

COUNCIL MINUTES

January 4, 2010

The regular Council Meeting was held on Monday, January 4, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Euclid Municipal Center Council Chamber. Council President Holzheimer Gail presided.

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

All present.

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

Invocation

Invocation was given by Elder Derrick Fellows from Cathedral Worship Center.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council has received the following communications:

A Notice from the Dept. of Commerce Division of Liquor Control overruling the legislative objection for the C1-2 Liquor permit to 5 Star Subs, 27575 Euclid Ave.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to receive and approve without objection a new D5 liquor permit to Executive Caterers at Landerhaven, Inc., 1200 Babbitt Rd. Councilman O'Neill seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Unanimous.

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Councilwoman Scarniench moved to receive and approve the Council Minutes of December 21, 2009. Councilwoman Minarik seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Cervenik presented Res. 218-2009 to Patrick A. Smith for having achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Recreation Director Will – Happy New Year. I'm glad to be back. I would like to first thank everybody for all of their well wishes and all of their help over the past two months, not only for myself, but for my daughter Ashley. We started 2010 off great, she went back to school today and I came back to work. Thank you again, thank you for being patient with our staff and thank you to all the administration and the other city workers, I really appreciate the time that you gave me to be off with her. A big thanks to my staff, especially Mac Stephens for filling in for me when I was gone. He did a fantastic job and I appreciate all the support you gave to him and the staff during that time. Thank you.

I would like to remind everybody, today, in cooperation with Euclid High School, we are able to offer an indoor track program. Monday-Thursday from 6:30-8:30 PM. It is free to those who have our daily admission pass. Or you can pay \$5 each time. It is at the High School. Come into the Recreation office and get one of our daily admission passes, those are \$10 and with the \$10 admission pass, you can utilize the track for free, Monday-Thursday, 6:30-8:30.

We'll be starting new swimming lessons, Tuesday and Thursday, starting new ice skating lessons this week. If you're interested in either one of the programs, you can contact our office, you can check out our website, www.cityofeuclid.com. The forms for ice skating and for swimming lessons are on the website.

I would like to remind everybody that tomorrow at the ice arena from 7-8:45 we'll be having a luau party at the ice arena. Come in your Hawaiian outfits and admission is \$2 and you can skate for 7:00-8:45. We'll also be having a skate with the Euclid High School Panthers, on Tuesday, January 19, from 7:00-8:45. It will give you an opportunity to skate with some of the hockey teams. Wear your Euclid High School apparel and you get in for \$2.

On Martin Luther King Day, January 18th, the Parks & Recreation Dept. again will be offering a basketball skills challenge. We'll be offering that at the Sports Plant. We're still working out the time with the sports plant, but it is an opportunity to participate in the Hoops Challenge program. We'll have our local champions and then you could move onto an NBA arena or a practice facility and go to a NBA game if you are one of the lucky winners. More information, call Mac Stephens, 289-8230. Monday, January 18th, in honor of Martin Luther King Day.

We'll also be offering this year, family game nights. We'll be supplying the games, snacks and fun, you supply the family. These events will be held at the Euclid High School E-Room and the first event will be on January 27th. Come on out. I know these winter nights, come on out and have a good old time. We've gotten a lot of different games donated and we'll supply the games and the fun, you

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just bring the family. If you would like more information on any of the programs call 289-8114.

I would like to thank the residents and staff at Shore Cultural Center and Coral Group for taking over the responsibilities of the Toy Drive this past season. There were over 100 children that were able to be supplied with toys that would not have normally had that opportunity. Thanks again to Shore for taking on that responsibility while I was gone. Thanks to all the residents and businesses for making their donations.

Remind everybody on Friday nights between 6-9:30 PM, you can check out our Euclid Panther Basketball teams. They'll be playing through the month of January 6-9:30. Come support those children. Thank you very much.

Mayor Cervenik – Chief Repicky has an explanation of our parking ban during snow season.

Chief Repicky – Unfortunately the white stuff is back and if there's more than 2" in the street, please remove your vehicles. There is no per se snow parking ban, it is whenever there is 2" remove your vehicle. The plows come by and clean off your street, then you can put your car back in the street. Word to the wise, we can cite and we will tow if the snow is that deep that we have to clean the street, a word to the wise.

