

COUNCIL MINUTES
November 2, 2009

The regular Council Meeting was held on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Euclid Municipal Center Council Chamber. Council President Holzheimer Gail presided.

Members Present: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman,
Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.
Excused: Gruber, O'Neill

Councilman Langman moved to excuse Councilman Gruber and Councilman O'Neill. Councilman Van Ho seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Others Present: Mayor Cervenik, Law Director Frey, CS&ED Director Pietravoia, Service Director Smith, Recreation Director Will, Chief Repicky, Fire Chief Cosgriff, Asst. Director Gliha, Sgt.-at-Arms Novosel, Clerk of Council Cahill.

Invocation was given by Minister Carl Brewster from Imani United Church of Christ.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council has received the following communications:

A Notice of a Hearing from the Division of Liquor Control for 5 Star Subs, 27575 Euclid Ave.

A letter from the Superintendent of the Division of Liquor Control acknowledging receipt of our Res. 180-2009.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to receive and approve the Council Minutes of October 19, 2009. Councilwoman Jones seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Cervenik – Very short tonight, Director Will has a number of announcements.

Director Will – I want to wish congratulations to our four tackle football teams. Although they probably should be done playing now, they're still outside practicing because they're all going to go into tournaments this weekend. They did play in the Northcoast Tournament this past weekend and our two "B" teams played each other in the Superbowl, so we automatically took 1st and 2nd. We had another team in the semi-finals and then our fourth team was in the consolation round.

Congratulations, the Superbowl was held at Brush High School and when you were sitting there at the stadium you saw Blue and Gold and Euclid everywhere, so it was great. Congratulations to those teams. I will be honoring and asking those kids to come up at our next Council Meeting, so we can congratulate them in person.

I would like to remind everybody basketball for the fall/winter session, we will start putting everybody on teams this week, they will start practicing next week. We have a few openings at this point still left. They are ages 5-13. Registration is at City Hall tomorrow, 3:00-7:00 PM. If you are in the age group of 14-18, stop by, we will lead you in the right direction and get you registered with the Euclid PAL teams. We do have basketball for all ages, PAL is going to operate the older age groups and we are going to take the 5-13 year olds.

We will be having registration at the ice arena for our second session of learn to skate. The Saturday class registrations will be held at the arena this Saturday, 7th from 1:00-2:00. The Tuesday night class registrations will be on Tuesday, November 10th from 6:30-7:30.

For our swimming pools, we will be having our new session for the learn to swim program beginning on Tuesday, November 10th. You can register at City Hall tomorrow, 3:00-7:00 PM. Our special event at the pool for the month of November and for the Thanksgiving Holiday will be on Thursday November 12th, it is called Stone Soup. We have plenty of kettles that we will be filling up with vegetables and they will be floating around the pool and the children will collect all the vegetables and we have a recipe for them to make some vegetable soup and there's a whole story that goes with it. If you have the opportunity, stop by, Thursday, November 12, 7-8:00 PM at the High School pool.

This Saturday, November 7th, we will be having our 5K Run and Doggy Dash. If you're interested in that, pre-register online. You can get the information at www.cityofeuclid.com. You can also register at our Recreation window. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM at the C.E. Orr Ice arena. If you have any questions about any of these programs, please call our office, 289-8114.

Mayor Cervenik – Two short announcements. Tomorrow is election day. I strongly encourage everyone that has not already voted because I saw tonight that in Cuyahoga County over 180,000

people have already voted by mail, which is good. If you have not voted yet, please tomorrow the polls open at 6:30 and they stay open until 7:30 in the evening. There's a lot of very important issues on the ballot as well as our local races. Whichever way you vote at this point, I'm not going to tell you what to do, but I am going to say that you really need to get out there and vote, it is a privilege and an honor.

My second announcement, November 11, right here at City Hall at 11:11 AM, we will be honoring the veterans on Veteran's Day. As you all know many of those veterans fought in wars and skirmishes that allow us and citizens of other countries to be able to vote. I think it is ideal that it is in the same week. I know a lot of you have jobs that you can not make it here, but please tell your residents, your neighbors, your families that there will be a nice ceremony, it lasts about a half hour here at City Hall. It is really an honor to the Veterans who have done so much for us.

That ends communications from the administration.

REPORTS & COMMITTEE MINUTES

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to receive the Police Report of September, 2009; Executive & Finance Min. of 10/14/09; Community Assets Committee Minutes of 10/26/09; Board of Control Minutes of 10/13/09 & 10/19/09. Councilman Wojtila seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR LEGISLATIVE MATTERS ONLY

President Holzheimer Gail – Is there anyone who would like to speak to anything on the Agenda. Seeing no mad rush, we will move forward with legislation.

LEGISLATION

Res. 191-2009 (414-09) CDBG FY 2010

A resolution approving the Annual Action Plan for the FY 2010 Entitlement Year under the Community Development Block Grant Program of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development as recommended by the Citizens' Advisory Committee appointed by the Mayor of the City of Euclid and authorizing the Mayor to submit said Annual Action Plan to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. (Sponsored by Councilwomen Minarik and Holzheimer Gail)

Councilwoman Minarik moved for passage, Councilwoman Scarniench seconded.

Director Pietravoia – This evening we have with us from our staff, Deputy Director Gliha, who has been overseeing our Block Grant program since its inception if I'm not mistaken. If you read the memo, this is our 36th year of receiving Block Grant funds. I think it would be appropriate for Mr. Gliha to give the report on this matter.

Asst. Director Gliha – 2010 does mark 36th year of the Community Development Block Grant program. Myself and Dorothy Fike actually have been around for most of those years. In the early years, year one, the city received a total of \$178,000 and in 2001 we had a high of \$1.3 million. Since 2001 as most of you are aware, the grant has either been stagnant or declined while the needs of the city's low and moderate income citizens have been increasing.

For 2010 we were advised by HUD the budget for an estimated dollar amount of \$1,064,000. With that in mind, each year entitlement cities, such as the City of Euclid, are required to hold at least one public hearing that reviews past program performance, the ongoing needs of the community and programs that might address those needs. The department utilizes the Citizen Advisory Committee composed of 7 members who are as follows: our Council liaison, Councilwoman Mary Jo Minarik; Council President Gail; Ed Dickson; David Gilliam; Willie Brown; Laura Gorsche; a new member, Steven Caviness who works for Congresswoman Fudge and just happens to be a Euclid resident. He is very interested in the development aspect of the city. Of course, our ex-officio member, Dorothy Fike.

We held three committee meetings and two public hearings to review past performance and establish the programs and budgets for the FY 2010 grant. In determining the programs to be funded, four community objectives were utilized: 1, Housing Renovation and Neighborhood Revitalization; 2, Human Resource Support, Social Services; 3, Commercial preservation/Economic Development; 4, Public facilities and improvements.

