers who would like to work a couple of hours. Just give me a call at the preceding numbers and let me know. I'm also looking for an auctioneer. If anybody has any auctioneer experience, we would greatly appreciate your help for an hour on Saturday April 9th from Noon to 1.

The Abitibi paper recycling bins. We have three at the Animal Shelter. Two of them were recently moved from the parking lot of the Shelter, over about 30 ft. and they are now right in front of the Service Dept. garage doors. These are still Euclid Petpals containers. The money goes to us. We just had to move them. Unfortunately where they were took up to many parking spaces. We need those for our business and for the business that leases space from us. Don't hesitate to put papers into those other two bins on the other side of our parking lot, because all the money does go to Petpals. Thank you.

President Sustarsic – Next speaker please.

Mrs. Ann Raukar – 246 E. 272 St. Were you addressing me?

President Sustarsic – Mrs. Raukar, if you could speak into the microphone, so we can hear you a little bit better.

Mrs. Raukar – Were you addressing me? You kept looking at me when you were talking there for, and I wondered if you were addressing me?

President Sustarsic – No, I was looking at the audience.

Mrs. Raukar – Thank you. I want to congratulate you on the Resolution opposing President Bush's proposed job cuts. Congratulations. I also want to congratulate the Mayor for purchasing the new state-of-the-art equipment for the Fire Department. That makes me very happy and that is their due, we owe them the best.

At a hearing held March 4th, I told the Mayor to quit bragging about saving the city millions of dollars in the Providence Baptist Church case. This should never have been a City of Euclid problem. It was brought on by the County officials in their recruitment of four black churches for their own selfish political benefit. Mayor Oyaski was the contact for Provident Baptist Church. They County politician chose the most vulnerable to exploit. The citizens of Euclid were called racists. Those who choose four black churches and no white churches are the racists. The Oyaski/Cervenik administration era was very dreary. No progress. Why? Because our leaders were in the real estate business. Lots of faulty property was bought. The enabled the Law Director to send more illegal money to the County Treasurer

President Sustarsic – Mrs. Raukar.

Mrs. Raukar – on non-taxable city property.

President Sustarsic – Mrs. Raukar, I think

Mrs. Raukar – It is the city treasurer's responsibility to pay the bills.

President Sustarsic – Mrs. Raukar,

Mrs. Raukar – Did you shut me off?

President Sustarsic – No, but I was going to suggest that you turn your ideas around a little bit and again if you're going to talk against County officials or anyone like that, we'll have to rule you Out of Order. We're not in the business here this evening to demean anybody, we're just here to talk to

Mrs. Raukar – I'm Out of Order and I should leave?

President Sustarsic – Yes.

Mrs. Raukar – Well, I want to continue.

President Sustarsic – I appreciate that but you have to follow the rules like everyone else, so we'd appreciate it if you could sit down.

Mrs. Raukar – What am I Out of Order about?

President Sustarsic – You're Out of Order.

Mrs. Raukar – It is something, this has happened. It was found out by the other council persons.

President Sustarsic – Please take your seat, you are Out of Order.

Mrs. Raukar – Adios. I have a difficult time. I'll see my doctor at the end of the month because my ears are leaving me.

President Sustarsic – Next speaker please?

Mrs. Rebecca Conway – 291 E. 276 Street. There's been a lot of mis-information on whether the recall is going forward or not, and we want to make it so everyone understands, the recall is definitely on and moving forward. If anyone would like to sign the petition, please call me at 732-8241. We're in the phone book as well, or you can call 261-8526.

Quick question and if you can't answer this, then I would ask my Ward 2 Councilman Daryl Langman too. Why exactly Victor Goodman was called Out of Order? That's my question. If you can't, then I would ask Daryl to follow up with that. Thank you.

President Sustarsic – Next speaker please.

Mr. Rick Wiegand – I'll be very brief. I didn't catch all this meeting, I was at home painting, so a little difficult. 44 East 224 St. Two meetings ago on February 17, 2005 a Ms. Hanlon asked a question to Council that was two parts to it. Number one, in your opinion should the Mayor be recalled. Number two, were you behind any of the recall initiative.