Chief Cosgriff – I would like to take a moment to inform all of you of recent operational changes that were put in place at the Fire Dept. Last Thursday on New Year's Eve, I issued an order instructing our Platoon Chiefs and Captains to allow the fire department manning to drop as low as 13 firefighters per day, effective immediately. This was to be accomplished by taking a fire truck out of service and redistributing those firefighters to other vehicles, depending on the number left over.

This was not an order that I wanted to issue, but due to the anticipated budget deficit, I am forced to. I have stated publicly many times in the past that dropping below 16 is unacceptable and dangerous. I still believe that to be true for all of the reasons that I have previously stated.

What is of particular concern to me is that this comes at a time when other cities are also cutting back. In recent years we have come to rely on mutual aid agreements to supplement our manpower, however we cannot expect other cities to continually provide help to us, especially when we are unable to reciprocate.

Compounding our particular problems is due to the fact that we have a lake to the north and much smaller cities to the south and east. These cities are ill equipped to provide more assistance to us due to the 50% aspect of the mutual aid agreement. We do have a large city to our west, but Cleveland is not participating in our mutual aid agreements except for hazardous materials incidences. This is because Cleveland Fire can call for help for their other battalions and therefore not need help from smaller cities on their borders. I could reach out to Cleveland to attempt to form an agreement, but I believe the timing for this could not be worse as they are currently discussing safety force layoffs.

I have advised our line personnel to rethink their priorities and tactics when operating with less firefighters, or without mutual aid, but I really don't know what we're going to do at an incident with a large life hazard such as a major fire in one of our high rises. So once again, I'm making you all aware of the potential problems and I wish that I had control over a solution. I feel that the Fire Dept. has been cut to the bone. I also believe that we need to seriously look at the income side of the budget and ways to generate additional revenue. These are not decisions that are taken lightly and I know that they are not popular especially with the economy being what it is. I'm also requesting that the City administration and all the city's bargaining units have meaningful discussions concerning 2010 operations. Everyone has bills to pay and no one likes to give anything back, but I believe that the safety of our residents and our employees depends on that.

Lastly, the record will show that I have made these same statements many times in the past, most recently at the Council work session in early December. I would like to put everyone on notice that although I am the Fire Chief, I will not accept all of the blame if something bad happens. In my opinion, we are increasing the chances that something bad will happen. Thank you.

Mayor Cervenik – Thank you Chief and last but not least, H1N1 and regular flu shot clinic will be held Monday, January 11 at the Lakefront Community Center from 1:00-4:30. It is for residents 55 years of age or older and those who are disabled. You must bring a picture ID and insurance card. The cost without insurance will be \$15 for the H1N1, \$30 for the regular flu shots. Further details to make sure your insurance will cover this cost, call 289-2985 for further details. With that, that ends Administration Reports & Communications.

President Holzheimer Gail – One question if I might regarding the Fire Chief's comments. Is there a plan in place or a meeting set up that you're trying to bring the parties together to come up with a resolution?

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Mayor Cervenik - I have Mr. O'Neill on my calendar for Thursday afternoon from Local 337 and hope we can make some headway. It was my understanding that in the month of January we should have adequate scheduling because nobody normally takes off in January. Sunday we did have 19 people available for duty but we had 64 hours of comp time and then a sick call and that caused the manning to go below 16.

I'm hoping that we can have a resolution to this problem before the end of January, but it is going to take serious talks and some serious understanding of our true budget picture. It is also going to, I've e-mailed all of you about my feelings about, unfortunately having to raise revenue from our residents in various different ways. I can tell you from what we've been working on the last few weeks, I can only say that I'm even more sure of my recommendations in the past as the Chief mentioned tonight as well. The fallen revenues is something we can't control. The month of January, will probably our income tax collections are probably going to be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$600,000 or more less than what we collected in January 2009. We have that after talking to some of our major companies. That's a very frightening number when you consider we had over \$3 million drop in total revenues in 2009 versus 2008. We have a lot of work to do and tough decisions to make. Hopefully we will make some good headway, I have the whole afternoon on Thursday available to see what we can do. I will keep all of city council informed.

As the Chief says, I feel no better, I don't feel good about it. I wish there was something I could do about it. But unless we gut the total services we provide the city and strictly have safety forces, it is not going to happen. Safety forces comprise approximately 60% of the budget. You should have read in the paper Sunday that we may be it with a \$200,000 increase in pension costs. I'm not sure, the State legislature is going to be really open and real excited about passing that cost onto the communities but they very well could.