With those four objectives in mind, the committee has recommended the following programs be funded for year 2010. Senior Programs, \$190,000. Storefront Renovation \$120,000. Plus we are gathering \$210,000 from EDCOR program income to bring that to a total of \$330,000 for storefront renovation. EDCOR administration which pays for the administration of the loan program, \$48,500. Municipal Beautification, \$110,000. Health, safety and well being are in-house rehab program, \$370,000. Neighborhood programs, \$40,500. General management \$170,000 and Planning

\$15,000. For a total expected grant of \$1,274,000 for the year 2010. I'd be happy to address any questions.

President Holzheimer Gail – As always it was a very thorough and informative committee process and I do want to thank the residents who participated, we certainly appreciate their involvement and their input in the decision making.

The only thing that I will add is this is the annual plan. As Council knows, any expenditure over the \$25,000 amount will have individual council approval.

Director Frey – Pardon me, I don't mean to interrupt, but I don't want to leave that point unnoticed. If you would look at Section 2 of the Agenda, because the committee has recommended the various programs, this legislation would authorize the Mayor to enter into the contracts necessary to take those programs, so long as they are identified in the plan, the Mayor under this legislation will be enabled to enter into those contracts without further council action.

President Holzheimer Gail – Thank you for clarifying that, Director Frey. Do that include specific storefront projects that would be over that threshold?

Director Frey – No because they are not identified yet in the agreements. It would only be those existing programs.

Councilwoman Minarik – Under Objection 3, Director Gliha, the \$210,000 from EDCOR, I believe that was going to be contingent upon receipt of the HOME funds if we could get that EDCOR block of money reimbursed. We are guaranteed the HOME funds will throw \$210,000 back into the EDCOR funds?

Asst. Director Gliha – Yes, in fact in talking with Karen Tomsic, the administrator of the program, the next ten loans will be funded through the HOME funds from the County. The County has made available approximately \$220,000 to us for 2010 and we will have an additional \$220,000 available to us in 2011.

Councilwoman Scarniench – The public can see that this is a lot of money. Over the next few months you're going to start hearing a lot about the census. This is very important to make sure that everybody you know is counted because if we go below the 50,000 mark we will potentially lose this money. Our money would then come from the County which doesn't necessarily mean that we would get what we have. Euclid is one of these cities that has this unique opportunity, so please make sure everybody in your house, all of your neighbors understand how important the census is to us.

President Holzheimer Gail – I'm glad you brought that up. I actually brought, I don't know if everyone has received it but it is now called the American Community Survey. I wanted people to see that if they do get this in the mail, not everyone got it? I guess I got an early one maybe?

Director Pietravoia – Those are done on a sample basis. They're done periodically. These are in addition to the regular ten year census which Councilwoman Scarniench was referring to.

President Holzheimer Gail – Quite a detailed document. But it does help us, not only from the funding aspect when the census comes out, but it does provide demographic information, it provides, not to the specific person, of course your own information is anonymous, but it provides important information that cities, counties, states can use towards planning. I'm sorry to confuse anyone. I thought this was my census booklet and apparently it is an early one.

Asst. Director Gliha – The 2010 Census will no longer be a long form. There is going to be a much shorter questionnaire. But every year they're going to take a random sampling, such as the form you just received. There's an importance to those forms being filled out by whoever receives them every year. This way they're hoping to keep a little bit more accurate count than having to rely on, in 2009, rely on 2000 census data.

Councilman Wojtila – The percentages that we're suggesting in the plan, is that consistent with year's past? On the last page, page 5 of the memo we received, it has the breakdown dollar-wise. If we were to calculate those percentages, are these programs similar to what we have funded in years past, percentage wise?

Asst. Director Gliha – Most of our programs have been ongoing, because they have been successful programs. Occasionally when the grant has gone up we've been able to fund a few new programs. But the need that the existing programs are serving, is an every growing need, I'm sorry to say and the funds have been going towards those successful programs for many years now.

Director Pietravoia – As I understood the question, we have for quite a few years spent a similar dollar amount in these program areas. I think the percentages would be similar if you look over the past years in each program area. Occasionally we'll get some additional funding like we did this year where we can put more into storefront. But for the most part, the percentage breakdown has stayed relatively the same.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to close debate, Councilwoman Minarik seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.
Passed.

Res. (415-09) Waterfront Improvement Plan to P&Z

A resolution approving and accepting the Euclid Waterfront Improvements Plan as approved by the City of Euclid Planning and Zoning Commission as an official addendum to the City's 1996 Master Plan. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik and Councilpersons Holzheimer Gail, Langman and O'Neill)

Councilman Langman moved for passage, Councilman Wojtila seconded.

Director Pietravoia – This Resolution is for referral this evening. We are asking City Council to refer this to Planning & Zoning. They will receive both the Resolution and a copy of the Waterfront Improvements Plan that was presented publicly last week at their meeting next week, which will be November 10th. From there, we are planning and would like Council's help on this, we'll be in contact with all of you, a series of community meetings and we're coordinating with Planning & Zoning Commission. The first meeting will likely be a joint meeting that will actually be conducted by Planning & Zoning. We're looking at the following week of their regular meeting, the 17th and 18th, two meetings that week in the community. We're looking at Central Middle School. We've been in contact with Councilwoman Jones as well, possibly the Moore Counseling Center, as a south-side location and then probably the Lakefront Community Center for a future meeting. The process would conclude on December 8th at Planning & Zoning Commission's regularly scheduled December meeting where they'll take an action on the plan that was presented and refer it and the resolution back to City Council for your final action by the end of the year at your second meeting in December.

You'll note in the Resolution and we can discuss this further when it actually comes back for discussion from P&Z. As we discussed at last week's community meeting, we're looking to officially adopt the Waterfront Improvement plan that was prepared by JJR as an addendum to the City's Master Plan. This is a way of keeping our Master Plan up to date as we do these special area studies, officially adopting them as part of the Master Plan. We'll be looking for some input and guidance from Planning & Zoning when it comes back from them.

President Holzheimer Gail – We had a full committee meeting on it, so I don't anticipate there are any questions.

Councilman Langman – First, it is very exciting that we're moving forward. For Euclid, lakefront development is economic development. What was really encouraging even though it wasn't mentioned in any detail is that the public investment can bring back anywhere from eight to twelve times the return to the city. That's very exciting.

I also want to thank the administration for giving us copies of the News Herald editor. Would somebody from the administration comment on the figure that was used because we didn't get any figures at that committee meeting?