I think it's been very clear that six members of Council and the Mayor opposed the recall and are not behind any of it. But three members of council have not completely answered her inquiries. I read through the Council Minutes from that meeting again and again, so I've gone over them word-by-word. Councilman Langman answered the first question. He believes the Mayor should be recalled. He didn't answer the second question at all whether he's behind the initiative.

Councilwoman Mancuso said she's not behind the effort but failed to answer the first question, do you think the Mayor should be recalled. Councilman Delaney avoided both questions but instead gave us a beautiful speech about the process. That was nice, but Councilman Delaney you should have maybe listened to your colleague, Councilwoman Hufnagle who told us that supporting the process is merely the same as saying I'll support the Charter since the process is in the Charter. That was part of your Oath as a Councilman.

I'd ask if you could please spare the political answers and sometime Councilman Delaney, Mancuso and Langman answer these questions. Councilman Delaney, should the Mayor be recalled? I want you to answer the question also were you behind the recall effort, far behind it in anyway?

Councilwoman Mancuso, you did say you were not behind the effort in anyway but you didn't answer the question as to whether the Mayor should be recalled. Councilman Langman, I'd like you to answer the question were you behind the recall effort in anyway? I await your specific answers, not a political answer, not talking about the process.

President Sustarsic – Mr. Wiegand, I don't know if you were here at the beginning of the meeting, but it was mentioned at the beginning of Council's Comments rather, that we're going to try to keep this as civil as we can, so as far as going after people and just to clean it up a little bit.

Mr. Wiegand – I'd just like those questions answered. I think Ms. Hanlon would like those answered. That's the only thing, just a specific answer to a question.

Councilman Delaney – I would say that I'll address it in my Councilmen's Comments if I have time at the end. If not, I'll be happy to talk to you after this meeting, or anytime after that. Thanks.

President Sustarsic – Do we have any other individuals in the audience that wish to address the body?

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

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

Councilman Delaney – Thank you Mr. Chairman. I see that Director Johnson isn't here. But again I would like to ask, maybe Director Frey, certainly you might have an opinion on the Ohio Revised Code and whether for the last eight years the Council has been receiving revenue analysis for our top 50 companies and the confidentiality of that.

Director Frey – I have a law student who has been researching that matter. He is due back in tomorrow. I anticipate he will have his analysis for me to review. It is my opinion that summary information by employer can be released. There is however, countervailing opinion out of the Columbus area that says it cannot. I would like to read the clerk's analysis to come to a conclusion that I hope is defensible. It is my desire and intention that we do provide that information. I don't want to breach some matter of State Code however by providing that. If it is my conclusion that that information can be released, I will give that written opinion to the Tax Administrator and I would be glad to forward a copy of that opinion to you. I would hope that within days, you will have that answer.

Councilman Delaney – I had after the last Council Meeting, two weeks ago, I had done some research, I had sought out two legal opinions and I had called the CCA. They had said that the form that they have prepared as long as the companies are alphabetized, they are not showing dollar amounts and percentages, which is what we have here, percentages. And, as long as the classification of government, commercial, manufacturing or other, 1, 2, 3, 4, perfectly, does not break the Ohio Revised Code. That's what I asked for, that's the citizens have been provided with for the last 8 years. As long as there's no problems with two public entities providing this, then I don't see why it shouldn't be made public record.

Director Frey – If the Central Collection Agency wants to indemnify us for any suit we encounter in that, I would be delighted to provide the information directly. I'm not attempting to evade giving the information as I just said to you. It is my intention that that information is released, however there is counter opinion to that which comes out the Franklin County area and I want to make sure that we do not breach State Code by providing the information. I'd be delighted to look at the analysis from Central Collection Agency. I would expect that we would have an answer for you within a matter of days.

Councilman Delaney – The back-end of two months, I'll be looking forward to that two days as well. Mr. Mayor, I have had several questions from a few different people that were at your meeting on Friday. Somehow I'm not clear about the topic of the Shore Cultural Centre and the developers and my involvement in this. I know that you suggested that there may have been a committee with Councilwoman Mancuso, but I'm not so sure and I had answered many of those questions that I would wait and see what you had to say.

Mayor Cervenik – Is there a question? I'm not sure what you're talking about here.

Councilman Delaney – The developers for the Shore Cultural Centre. Many of the people in that meeting left with the impression, you had said, I was going to be involved in that process.