The third thing we need to understand is there is a group of council people and I've talked to some of them in the City of Cleveland that don't like the idea that they're charging garbage fees and they are sincerely talking about possibly putting an income tax increase for the City of Cleveland on the ballot in November. If that was to happen, depending on the rate if it was a quarter percent to a half of percent, the City of Euclid because we have 100% reciprocity, that could cost us an additional \$2-\$3 million in income tax revenues. That money would then go to the City of Cleveland rather than our residents for all of our residents that work in Cleveland. That hasn't happened yet. We've got enough trouble on our plate right now for things that have already happened. We need to keep that in the back of our mind too while we're making these decisions, towards the end of January first week in February. Long winded answer to your question, yes, I expect to have a meeting on Thursday.

President Holzheimer Gail – I know that Council is, as we all are, concerned about the safety of both our residents and our employees, firefighters, policemen as well. If we all work together I know we can come to a resolution that will work. Please keep us informed and let us know if there is something we can do to help.

Mayor Cervenik – I do also have the police coming in tomorrow as well.

REPORTS & COMMITTEE MINUTES

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to receive the Police Report of November; Board of Control Minutes of 12/14/09. Councilman Gilliam seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR LEGISLATIVE MATTERS ONLY

Mr. Jeffrey Beck – 25540 Chatworth Dr. I would like to speak tonight on items #3 & #4, the charter amendments. Item 3 changes the term of Council to start January 1st rather than December 1st. Item 4 changes the recall provisions of the Charter.

As a member of the Charter Review Commission and I support the passage of both of these amendments. But that's not what we're here debating tonight. This issue tonight is whether or not the voters of the city will have the opportunity to vote on these issues themselves. I understand that both of these items will go into committee. I agree that Item #3 should go into committee since this amendment was not brought forth by the Charter Review Commission but instead driven by Council. By holding a committee hearing on this it will allow for debate and public input.

The same is not true for #4, the recall. This issue was openly and publicly debated by the Charter Review Commission and voted on legally. At that time, we asked for input from the public including members of Council. We received none. To hold a committee hearing now amounts to nothing more than Monday morning quarterbacking. I was part of the committee hearings that was held on the Council terms amendment. All this did was give a late public forum for those opposed to the issue. The terms amendment was passed by the voters of the city by a nearly 70% margin.

If there are member of Council that feel strongly about the recall issue, then I suggest mounting a campaign in the City to get your message out. By delaying this vote with the hopes of ultimately denying the voters their chance, is not in holding with the democratic principles laid out in the Constitution. The time for input was then, not now. I urge you to vote tonight to send this issue to the voters. Thank you.

President Holzheimer Gail – Seeing no other comments, we will move forward with legislation.

LEGISLATION

Ord. 1-2010 (020-10) Regulations Exhibition Halls

An emergency ordinance amending the Business Regulation Code of the City of Euclid to establish business regulations on exhibition halls within the City of Euclid. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Councilwoman Scarniench moved for passage, Councilman O'Neill seconded.

Director Frey – This legislation in substantially similar form was introduced in the first meeting in December and it was withdrawn after some discussion. We had an opportunity in the intervening time to meet with Mr. Fassnacht and discuss this ordinance in specific detail including the application form that we drafted to be used by the exhibitors. I'm pleased to say that after that discussion we were able to come up with a draft ordinance that we believe meets the exhibitors needs and the city's needs.

Just to highlight some of the changes, we want to increase the period of time by which the exhibitor would need to make the application to the city. I believe initially we had 30 days and through that discussion we decided it would be better to bring that application form in no later than 60 days although there is opportunity for exception to that, but no later than 60 days before the event. Part of that would be the safety plan. I know that received a lot of discussion at the meeting so we laid out more formally what would be included in that safety plan including internal and external security issues, parking and traffic control. The layout for the show itself with marked emergency exits and any special effects that would take place so that we're from a fire safety, police safety and building safety convinced that we have the right resources and the right review for the event before it takes place.

That was the significant portion. We deleted the list of exhibitors from this ordinance because as it turns out the vendors that are selling products will have to have a state or county issued vendors license. So we are as a community assured then there will be the adequate reporting of sales and sales tax for which we receive a portion of that. Because there will be 1099's issued in the event of subcontractors and so forth, we're also assured that income tax will properly be reported and paid to the city as is required by our income tax ordinance.