Mayor Cervenik – I cannot comment upon where that figure came from. I don't believe it was mentioned at all that evening. I certainly didn't give it to them. It should be noted that it came from the report, the story in the paper the next morning after our public review. It should be noted in that news article it also said that K&D Development would be paying for all this stuff. When I called Doug Price and thanked him for being such a great benefactor to the City of Euclid, he said no such

luck. In fact he said he went into the office and they looked at him in the morning and said, what did you say? You can't always believe what you read in the paper. I know they try hard but we have not come up with a direct figure yet, but it will considerably less than \$47 million.

Councilman Langman – We are a business friendly community. My only other comment is perhaps it would be good if all of our names were placed on the Resolution.

President Holzheimer Gail – If we would add all of Council to that.

Councilman Langman moved Res. (415-09) to Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilwoman Minarik seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.
To Planning & Zoning Commission.

Ord. 192-2009 (387b-09) PPA with OCS

An emergency ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid or his designee to negotiate ~~with and enter into~~ a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) and such related documents necessary to lease City rooftop space ~~to a third party developer~~ to Ohio Cooperative Solar (OCS) to install a photovoltaic (solar) generation system for the City of Euclid Administration Building, and to sell the resulting clean power to the City at a savings over traditional energy sources. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik and Councilpersons Holzheimer Gail, Scarniench and Langman by request of CS&ED Director) (Recommended for passage by the Executive and Finance Committee)

Councilwoman Scarniench moved for passage, Councilman Langman seconded.

Director Frey – You'll notice that this is a "b" version. At the Executive Committee meeting we agreed to an "a" version which named Ohio Cooperative Solar. After the meeting the Council President requested given the discussion that night that we limit this just to the authority to negotiate the power purchase agreement. Hence, the 'b' version is before you tonight. The 'b' version names the party as Ohio Cooperative Solar that we will be negotiating with, but limits our authority under this ordinance to that negotiation process which means we will be coming back to City Council with the contract, with the power purchase agreement for final approval.

You would need to amend to this "b" version.

President Holzheimer Gail moved to amend to the "b" version. Councilwoman Minarik seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.
Amended.

Councilwoman Minarik – I didn't think about this question until after the meeting. These panels will supply about 20% of the power. Is it possible when they hook up, will they be hooked up into some type of emergency back up system as well, so that should we have an area-wide lose of electric power, we can rely on the solar panels?

Director Pietravoia – The system would continue to generate electricity even if there were a power outage. The only thing is, you have to keep in mind, it would only generate electricity live in time, so during the daylight hours. As you go into the evening, it doesn't have the ability to store, it doesn't go into a battery for example, so it is not storing the energy. It would produce the energy and as long as you're using it during the time it is produced, you would still have access to that energy.

Councilwoman Minarik – We're going to re-wire the building, not re-wire it but we're going to direct some of the.

Director Pietravoia – The wiring will direct the electricity from the solar panels into a device that makes it usable for our electric needs in the building.

Councilwoman Minarik – If there's an emergency though, we could hook up dispatch to it or we could hook up, that's my question. In an emergency will we be able to use the solar power?

Director Frey – There are emergency back up generators for some of the city facilities. This building has a generator to power some of the cooling and computer equipment so that it stay functional. I believe the Police Dept. is also on a generator to power its operations in the event of an emergency. This is not tied to a battery system that would store the electricity. It would just go into the use of this building and again as Director Pietravoia indicated, if there was a power outage and it was light, we would still continue to get electricity generated from these panels independent of the traditional utility.

Councilman Langman – Again, I think this is a very exciting development for the city and I kind of wish we had a newspaper to report on all this good news locally. This is a very important step on a number of front. Obviously if you're environmentally concerned, it is important to do the solar panels. I do believe for economic development and attracting those kinds of jobs, if those manufacturers understand that Euclid gets it, and I know the next piece of legislation furthers that process, I think that's going to help us attract those industries and really put us in a good light in all the various environmental magazines and that can only help us.

President Holzheimer Gail – We did have a full Committee meeting on this and a Steering Committee process so we appreciate the efforts and look forward to the contract as soon as it comes back to us.

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

Councilman Van Ho moved to suspend the rules, Councilman Wojtila seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.
Passed.

Res. 193-2009 (416-09) Green Energy for Municipal Buildings

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Administration to research and solicit offers for the use of green energy for municipal buildings and other properties owned by the City of Euclid and to authorize the Administration to present recommendations to the Council of the City of Euclid in furtherance of establishing the City's leadership position in the use of renewable energy for municipal services. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Councilwoman Jones moved for passage, Councilwoman Minarik seconded.

Director Frey – I think I got a little wordy in that opening paragraph. The city wants to be able to take advantage of the work that we've done to date on the solar energy project and look at other municipal buildings and areas like the parks and so forth, for places where renewable energy makes sense. I will tell you that we have some very large accounts that we are probably going to go out for bid to supply electricity. That may tip the balance in favor of buying the electricity unless the renewable energy prices are competitive with that. We do have an objective of going green where possible. But going green also has to make sense to us from an economic point of view. That's the balance we will be looking at that for each of our buildings. We sent our consultant all of our electric account information and he is going to take those accounts that use in excess of 70,000 kilowatt hours a year out to bid. That would include a building like this, it uses more than that. The Waste Water facility uses a tremendous amount of electricity. The Service Garage, Ice arena and so forth. We have some big accounts. I would imagine Memorial Pool probably uses that because of the pumps running the filter system and so forth. We'll get that information, we'll be able to compare that to what we've already learned on the solar project. We can also look at wind energy. There maybe some locations where solar isn't suitable but wind energy may be. We'll look at all of those options and if we find any that make sense, we will be bringing those back to City Council. That is what this legislation would authorize us to do.

Councilman Langman – Director Pietravoia we had discussed this via e-mail, Dovetail Energy came in and evaluated many of our buildings, properties, etc. So the way this is worded, it seems a bit repetitive. So are we building on what Dovetail did, or are we doing evaluation again from scratch? Obviously they recommended certain systems for certain buildings already.

Director Pietravoia – We definitely would be building off the work that was already done. There was a lot of very valuable information that came out of the report that Dovetail did. It gives us some guidance on the next buildings to look, particularly for solar energy. With the months of research that went into this and the RFP process that we went through, it doesn't make sense to start over from the beginning, so we're definitely going to build off the previous work. Potentially go to a second and

third building if it makes sense economically as Director Frey said. Without necessarily going through another RFP process. We will at a minimum, I would guess include at least those parties that responded to the first RFP.

Councilman Langman – I know from that first report, they did mention accommodation solar, wind, for example at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Or I recall a recommendation that the ice arena, roofing is suitable for solar apparatus. I think the Law Director mentioned the pool. If we're going to go beyond that, I would like, it is kind of a pet idea, but obviously the ridges of the heights provides some good wind potential. I hope we look at potential areas up there for additional wind generation capacity.