Mayor Cervenik – I told the developers that they are to contact you directly to see if they can meet with you and come to some common grounds and to address any of the concerns that you have. You made a statement at the meeting at Shore on Wednesday, you asked them if they would be willing to look at other things and I think that's what it is about. If they haven't contacted you yet, they shall very shortly. The committee that you're speaking of with Councilwoman Mancuso is I'm forming a health insurance committee made up of the 9 bargaining member units, a non-union employee, Councilwoman Mancuso is going to co-chair that with our Insurance Administrator Roseanne Evangelista and one resident participant who we hope and I will know tomorrow for sure would be Regina Hauck, who has had a number of conversations and e-mails with the administration about ways to save money on health care. Those are the two items you have. What Mrs. Mancuso's committee is totally unrelated to the Shore Cultural Centre.

Councilman Delaney – That's as much as I assumed. Thank you for clearing that up. The next Council meeting I hope to have legislation to put into committee specifically for some of the highlights of what the Shore Board intends to do. One other thing and I know I brought it up before and I've reviewed some of my notes from prior meetings with Jonathan Sandvick and Sandvick Architects. I think at one of our council meetings when a member of the public had asked you, you had said they had presented you with plans and they are wonderful plans and you can't wait for the public to see them. I think it is incumbent on us to see these. I know in your opinion, maybe, to get to an end result, you didn't agree with, but I think we need to see that information because it is very relative of what is going on with the Shore Cultural Centre a limited liability corporation. Once again I would ask you to please contact Mr. Sandvick and possibly show some of this to the public and so we can get his ideas, which will only give us a better understanding of the project we're about to see coming up hopefully this spring.

Councilman Gruber – At this time I would like to rise to my colleague, which is unusual and request the Law Director do get us the information if it is deemed legal as soon as possible. We had had that for many, many years and I don't see the harm in it. But if there is a legal reason not to have it, I appreciate that, but if it is available to us, I would also like to get that.

I would like to thank the Euclid Villas Homeowner's, the Indian Hills Association, the Chardon Hill Homeowner's Association for having me there in the last month. I spoke briefly with the Councilwoman in the ward and I would like to bring this up, it is kind of interesting. I won't identify the owner's name. But this was handed to me from a business on Lake Shore Blvd. It was a letter addressed to him from Lake Shore Blight Watch in Euclid, Ohio 44132. I guess some individuals or an individual has decided to take on the cause of being the policeman of Lake Shore. It says, your business on Lake Shore is an important part of the neighborhood and has been for many decades. Lake Shore Blight Watch is a local group dedicated to the informal and voluntary upkeep of your properties in Euclid without city inspector. Any work that's usually done needs to have the city inspectors involved.

It says, we have observed that your corner could benefit from a little tender loving care. In particular the parking lot is severely deteriorated and needs patching. We hope you can take some steps to make your corner more attractive for your customers and for all those who drive by everyday. Your business has been valuable for Euclid for many years and has done well. So we hope you can put something back into the property and make it even better for you and the whole neighborhood.

I applaud the individuals who are doing this, however, I would recommend that they do contact the city and our inspectors. Send them out there. Some businesses may not have information on programs that are available from the city to help with projects, storefront renovations, parking lot repairs. So if an individual has a complaint, please bring it to the attention so we can work with, so we can work on getting these properties taken care of and maybe give the business owners a little help along the way. With that, I'll close and thank you very much.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail – I just wanted to follow up on a couple of the comments that were made regarding the schools and the school levy. I certainly believe the State should fix the way that they fund education. But, in the decade that they have ruled it unconstitutional, they have not fixed it and in my opinion, I don't know if we'll see a fix in the next few years. The bottom line is it remains a local responsibility to support our schools. We can't count on the

State to help us out. They've actually cut the funding to the schools over the last three years to the tune of about \$3 million. There's no doubt in my mind that strong schools make a strong community. All the efforts that we're doing to build Euclid and make Euclid a strong community really need the support of strong quality education behind that.