Those were the primary changes. I know that our President of the Exhibition Center is here this evening and I got an e-mail from him indicating that he was comfortable with this legislation. I don't know if Council wants to suspend the rules and ask for his comments, that's up to you. We're asking this be passed tonight as an emergency ordinance so that it is effective and we can use this for the show that's scheduled January 22. I'd ask for your support on this legislation this evening.

Councilwoman Scarniench – I would like to waive the rules. He has come all this way, let Mr. Fassnacht come up and say something if he wishes to.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to suspend the rules to allow Mr. Fassnacht to address Council. Councilman Gilliam seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Mr. Fassnacht – I have no comments.

President Holzheimer Gail – We appreciate you being here and your support of the legislation.

Councilman Langman – Law Director Frey, under the Section entitled Inspections, 799.05, how will the food vendors actually be inspected? Is that primarily a County function?

Director Frey – Yes, the County Board of Health has to issue their food vendors license and will be inspecting.

Councilman Langman- So for each major show where food vendors are present, the County will then issue their appropriate documentation?

Director Frey – Yes, and do onsite inspections as they do at other non-permanent, they inspect all facilities, but they do inspect non-permanent event type of activities as well and this would be part of that.

Councilwoman Jones – Director Frey I have a question on Section 799.06 Intoxicating Liquor on premise. With the liquor permit that the Expo Center is applying for, does that cover any vendor who would have any alcoholic beverages as to sell as part of their food, or would they not be doing that? If there is a vendor onsite that has alcoholic beverages that they will be selling, are they not allowed to do that or will are they covered under this permit?

Director Frey – Executive Caterers will carry this liquor license if it is approved by the State. So they would be permitted. A D5 was applied for.

Councilwoman Jones – If there's an event going on and whoever is having the event, whatever the company maybe and it's a food event. Will they not be allowed to have a food event if Executive Caterers is supplying the food? I'm sorry I didn't get a chance to ask these questions before hand.

Director Pietravoia – Executive Caterers will have the exclusive to serve food for events at the facility. Your question is a little bit unique that if they had a food show, for example, I would think and Chris may want to comment on this, that there would be accommodations for the actual vendors at the food show to be able to prepare either sell or provide samples of the food they are preparing.

Mr. Fassnacht – That would be the only exception if there was a food and beverage kind of event, but our rules with all of our shows specifically prohibit any exhibitors from having any alcohol in their booths, whether it is for personal consumption or sampling or anything. Everything has got to go through Executive Caterers and Executive Caterers staff person would actually have to be in that exhibitor's booth, for example if they want to sample Ohio Wines from Ashtabula County.

Councilwoman Minarik – How is the \$100 determined on the per day basis?

Director Pietravoia – We looked at the City of Cleveland's ordinance and based it on what they've had in place for sometime now.

Councilwoman Minarik – That's to cover, why it seems a little bit high to me. Now we're charging an admission's tax and now we're going to charge \$100 per day of a show. I wanted to know what the rationale was behind it charging \$100 was, other than comparing it to Cleveland.

Director Pietravoia – It is fairly basic, it was intended to help cover our costs associated with all the upfront reviews and inspections. They will be providing both to the Police and Fire Chief a safety plan and both the Chiefs and their staffs will be reviewing and interacting back and forth with both Chris Fassnacht as the operator of the show, if it is a different show other than one they operate. There will be time invested. We'll also have our own inspectors there from the Building Dept., if necessary if there are things, for example, the Home and Flower Show, there actually maybe partial buildings constructed, things of that nature that we have to make sure are safe. It is intended to help cover those costs.

Councilwoman Minarik – Then it talks about on the grounds adjacent to an auditorium. If something is taking place say on the Shore grounds, probably it is going to be a non-profit that is going to sponsor it. But if it was not, if it was a for profit exhibition say on the grounds of Shore, that would apply as well because it talks about auditoriums here correct, or on the schools, correct?

Director Frey – We excluded the non-profits. We excluded the educational. But sure if it was the medieval knights who were putting on an exhibition and they were selling tickets for admission and so forth, yes, this would apply.

Councilman O'Neill – To Director Frey or Chief Repicky, with the sales of intoxicating beverages at the Exposition Center, I'm assuming that it will be available probably at every show. Do we have a formula as far as how many police officers will be inside the facility per population of the guests or the people attending the event?