Director Pietravoia – We will be looking at all possibly options. We'll start with the municipal buildings and then beyond that we'll look at other opportunities throughout the community. I do think it is important as Councilman Langman said earlier and I've discussed this with the Mayor and other members of the administration, from an economic development standpoint, those companies that manufacture these parts want to see that you're serious about it by the fact that the community is actually using the technology. We can start by doing that on our city buildings. We've had several inquiries just in the past few weeks, from area companies that have started looking seriously at alternative energy themselves. I think part of that is explained by the spike that occurred in the electric rates. The big users that were under contract, when those contracts expired in a lot of cases they're not being renewed. In all the cases that I've heard about so far, they're not being renewed. So this is a real incentive to start looking at other ways to bring that electricity cost down.

Councilman Wojtila – The Dovetail report, how long ago was that issued or published?

Director Pietravoia – We had formed a committee with Councilwoman Holzheimer Gail, Councilman Langman and Councilwoman Scarniench and members of the administration, early in this year. So they completed that work either February or March of this year. Based off of that is when we started looking specifically at the City Hall project because that was one of the buildings that was identified as highest potential for solar panel.

Councilman Wojtila – I would like to see a copy, I don't know if anybody else would, unless we already got one, I don't think we did.

Director Pietravoia – I don't believe it was distributed. We can absolutely make copies available to all of Council.

President Holzheimer Gail – We are moving forward as well with a renewable energy plan for the city? That's part of the recovery act funding?

Director Pietravoia – We received Dept. of Energy grant, as what is called a formulas city, it was a direct grant to the City of Euclid. One of the requirements of that is we develop an energy strategy for the community. We have not started the process yet, we're waiting for receipt of the funds. But we did include in our original application the solar project for City Hall and that was already approved. We do have the authority to spend the dollars that we need on that project.

Councilman Wojtila moved to close debate, Councilwoman Scarniench seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.
Passed.

Ord. 194-2009 (412-09) Board of Health Contract

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid to enter into a contract with the County of Cuyahoga, District Board of Health, for various health services for the City of Euclid for the year 2010. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Councilwoman Minarik moved for passage, Councilman Wojtila seconded.

Mayor Cervenik – This will allow us to enter into a contract 2010 with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. They provide many, many services to the residents of the City of Euclid. The nice thing about

this year's contract is the price remains the same from 2009 at \$195,053. We had a Cuyahoga Mayors and Managers Association meeting at the Health Dept. building in Parma last Thursday and they spent a good amount of time explaining to us what they're doing for all the various communities about H1N1. They do all sorts of programs in the City of Euclid including restaurant inspection, indoor air quality, community nutrition programs and on and on. They can provide a service that we really cannot do ourselves at least in the method they do it and intensity that they do it. I strongly urge its support.

Councilwoman Minarik – This was already budgeted?

Mayor Cervenik – Yes it is, it is budgeted each and every year.

Councilwoman Minarik moved to close debate, Councilwoman Jones seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

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

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail. Passed.

Ord. 195-2009 (413-09) Amend Code-Child Restraints

An emergency ordinance amending Section 337.28 "Use of Child Restraints" of the Traffic Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Euclid to conform with the recent changes made by the Ohio General Assembly to Ohio Revised Code 4511.81. (Sponsored by Councilman Gruber by request of Police Chief)

Councilwoman Scarniench moved for passage, Councilwoman Jones seconded.

Chief Repicky – This was added to amend our current ordinance on child restraints which involves the booster seat for children we are 8-15 years of age, or younger children at least 4'9" tall. This is a secondary offense. Although this went into effect on October 7th of this year, there's a six month warning period which means that from now until April 7th there will be no citations, just warnings issued to parties that are in violation. I ask for your passage of this ordinance.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to close debate, Councilwoman Jones seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Councilwoman Minarik moved to suspend the rules, Councilman Wojtila seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Scarniench, Jones, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail
Nay: Minarik
Passed.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

President Holzheimer Gail – This is where you can speak to anything for the good of the city. I will make a note as we always do prior to election season, it is not appropriate to make individual candidate's comments or campaign for a political person. This is for the good of the entire City and not meant to be a political forum. You may speak to an issue that is related to the city.

Mr. Christopher Litwinowicz – 21970 Morris Ave. The night before a council election. Two years have come, two years have gone. Looking at everybody's forums, you put down what you have done or what type of task you've completed. But we're still asking for employment rights. Now I might have said some things at a council meeting and I've got plugged because you might think it was out of hand. But on the welfare of the city, this individual might have cost the city a Department of Justice investigation. I'm meeting with the Department of Justice on Wednesday afternoon after the election.

I've waited two long years to speak to the Governor. I guess this city don't got clout because according to the Board of Elections which will testify that the Law Director failed to understand the law and give it to the Board of Elections, not Christopher, not going down there with the City Charter. This is after the Department of Justice came into our city. I've waited patiently for conversation with Governor, I mean Senators, somebody died RIP, new person get in. They know me, but I've got to go to Court. I had to study it for two years. When all I ask is somebody in my city to do something I wanted. That barely happened. The city ran, the city got budgeted. It's not the Mayor's fault, he was just a candidate like you all. But I felt like the system was disgusted and it just spit on me.

But I'm here today, not to campaign for somebody or against somebody. Nothing more better is for somebody to keep coming up to you that hasn't worked over 3 years, 5 years, 10 years, since coming out of Euclid and you guys still think that the lakefront is going to make money. That's an enjoyment. Legally if we stand up for our rights like we did with the Civil War in our history, and even the Blacks and the Mexicans with other issues, we're going to get through this. Water really free, this is everything God, we're paying God's tools, gasoline, all that. These companies shouldn't be allowed to charge us, but they do. Politicians need to wake up and start changing stuff because there's going to be more crime and less time to deal with it and the Police Chief will have to deal with it.

All I'm stressing is, I can't even tell Burger King or Pizza Hut that's in this city that are corporations like Georgio's to put me on a schedule, for two years. You say, move on, move forward. We don't even have a welfare department down here. For two months I haven't got welfare. They're telling me to go get a job when there aren't no jobs. That's what I'm talking about. When you cut me off, you don't know what I've been through.

Now I'm meeting with the Department of Justice, not on this situation about being cut off, but I want you all to know, I'm taking this full five minutes and everybody that stands up at this podium, you should not even buzz them, not even get an attitude, don't ask questions, just listen, take notes because these are your constituents and these are your voters. A couple of people are going to stand up here in the next minute and speak to you because they're running for office, they feel that you're not doing the right job. I think you all doing a good job except one person out of this whole city stand up and make a resolution, where you just made a resolution for seatbelts. What about a resolution, a piece of paper saying we want change?