I support the schools 100%. I believe they've kept their promises. They are working hard. The last operating school levy was actually stretched to last for 6 years which is very untypical of local school districts. The results in the schools have improved. The scores on the State tests have improved. We have quality teachers and the schools cannot continue to provide a quality education without the support that's needed. Certainly there's a lot of questions. I would ask any resident who has a question about where your dollars are going in the schools, what the levy will go to. I'm sure we'll be getting information over the next several months, but don't hesitate to call the Superintendent's office, to visit your local school, go in and see what the schools are doing. They are doing some wonderful work and our students are succeeding. They cannot do that unless we all help. It is in all of our best interests to support the local schools. If you have any questions and I'm sure you will as the levy campaign gets underway, contact the Superintendent's office, contact your local school. The Superintendent's office is 261-2900. Remember that strong schools build a strong community and we are all in this together.

Mayor Cervenik – I believe there's a couple members from our Euclid High School here this evening. Thanks for being here, good to see you.

Councilwoman Hufnagle – Euclid Boys League has added an additional day of registration for the baseball program. It will be this Saturday, March 12th at the Library from 9:00-11:00 and 2:30 to 4:45. So there were quite a few kids that didn't get to register so you still have the opportunity Saturday. If you have any questions for that, you could call 486-9980.

Then I would like to thank the Indian Hills Elementary School. They invited me there for their annual program they have every year, Local Heroes program. For this year they held it at Glenbrook. It is a wonderful program. The children did an outstanding job this year. This year the singing was just great. It is a great example of what our schools are doing. I would like to thank them for inviting me there. The Mayor and I had an opportunity while we were there to make an impromptu visit into Mr. Lanese's third grade class. Mr. Lanese is a wonderful teacher and a great example of the teacher's that we have in the system. I'd just like to take that opportunity to mention that. That's all I have this evening, thank you very much.

Councilman Langman – I, too, was at the Indian Hills ceremony on February 24th and I think that addresses what the levy is really all about, is a program like that; where those young people took the time to write some really fantastic essays as to who their heroes are. Their heroes were their mothers and fathers. Again, I'd like to thank the School District, the Mayor, Councilwoman Hufnagle were also there. Had the opportunity to speak with one of the counselors at the School and how they're implementing conflict resolution in the classrooms for I believe its grades 2 and up. Those are the life skills that the Euclid Schools are teaching to all of the children that pass through from Elementary School on. It is very difficult when you have levies and that a local community is responsible for funding a vast majority of the dollars that go into our kids education.

If you want change, if you really want change, then you do have to pay attention very closely as to who is representing you in the State Legislature both in the Senate and in the House and who our overall State elected officials are, the Governors. That ladies and gentlemen is where the real problem lies. It is how the State approaches school funding. I believe this Council passed a resolution back in November protesting the methods that the State uses in funding schools. It is really a 19th century way and we're in the 21st century and it simply doesn't work anymore. We have to come back to you all the time for the money. I don't know of any business that doesn't raise prices over a period of 3-4 years. You look at your phone bill, your gas bill, food, fuel of course, they all go up. Yet we tell our schools you only have a fixed amount of dollars with which to operate. It simply doesn't work. That's why every 3-4 years whether you are here or in Beachwood or in Cleveland Heights, you're going to see another operating levy.

Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail made a great point in saying they, Euclid Public Schools, have taken their last operating levy and stretched those dollars over a six year period. They should be congratulated for that. They are coming back now for another operating levy as opposed to the last levy that was passed, which was for capital expenses that allowed Indian Hills School and Memorial to re-open. Yes, the problem lies at the State level, we need to

address that. But at the same time we don't want to short-change our children as to the education we offer them here in the City of Euclid. It really is a good investment in your own property because good schools maintain property values. The kids did a fantastic job. There was good pastry afterwards and it was really an eye-opener as to the good things that are happening in our elementary schools.

Director Will did mention the Blade & Edge event on Saturday. I'll be there somehow I volunteered for it so I'll be there Saturday morning from 8-11 or so. Come on down, come see the kids skate. They skate a lot better than me as was shown a few years ago when we had a little fundraiser and some of the council people skated. That was very painful but worthwhile.

Now for Mr. Wiegand's questions, I believe I did answer the first one. The resident asked me in any of my family members were involved and I answered her privately. But I will tell you, my father is out gathering signatures. I've asked him not to get any for me, but we'll see if that's true or not. He's a 77 year-old Veteran, he can pretty much do what he feels is right as his responsibility as a citizen. If he wants to gather signatures, so be it.