Chief Repicky – At this time we haven't decided what that would be. Once we did we wouldn't release that information just for the safety of the public.

Councilman O'Neill – I know we have that at the Lakefront Center and a few other areas that have, throughout the city we have venues that serve alcohol and they're required to have a police presence, I can speak to you off camera.

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Director Frey – That would also be part of the safety plan that was submitted, that was part of the reason for that is to have those discussions well in advance of the show so that those kinds of issues can be worked out to the satisfaction of the city and to the exhibitor.

Councilman Gilliam – Under the license application, 799.02, just so I can get clarity on this one. If an event were to happen in Exhibition hall, that particular vendor could provide their own security based upon the approval of the city, is that correct, outside of police department?

Director Frey – Yes, that was contemplated that there would be private security.

Councilman Gilliam – As long as it is approved by the City, correct?

Director Frey – Yes, part of that plan.

Councilman Gilliam – The last question I have is under 799.03 Application Fees. This is probably an unpopular position but I actually work for a non-profit and while I think \$100 for each day, to me is nominal for any type of fundraising or retail or convention show, the fact that we're waiving the fee for non-profits, I have some concern. I think this should pass in order to necessarily move forward, but I think excluding non-profits from some nominal fee of maybe \$25 a day or \$50 a day would not necessarily be an impediment to holding any type of events. We're all asking people to cut back, we're all asking for ways to generate revenue, I don't have an issue with going to a non-profit saying that private entities pay \$100 and I'm willing to charge you \$25 for a fundraising event or any type of particular event that they would be able to utilize to expand their presence, or spear of influence or even to raise money.

I'm not saying that this should stop because of my objection, but I do feel that non-profits, political entities and other 501 (c)(3)'s should take a participation in raising revenue for our city. I don't think potentially \$25 or \$50 would be an issue for them to come into a facility such as ours, so I just wanted to point that out.

Am I asking for a motion to amend? At this point in time I think time is of the essence, but I think if this particular bill is passed tonight, we may need to look at that situation and determine that we have to raise revenue anyway we possibly can. I don't think it is a strain on any non-profit, large or small because there are some profitable non-profits in the sense of they are able to accrue monies to run an operation and they can utilize our facilities at a nominal fee. A nominal charge would not hurt individuals.

To give you an example, I do work for CMHA and we have community rooms. We charge private entities, non-residents \$75 and we charge residents who are considered to be very impoverished \$25 for 5 hours of service. That does include security. Does that raise a lot of revenue for CMHA? No, but it gives them buy-in and it makes people more responsible. At some point if you do it over a frequent amount of time, you will be able to generate some revenue and expand your presence. I think we have fabulous facilities and \$50 or \$25 to a non-profit would not deter them. CMHA rented out the Shore Room for \$150 for two days and we had no problem paying that. I just wanted to point that out to the rest of Council that I think there could be some buy-in from non-profits and other entities that have a 501 (c)(3). Thank you.

President Holzheimer Gail – That's a good point and we certainly can address this at any time. Any other questions from council?

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

Councilwoman Minarik moved to suspend the rules, Councilman O'Neill seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Gilliam, Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, O'Neill, Wojtila, Langman,
Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.

Passed.

Ord. 2-2010 (021-20) Police Vehicles Purchase

An emergency ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service of the City of Euclid to enter into a contract with Statewide Ford, 1108 West Main Street, Van Wert, Ohio 45891, for the purchase of three (3) 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptors and one (1) 2010 Ford Explorer for use in the Police Department, at a cost not to exceed One Hundred Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$112,000.00). The vehicles will be purchased through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program. (Sponsored by Councilman Wojtila by request of Service Director)

Councilman Wojtila moved for passage, Councilman O'Neill seconded.

Director Smith – With this legislation I am requesting your authorization to purchase the four vehicles. This price also includes the purchase and installation of all necessary hardware such as the light bars, push bumpers and separation cages. This work will be done by certified emergency vehicle technicians. The only item not provided by Statewide Ford is the graphics for the vehicles. For your information this dealership does approximately 95% of this work in the State of Ohio. This matter was reviewed with the Chief and I'd be more than happy to answer any questions should you have them.