Another thing is, Barack Obama is not running for President. So less people are going to come out and vote. That means less signatures that we need to make change. Sad to say it that way, but that means recall and everything. That don't mean Mayor, that means Council. It is just life. I thank you for your time and I having a meeting to meet after two years.

Mr. Willie Brown – 20875 Miller Ave. A couple of things that I'd like to address. The first one being that Euclid Family YMCA is still awaiting everyone who hasn't already donated to the Healthy Kids Campaign to come by there and make your donation. We haven't hit our goal yet, but we look forward to seeing you all stop by and leaving a check. Or you can also leave cash at the Euclid Family YMCA on Babbitt Rd. On addition to that, if you don't have a membership, take advantage of the opportunities to get specials in joining the Euclid Family YMCA. Let's be fit and have fun in the upcoming year.

Next I'd like to talk briefly about mail, good mail and other mail. Some mail that I received recently was a little alarming because there was screaming headline about my right to vote being taken away and telling Euclid residents to beware. The only thing missing was Paul Revere riding through the streets on a horse screaming, The British are coming, the British are coming. I would just like to say to the residents of the City of Euclid that you have an opportunity to vote on whether or not you want four year staggered terms for council persons or not. This is a resolution that was put forth by the Charter Review Commission. It was approved by City Council and that's why you now have an opportunity to voice your opinion.

The Charter Review Commission that came up with this suggestion was one of the most diverse bodies that I have seen assembled in this city. Their age range was from the early 30's to the mid-seventies. There were African American males, white males, African American females, white females. There were people who live north of Lake Shore. There were people who live south of Euclid. There were different ethnic and religious concerns that were represented. I think this diverse body used their general consensus to come up with something for the citizens of Euclid to decide if they felt it would be better for the City. It is not a veil attempt to take anyone's right to vote away from them and what happened with the Department of Justice lawsuits, happened. Personally I was not in favor of the way that the Department of Justice and the Federal Judge decided that either the Board of Education or City Council, but the fact is, it is what it is and we have to move forward.

I want to come to the most important mail. Most important mail that I received was Panther Proud. The latest edition talks about the Euclid City Schools graduation rate ranking nationally. It also applauded two 2009 Euclid High graduates, Trevor Thomas and Joshua Jones. Trevor placed first and Joshua placed seven in national competition in national leadership competition.

Way to often adults in the City of Euclid, not all adults but some, are very degrading about their comments about our city's youth. I'm here today to speak up for the city's youth because I have seen some outstanding youth come from the Euclid Schools. Most recently I've had an opportunity to watch a group of truly outstanding young men, ages 7-12 that played in the Euclid Football League. I have to applaud the Recreation Dept., Mac Stephens, the coaches who volunteer their time and get no money to do this. I know that Recreation Director Kathy Will has showed up at some of the practices and games. When they had a three day high school football clinic, I know that the Mayor came and

spoke to the children. Most importantly, I want everyone to know, that yesterday in the 7-9 year old age group division, there was a championship game played and the two undefeated teams that met the championship were the Euclid Vikings and the Euclid Panthers. This has happened for the second consecutive year. The 9-12 year old age group, the Euclid Panthers won third place in their division.

The most important thing that I want everyone to know is that at these games, when these kids were cheering, they were yelling, go Euclid. The parents were yelling, go Euclid. Not only did they represent this city well on the football field, but Mac Stephens told me what the grades that he collected from these young men, after looking at the grades that he put them up against the grades of any other school system in this area. I just think that as adults and as city leaders, we need to be much more vocal in supporting the positive things that the youth in this City are accomplishing, the way that they're representing this City. Not only do they represent us very well on the football field, but the way that they carried themselves, every community that had to play against the Euclid football team, number one, did not to see them any more on the football field and second, they respected the way these young men behaved and I would like to applaud the Recreation Dept. and Mac Stephens and the coaches who volunteer their time working with our most valuable treasure, our children. Thank you.

Mr. Jeffrey Beck – 25540 Chatworth. I'm here tonight to urge all Euclid voters to vote in favor of Issue 28. The Charter amendment changing Council terms from two years to four years and stagger the electoral process with half of council being elected every two years. This is the same issue that the voters overwhelmingly approved last November but due to some technical issues it has to be re-voted on. This change will allow a council person more time to bring their ideas and projects to fruition without constantly thinking about re-election. By staggering these terms it prevents an entire council from being changed at the same time, which would delay the city in moving forward until a new council is up to speed.

Much has been said by a few people against this issue. The new Euclid Inquire which came in the mail a few weeks back quoted James Madison the Federalist Paper No. 52, as supporting a two year election cycle as the only workable form of government. This quote was taken out of context. I've read Federalist Paper No. 52. Madison or Hamilton, the authorship is unclear, discussed whether a biennial, two year election cycle is harmful to the people. The answer was no. The author compared election cycles between three and seven years in England, Ireland and the Commonwealth of Virginia to make it his argument. Madison or Hamilton was discussing only part of our Constitutional process.

If our founding fathers felt that two year terms were the only satisfactory form of government, then why do we elect our President to a four year term and our Senators to a six year term? In fact James Madison in Federalist Paper No. 63 notes that because Senators are elected to six year terms, they will have sufficient time to be responsible for their actions.

One reason for longer terms for the Presidency and the Senate are that both are static positions. There's only one President and currently 100 Senators, two per state, no matter how large or small the population of our country becomes. The length of these terms gives these individuals a time to implement and defend the policies of our nation and yes, be responsible for their actions.

Those against the proposed Charter change point to the House of Representatives two year election cycle as their answer to defeat this issue. The House of Representatives is a non-static position. A local congress person's districts are based upon population and either rise or fall based upon the population shift within the state. A smaller population based upon redistricting after the census will mean fewer representatives in Congress, hence the two year terms. You certainly wouldn't want to have a three or five year wait for proper local representation in Congress.

How does this relate to Euclid? Euclid City Council is a static position. We have nine representatives on Council. The same number we had when the population in the city topped 70,000. If the same people who advocate for a two year term completely by into that form of government, then they should be calling for a reduction in the size of Euclid City Council. After all, do we really still need nine people when our population has decreased 30% over the last 20 years? I think not, but those against the Charter change will only cherry pick those portions of an argument that fits their positions.

Someone once said, how fortunate for governments that the people they administer don't think. It is that thought process, at least out of context quotes and misinformation. Fortunately I believe the voters of this City do think and are able to see through the rhetoric. That's why they overwhelmingly approved four year staggered terms last November and will do so tomorrow. Thank you.