For your question as to whether I'm behind it or what not, that is negative. Some of the individuals have asked me questions about, what you should do and so forth, I've given them my opinion. But if you're looking for the puppet-master behind it, you'll have to look somewhere else. With that, I bid everybody a good night.

Councilwoman Mancuso – First of all and I know Director Johnson is not here, can we get our budget reports back on-line again, every month? We were getting used to seeing them and I really would like to make sure that we're staying where we need to be before it's June.

Mayor Cervenik – Director Johnson and I talked on Friday and they're in the process now of putting your booklets in order. One disadvantage, it is a small disadvantage, when you pass a budget in December, our booklet doesn't contain the year-end numbers. You should have those very shortly. Yes, the budget reports will be coming out. I must also say we went to look at the new updated financial system and that will be in the capital budget that we plan on giving you in April. It will be very, very simple for any person, any council person to go in and get a daily budget, pie-charts the whole thing. They've really done a wonderful job of converting the AS400 system into a Windows Microsoft system. In the meantime those will be forthcoming very shortly.

Councilwoman Mancuso – My second point of clarification again, for you Mayor, since you made the statement that you're starting this Committee, perhaps for the public to tell them what your object for that committee is. So that it is out in the public and everybody understands where you're going with this.

Mayor Cervenik – Where we're going with it is really going to have a lot to do with the committee. My purpose of this is to educate each of our employees, educate the public, educate the council members, and educate myself as well about our health care system. What it costs, changes we can make. That's why we appointed one member from each of the bargaining units. To participate we feel this process will be very helpful as we discuss employee contributions in the future. We're looking for suggestions from this committee and working with Glen Szana, our consultant, we want employees to be able to tell us if our health care plan, our benefits plans are not providing what they need. The bottom line is we're looking to educate ourselves and to find ways to save money and to be creative and stay on the forefront of providing health care to our employees. It is a very large cost and I think we'll have benefits. We've got very good individuals. I did not bring the list with me tonight. They will be receiving a letter before the end of this week just giving them the basic duties, the meeting will be here on the 16th of March and they will be receiving a lot of information and Glen Szana will be providing you with what we feel the goals are. I'm looking forward to doing that. This is going to be an on-going committee, it is not going to be a one-month deal. We're going to meet after the first two months, bi-monthly. I expect it to continue through my term as Mayor and hopefully beyond that.

Councilwoman Mancuso – Another hat that I wear besides council person is to sit on the School Board's Finance Committee and I will say that it is truly an education to look at how our schools are financed. The only person I think we has an excellent handle on all the convoluted mannerisms and methods that we have to go through to be funded is our Treasurer. He has spent a great deal of time with those of us on this Finance Committee, actually educating us as to what it takes to get one child through the Euclid Public School system with all of the challenges, the

biggest one obviously being the State. While I agree that the concrete way would be to say just stop, don't do anything and let the State have to handle it. In that vein we have children who will suffer. We have children who live in this city who will not get the education they are getting right now. Therefore we have to work with the State, as painful as that maybe and we must also pass levies as painful as those maybe. I understand as well as anybody else, I have parents who are on fixed-incomes and it will be very difficult for them to do. I also have a grandson who is going to grow up in this city. I have both ends. We have to keep going forward with the kids in the school. It is going to cost us money to do that until we get the State to come around. I think as the weeks go by, you are going to hear what the finances are going to be used for, they are very well thought out. They have been painfully put together. There are programs such as all day Kindergarten which was put together with the promise of funding and then that funding was taken away. You can't do that to the children of Euclid. You have to maintain the consistency and we're going to have to pay for that until we come up with better options at the State level.

I also support the efforts that are going on and have a much better understanding than I did a year ago before I sat on that Committee. Believe me they walk through all the questions that every citizen here is asking. All the reasons why we should and why we should not pass a levy. Give them the opportunity to answer your questions. Give them the opportunity to talk about where the money is actually going, and what it is doing for the children. Because it is making a difference. It's slow, there's a lot of kids coming into this system and there's a lot of work that still has to be done. I think we're on the upswing of where the school system has been in the past.