Mr. David Gilliam – 20240 Kathy Dr. Excuse me, I have a cold and I'm a little groggy from medication, I hope I don't get pulled over though. Just to point out a few things. I'm in favor of Issue 28 and Issue 29 for the Euclid City Charter amendment. As a former member of the Charter Commission we studied diligently the changes that were needed that we felt would be beneficial to Euclid in the long term planning. The Law Director's definition, the proposed definition strengthens the power of the Law Director, makes the Law Director more accountable and sets the standards for

individuals whoever the Law Director is, to be more proficient in their jobs. We have many cases where the Law Director was not able to utilize his powers to serve this city and this new proposal will allow the Law Director to do that.

Issue 28, revolves around staggered terms and four year council terms. I strongly believe that four year terms will stabilize the city and allow us to focus on large scale long term planning. Issues of dealing with lakefront development have been going on for over 20 years. Twenty years we've run two year councils. There could be a lot of different reasons why that situation has not come to fruition now, but if we're allowed, any council to work for four years, we're able to maybe achieve those long term goals and pass this information onto Council who will retain in their seats or to new council. Staggered terms offer continuity. What I mean by continuity is that some individuals will be running for election of course. But guess what, we will have other council members on city council handling city business so that we do not have a group of individuals seeking re-election turning their eyes away from some of the more important issues that are going to be left remaining for a new council to possibly come in.

Those are my reasons for supporting those issues. I feel that the city has done a service when they previously allowed the ballot to support the passing of it. It was almost 2.5 to 1 in favor of four year staggered terms. Of course it was nullified, this was a technicality, but I hope the citizens of Euclid will realize this is important to our future. We need stability, four year terms, staggered terms for long term and large scale planning.

Lastly I want to thank that we have one council member who is not here tonight but he served for ten years and his name is Chris Gruber. He was my councilman for the seven years that I lived in this city. He and I didn't always agree on things, but we agreed that we had to get along. In the last two weeks I had a very long conversation with him. I'm very proud to say that he loved this city and the things that he had done, they were sincere. We may not have all agreed with him, but they were sincere. I thank him for his service and I wish him luck. To all of you goodnight.

Ms. Rose M. Allen – 26241 Lake Shore Blvd. I don't have any suggestions as to how people should vote on any candidate or issue on tomorrow. The one thing I do ask for the people who maybe watching at home and the people who are here is that you do exercise a very, very important right and that is the right to vote. To many times people stay at home on an election day and say it doesn't matter, my vote doesn't count. I've never believed that. I grew up in a time where there were people of various, let's say identities, in this country, in my lifetime, who were told they could not vote. People marched, people died, people fought, to be able to express their opinions in elections.

So to anybody who thinks that it is okay to stay at home tomorrow and not express their opinion in a form of a vote, they are so wrong and so irresponsible. Because people will often complain about the results of an election, because they didn't like who got elected or which issues passed or did not pass. The people who stay at home and don't vote are responsible and should not complain about the results if they don't express a voice. I implore people who are registered voters to please, tomorrow go out and use that very, very important right to vote.

As far as this city is concerned, I'm really pleased that the city is moving forward with renewable energy efforts such as solar panels and I'm hoping that we keep that momentum up because this is the future. I'm pleased that we are doing many other things in the city to move forward. Particularly pleased that we have an Expo Center that will host various conventions and exhibits over the year, I certainly hope. I'm pleased that the city is making progress but being who I am, I always have some ideas for continuing and making additional progress. So again I have some handouts to be past onto City Council, the Mayor, and Council President, about some things that I think can benefit Euclid. I've brought them up before and perhaps I will continue to do so for as long as I'm a resident of Euclid.

The yellow piece of paper that you have, there is one section that talks about an outlet mall that was built in Ohio down in Monroe. Monroe is about one-tenth the size of Euclid. Right now they've turned their economy around also with opening an outlet mall. It is not the prime outlet, the same as the ones I past out last time, but this is a different company. If you look at it, you see that there's a line that talks about, it may seem a strange time to be opening any kind of new shopping center with many national retailers floundering and sales dropping monthly. But industry experts say outlets are counter-cyclical prospering in hard times. I think we are facing hard times and this might be something we may want to look at because it is working in other areas of the country and maybe it can work here.

The other matter, I'll bring up again, I spoke with John Kaplan from Pearl Wind. He is a person who has built a turbine on his own property. He is going to start selling these turbines to people. I think Euclid would benefit if we become suppliers of those parts because he is going forward, he's getting a lot of press for it, a lot of good press. On that I'll say goodnight and everybody please go out and vote for whomever you want to tomorrow, but please do vote.

President Holzheimer Gail – Thank you all and we'll move onto Councilmen's Comments. The same rules apply to Council, no individual campaigning for candidates please.

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

Councilwoman Minarik – I have three things to talk about. The first is Shore Cultural Centre. The Board of Trustees is sponsoring a Harvest Fest, an evening of celebration, fun and fundraising, Friday November 13th from 6-9 PM. It will be on the auditorium stage with appetizers, wine, entertainment, basket auctions, sideboards and door prizes. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. You can call Shore at 289-8578, or you can talk to me because I have ten tickets I would like to sell.

In light of Veteran's Day coming up, I read a poem. It is called, Freedom is not free, by Ashley Person. There is a price we pay for freedom, for it is not truly free but rather paid for by the contributions of Veterans to buy our liberty. As their blood drains from their body and runs like a river through the grass, over the years it is forgotten, war is placed in our past. I don't think we all realize the importance Veterans play as they voluntarily serve American each and everyday. We should honor the Veterans for they act like a shield, protecting us from danger, keeping American healed. So if you would take a second to commemorate, you will instantly see, we owe Veterans our gratitude for they are the reason we are free.

For those who cannot make it to the service on the 11th, at least find a Vet that day and thank them. Because that leaves me to my third point. We have an election tomorrow and in a lot of ways it is the Veterans who have enabled us to maintain that right to vote. So I'd like to talk about Issue 28 because I wasn't quite sure what to talk about but if the Charter Review Commission thought that we had to many council people, I think that would have been a good recommendation to put on the ballot is to reduce the size of Council.

When this country was formed, Senators were appointed by Governors, they were not elected. The only representation we had was the House of Representatives and the President. James Madison, who it is assumed did write Federalist Paper No. 52, they studied one year, two years, three years, four years, they studied all the different terms. They decided two year terms were best for the House of Representatives, the only elected positions available at that time because two year positions allowed for an intimate sympathy with the people. If we still had at-large seats, I wouldn't have as much of a problem because I then could at least have two people representing me or four people representing me. Staggered terms wouldn't be that big of deal, nor would four year terms. But we only have one council person to represent us along with our tremendous Council President.

So I urge residents, reject the continuity argument. This is your government. If you like your council person, you can keep him. If you don't like him, you can toss them out. This is your government. We are not here to make sure that the administration runs smoothly. If anything we're here to challenge the administration, to call into question things so that there's an open discussion. I highly recommend you keep two year terms for your council people. That's about it, please vote and thank a Vet next week, thanks.

Councilman Wojtila – I would like to congratulate Mavec Opportunity School on their open house and fundraiser which they held last week on 10/29/09. It was an indication of what a strong facility that is and they've been around this community for as long as I can remember. It was a great event and it was great to see that they've alive and strong and it was very well attended.

Director Smith, I'll probably be contacting you, just a forewarning. There seems to be a lot of issues with Water Company charges being in error. I know it is a difficult issue and we're not directly tied to the Water company, but maybe something from the administration might help. I'll probably be reaching out to you and hopefully you can give some assistance to the residents of Euclid as they battle with that agency.

Director Pietravoia, I'd really like to thank you for the call today. I did ask at last meeting that we have some update on what the city would do to capitalize on the Great Lakes Expo Center and Director Pietravoia did advise that we would be discussing that next Monday at the Committee Meeting to address the tax that we're considering. For those interested in hearing that, we'll be getting some information at the Monday committee meeting.

Last item, the City of Euclid we currently have six Catholic churches and within the next two-three weeks we'll have a loss with the first one, St. Paul's church, that I know many of us have strong ties to. It is an item that, it's a tough process and there's a lot of emotions that are surrounding the closure of, not only one church but ultimately three churches. I think we just need to keep in mind the process that has occurred, the process that we're going through and hopefully we can use it to renew our commitment and our commitment to our Lord. I'd just like to have everybody keep that in mind because it is a tough process and it will start in a few weeks with St. Paul's on November 15th will

have its last full weekend of masses with a reception following the 12:00 Mass. Keep all those at St. Paul's in your prayers. Thank you.

Councilman Langman – Regarding Issue 28, obviously sitting up here for eight years would be wonderful to have a four year term or a six year term, that's fantastic for those of us who sit up here. I think the issue is, what's good for the people and having us come before you every two years is a reasonable sacrifice for those of us that have the ambition to represent you to make. In fact, I believe that if somebody has the ambition to run for office and happens to win, the residence should expect that that politician had the ambition to learn the job quickly and get up to speed as soon as possible.

In deference of the fact that Madeline and I have work to do tomorrow, I will wish everyone a good evening and hope to see those of you who haven't voted at the polls. Thank you.

Councilman Van Ho – I have a few questions which I'd like answered after I'm done. Director Pietravoia a couple of weeks ago my wife, who is a Realtor, got a thing from Painesville about their old hospital the day after they shut the hospital down looking for economic development. They've established a web page and they informed the Realtors of that. I'm wondering if we shouldn't start a program that reaches out like that; to actually go to the Realtors and say we have land available, look at this website and go from there.

Law Director, you've already answered this but I think the citizens need to know and I had received a call from a very disgruntled person who was unhappy that Time Warner had raised their rates and what could we do about it. I would like for it to be explained on television what we can and cannot do about it and why.

I'd also like to thank Director Sweeney for the very detailed letter that she wrote to the Board of Liquor Control. I finished reading a letter from the Board of Liquor Control from the Director and I think we need to start talking to our friends in Columbus because in reading it, the way that I understood the letter, you could have all of your liquor licenses right next door on one block or one street and they still would not consider that saturated. It sounds to me more like the Liquor Board is for the protection of the liquor companies, not the citizens, I think we need to be looking at that.

Also, I'd like to issue a complaint about the post office. One lady called me and now the post office in all of its wisdom is putting vacant tapes on mailboxes in the neighborhoods where there are vacant houses. Nothing like giving the thieves a guided tour of where to hit. This was a relatively well kept house.

As we go into the Holiday Season, I would like to remind everybody that there are people right in this city that are hurting. If you can, donate to the Hunger Center. There are kids that won't have much for Christmas and if you can find places like the Marines, Toys for Tots, to donate to that, but by the same token, if you're donating, make sure you know who the charity is and it is an establishment like the Hunger Center, Toys for Tots or your local church.

We always seem to hear what's wrong with Euclid from certain people in the community. It was interesting as I went through the Police Report today, that have been supplied to us and I'd like to thank the Chief and his people for the job they do because there were quite a few things that were down, kidnapping, domestic violence, assaults and I could go on and on. Our crime has been going down in an awful lot of categories. I think that speaks well of the police force, it also speaks well of this community. It is not like we're falling into this terrible abyss that some of our citizens would like us to believe that we are. Intimidation is down, homicide is down, menacing, breaking and entering, trespassing, theft, bicycle theft, auto theft, fraud, domestic violence is down and so is disorderly conduct. That tells me our police are doing a good job and our citizens are doing a good job. You partner that with all the economic development that's going on through Director Pietravoia's department and I think we're doing very good. We still got room for improvement, we always do. We need to pat the citizens and our departments on the back for the job that they do.

Since everyone else weighted in on Issue 28, I'll weigh in on it too. I would like to see ...

President Holzheimer Gail – One second.

Councilman Van Ho – Okay, I stopped.

President Holzheimer Gail – There were a couple of questions, Director Pietravoia, any comments on the process that you use to market vacant property?

Director Pietravoia - Thank you Councilman Van Ho for forwarding the idea from Painesville. We are discussing it as a staff on how we might undertake some similar efforts. We've gotten better at getting the word out to our residents about all the good things that are happening, especially in Downtown with the unveiling of the Downtown Plan a couple of years ago. We have a display now in

the Rotunda. We're getting more up to date information on our own city website, but we haven't specifically targeted a website to the Realtors as you suggested. We are looking into the possibility of doing something like that.

We do have individual relationships with commercial brokers and that's what helped to lead to the \$12 million of investment we have had in the downtown area in just the past couple of years. But we can always do more and I do agree and we will look into the possibility of doing a website. Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

President Holzheimer Gail – Director Frey, comments on Time Warner and cable rates.

Director Frey – The Time Warner and AT&T both opted out of their local franchise agreement and our covered under a State franchise agreement. So their rate structure is not subject to any local control. What I would suggest to the resident who is unhappy, if they are in an area and that area is growing where AT&T offers service, they ought to call Time Warner and start to negotiate with them. My guess is these companies will find a way to offer discounts if their choice is losing that customer. I think it is an old fashioned technique, but a technique that is going to be necessary and that's to play the competition against each other. Both of them, AT&T and Time Warner want each other's business. Time Warner wants the phone business, AT&T wants the television business and a good opportunity if both of those products are available to that resident to start working those companies to the resident's advantage. There is nothing locally that we're able to do on the rates because they are no longer under a local franchise agreement.