President Sustarsic – Mrs. Mancuso, you're time is up.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – I'd just like to say thank you to the good folks at the Lakeland Civic Association. I attended their homeowner's meeting last week along with Councilwoman Hufnagle and Council President Sustarsic. We had Director Pietravoia as the featured speaker and he answered everybody's questions and let everybody know all the good things that are going on in his department.

I think Mr. Foreman is doing a good job at Forko. I just had a friend of mine, I was telling her about the facility and she is getting married in October, she called and the date she was looking for was already booked. So, they're doing alright.

Also with the dumpsters that they've moved over for the Petpals, is there any way we can get signs made to direct people that those are for their use? Can we do that for them?

Director Gulich – No problem.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – The Motor Maintenance contract, I know it was kind of, they had like one year and they opened it again. Are we going to try to get them in line with the other unions with their upcoming contract like a 4 year deal?

Mayor Cervenik – That's exactly what we did do. We extended the contract for one year so that they will expire and we will negotiate a 3 year contract that will begin January 1st of 2006. They are now in line with everyone else.

Councilman T. Sustarsic – I wish everyone a good night and Happy St. Patrick's Day too.

President Sustarsic – Just to remind everybody on Council and those interested, on March 9th at 7 PM, Wednesday, there's an Executive Committee Meeting which will be a review of the Health Care RFP proposals for medical, dental, prescription drug, vision and life insurance. On March 14th, next Monday, we have a Safety Committee Meeting at 7 PM relative to the partial vacation of Miller Ave. That will be chaired by Councilman Gruber.

I've also had the good fortune of attending many citizens groups, neighborhood associations in the past several weeks in Wards 2, 3, & 4. The people are exuberant at the direction the city is going. There are a lot of good people out there. We had a lot of good conversations back and forth relative to schools. We do have a new State Representative and being a rookie on the block, I find out from him that politics is pretty brutal down in Columbus. Unfortunately things aren't going to get done as quickly as we might want them too. But at the same time, I think as was mentioned by a few of my colleagues early on, to work together with the people of the State and try and make a difference. The worse thing we can do is short-change our future and our kids are our future. There is no reason the system should be the way that it is in the State.

Councilman Daly – I'd like to send Get Well wishes out to Capt. Len Nosse. I hear things went well, he was sick then, but I hear he's back home and doing fine. Hope to see you back soon. Secondly, I would encourage people to go to the Euclid High School Big Show. Always, year after year, it is a good time. The kids do a remarkable job and I'm always amazed at what the young people in this city can do. Again, I encourage you to attend that.

Just a couple comments on the new tone that the Council President is trying to start here at our meetings. We've gone through a lot over the last 15 months and it seems people have been offended on every side, on multiple times and I think if we can finally end it to where, instead of going back to old scores of what someone said at a prior meeting, can we maybe start a new tone. When you come to the podium, addressing things for the good of the city and having an alternative or a suggestion versus just an opposition. That's why I talked to the Law Director today about the one item on our agenda today about the cuts at NASA how we were opposing that and I did support that. Again, when we have a chance on issues that we're opposing, if we could offer solutions versus just a blanket opposition. I'm sure it is very hard on a National level but as we get at a State, County or local to be able to offer a suggestion or a solution as an alternative to what is being opposed, I think that would go a long way to help. This City is a good City. It is a great City to have a business in, to raise a family and we have a lot of great assets, strong churches. If we could get back to a business-orientated meeting and come up with things that would make this city move forward, because I think we do need to move forward.

Lastly, on the recall. A recall of someone is a legal thing. Someone supports it or not, that's their choice. Leaders of the recall again, as I mentioned before, I was saddened that this continues. I know in the past you have leaders of the recall have talked about or praised the Euclid Sun Journal on how fair and unbiased their reporting has been. In all, I would like to point out again, the Euclid Sun Journal has editorialized agreement with this Council's rezoning of that property at Hillandale. They did write and salute the courage of the Mayor for settling the law suit, saving the city a substantial amount of money and they have asked that this recall end so that we can move this city forward. Again, I respectfully ask that the leaders reconsider their position and move this city forward. Again the choice is yours. I'm intending to do what I can to move this city forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Daly moved to adjourn. Councilman Gruber seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Attest:

Clerk of Council

President of Council