As far as the post office and the vacancies, I know you raised that issue. We did the research, the mailbox whether it is installed on your home or in front of your home, once its purpose is to receive US mail, becomes the province of the Post Office. It is not the intent that they're to mark the mailbox as vacant, I don't quite get why that is and I think there's a need to communicate with the local postal officials and try to understand why the carrier would have done something, it is frankly stupid. But, I would suggest that the family of this resident who is temporarily out of the home, could easily notify the postal service to forward the mail, so that would not happen. It would have never gotten to that point if they would have had the mail sent. I agree, I think it is a silly thing to put a placard on a home that suggests that home doesn't have an occupant. I would hope your call to the post office has addressed that and we'll continue to look at that and see if we can't be of some assistance. Understand the mailbox on the home becomes the province of the federal postal service.

President Holzheimer Gail – I have a couple of thank yous and one is to the Mayor. The Genesis Group at Holy Cross met yesterday and invited the Mayor to come and speak to them. I believe you gave your power point presentation and they asked me specifically to express their appreciation and thanks for your time. I think it is a good reminder for all community groups out there, especially with the loss of the Sun Journal and what appears to be a lack of communication, that council members, members of the administration, Mayor, we're all available to come out and speak to your group. There really is a lot of good things going on. We are making progress and sometimes unless you have the opportunity to hear one of us speak, unless you're watching the meetings faithfully, you don't often know what's going on. We are trying to make sure that residents do know through an upcoming newsletter and there will be additional opportunities through the website, but they did ask me to extend their appreciation for you coming to their meeting.

I also would like to thank Mary Mavec, it was a wonderful event which I was only able to stay a short while because I then later attended the DARE appreciation night at Perkins and want to thank everyone who participated in supporting DARE and raising funds so they can do their wonderful programming in the schools.

Also, I think Councilwoman Scarniench said this last time, but congratulations to the Euclid Rotary Club who will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the dinner, I will be in Columbus that day but wish them well and many years of continued progress.

Councilman Wojtila mentioned it, but I will repeat it. The Commercial and Business Committee will be meeting Monday, November 9th at 7 PM and we will hear a presentation from the Great Lakes Expo Center and also consider legislation regarding an entertainment tax. That will be here at City Hall and a presentation by Great Lakes Expo, so we can hear what their plans are and also the consideration of the entertainment tax.

Many people may have seen in the Plain Dealer Business Section a spotlight on Euclid. Unfortunately several of the housing sales that were not the highest that they can be. I just wanted to make sure that residents know that these housing transactions are not indicative of all housing transactions. I don't know if we have data specifically on these addresses, but I did speak with Director Pietravoia and we will be looking at it and providing some information to Council and the community. The Foreclosure Prevention Committee has been meeting for about a year and a half now

and one of the things that we regularly do is look at and review information available to us through many of the data sources. We're lucky to have Brian Mikelbank who is the Director of I think it is the Center for Housing Research and Policy at Cleveland State, the Levine School. He is able to get a lot of data for us on foreclosures and on transactions in Euclid. Director Pietravoia, I don't know if you want to comment, but looking at these transactions, many people get very nervous and say what's happening to our housing values. I think it is important for people to know that these probably do not represent your normal transaction, a home that you're living in, you're selling to another buyer. These most likely represent foreclosed property or bank transfers or short sales. Going forward I know the Foreclosure Prevention Committee is going to continue to provide data and provide that information to the public, but Director Pietravoia, I didn't know if you wanted to comment on some of the things that you're working on.

Director Pietravoia – The fact that you stated is absolutely correct. Those numbers are not indicative of what's really happening. There are two markets that are going on in every community and Euclid is included. One is all the sales that are happening because of the foreclosures and the second is the regular sales that are occurring. When they lump everything together it brings the numbers down and that's what you saw in the spotlight in the Plain Dealer. Mikelbank from Cleveland State has done research and we're working with him to provide some facts to Council and our residents on Euclid specifically. The research in a nutshell shows that the regular transactions have in fact remained stable. In 2007 they even went up, the median value went up in the eastern suburbs. We're going to look specifically at Euclid and provide some facts so that our residents and Council can see that in fact the regular market has remained stable. You can't lump everything together as the Plain Dealer did in their spotlight.

President Holzheimer Gail – We are trying to get that information out. The Foreclosure Prevention Committee is looking for new members. If there are people out there who are interested and would like to get involved in that, contact me or contact Marty Castelletti. I do want to congratulate Cindy Munz who was just elected to be the Chairperson of that committee going forward. One of the projects in addition to continuing to educate on foreclosure and I know my time is up, I'm almost done, they are planning a housing fair for the spring which would bring together a lot of the resources, both for foreclosure prevention for how to fix up a home and there has been some discussion of doing it in conjunction with the Spring Fling. We're hoping to combine efforts and really get some additional word out there.

I will remind everyone to go vote and please give due consideration to Issue 105. I think it really is a strong move towards our future both for the schools and the community.

Councilwoman Scarniench – On October 22 the Senior Programs held their first Salsa Contest. I want to congratulate Monica F. who made the best salsa that day, it was an enjoyable afternoon, I enjoyed tasting all the goodies that they had. Congratulations Monica.

I also want to say thank you to Petpals, the Clam Jam Boo Bash was wonderful. I was one of the contest winners and we all donated our money back to Petpals. Thanks to the Recreation Dept., Howl at the Hall was wonderful. For those of you that don't know, I got dressed up this year and people told me I looked better than ever. The kids on Halloween night were wonderful. Last year we had not very many kids and we were really worried about it this year. I probably had 100 kids come to my door. We had a lot of fun, it was wonderful, the weather held out and I think all the kids enjoyed themselves.

Thank you to everybody who has called me, or e-mailed me over the last few days and wished me well. Please for those of you who haven't gone out and vote, go vote tomorrow and I'll see you at the polls. Thank you.

Councilwoman Jones – I want to announce on Thursday, November 26, Imani Church is having their 5th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, that they will be serving. If you have a need or someone in your neighborhood has a need for a nice Thanksgiving Dinner and nice fellowship, please join them at Imani Church, 1505 E. 260 from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM, they will be serving. They're also offering abilities for food deliveries to those seniors that cannot make it out or are disabled. Contact information, 732-8204.

The Parks & Recreation Council Committee Meeting will be this Wednesday, November 4th at 6:30 and the Agenda will be the Memorial Park Master Plan and the Dog Park status.

Everybody get out to vote, there are important things on the ballot. Take the opportunity to do that and goodnight.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Minarik moved to adjourn. Councilwoman Scarniench seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Attest:

Clerk of Council

President of Council