Mayor Cervenik – This is half of what we normally would order. Normally we'd order six Crown Victoria but due to our financial situation and with consultation with the Chief as well as Mike Spisak our Motor Maintenance Supervisor he feels that we can get buy this year on purchasing only three.

Councilwoman Jones – I have one question about the type of vehicle. I think this question was brought up maybe once before when purchasing vehicles. Is the Ford Explorer the most economical type of vehicle to purchase for the use?

Chief Repicky – That's our accident vehicle and we have a lot of specialized equipment that we have to carry and that's the most economical car for our investigators to use to store all the equipment. It is ready accessible to use on the road.

Councilwoman Jones – What other types was it compared with?

Chief Repicky – We used to have a Ford Expedition and that got about 8 miles to the gallon, this one gets about 17. I think it's a win/win.

Councilman Van Ho – I believe the Mayor had said that we cut back on the number of police cars that we normally order. Are we going to have, if we're stretching these vehicles, are we in any way going to be putting policemen in unsafe vehicles or vehicles that should be traded in?

Mayor Cervenik – As with a lot of decisions we're going to be making this year, no. Would I rather purchase six? Yes. But we've been assured as best we can by Motor Maintenance that because of the fact that over the past few years we have been purchasing six and they've been well maintained that there should be no long term suffering. I would imagine in 2011 we would have to purchase 6 maybe 7. But a lot depends on the vehicle. Every once in awhile we lose a vehicle through accidents and what have you. That could change the outlook as well. We're confident that we have enough front line vehicles in great shape with lower mileage that will keep our officers safe.

Councilwoman Minarik – Will these have the fire shields?

Chief Repicky - The fire panels will be installed once they're delivered hopefully by May or June.

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

Councilwoman Minarik moved to suspend the rules, Councilman O'Neill seconded. Yeas: Unanimous.

Roll Call: Yeas: Gilliam, Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, O'Neill, Wojtila, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.

Passed.

Ord. (022-10) Charter Amendment –Term of Council

An ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of the City of Euclid, the question of whether Article II, Section 1, Power, Election, Term of Office and Article IV, Section 1 Qualification and Term of Office of the Charter of the City of Euclid shall be amended. (Sponsored by Councilwoman Scarniench)

Councilwoman Scarniench moved for passage, Councilwoman Jones seconded.

Councilwoman Scarniench – The reason this is on our agenda is because everybody if they remember correctly, when I was first elected two years ago, there was a problem. I only won by seven votes. There had to be a recount and the simple fact is, is that our election is the first Tuesday in November. It takes the Board of Elections well over a month to certify an election. If they have to do a recount or anything else, it takes longer than that. So when everybody was being sworn in, I was sworn in, I sat at the first meeting and still didn't know if I legitimately belonged here. Through the grace of God I did end up being here, but I don't feel that anyone should ever have to go through that situation again.

I can't remember why they changed it, it hasn't been that many years ago that they changed it from January to December, but I would truly like the voters to vote on this and change it back to January so that no one does have to go through this again. I have no problem with this going to committee because it was from me and not from the Charter Review.

President Holzheimer Gail – Does anyone remember when it was changed from January to December? It has been December as long as I've been involved.

Mayor Cervenik – I remember the Mayor's back in the second term of Mayor Oyaski's, the Mayor's term, which used to be January was changed to December to coincide with Council. But for at least 20-30 years it has been Dec. 1st for Council members. There was charter legislation put on the ballot that brought the Mayor back to where Council was. At that time I really felt it should have been the other way, which is what you're trying to do now, get everybody into January.

Councilwoman Scarniench – For some reason I thought it was sometime when Lynch was in office. I could be wrong and you could be right that's all it was. But we never had the problem before, it was very unique and there's nothing that says it can't happen again. But the fact is the Board of Election can't certify the election by December 1st it just doesn't happen. That's the reason for it.

Mayor Cervenik – The Law Director pulled out the procedural manual in the Charter and it was back in 77 or 78 when they did that.

President Holzheimer Gail – I think it is worth a discussion in Committee so we can make sure we understand the dates. What we're asking again, it would not be Council approving that, but approving to put it on the ballot so the residents can decide whether they want to change the charter. The Charter can only be changed by vote of the residents.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved Ord. (022-10) to the Executive & Finance Committee. Councilman O'Neill seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Gilliam, Scarniench, Jones, Minarik, O'Neill, Wojtila, Langman,
Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.

Sent to Committee.

Ord. (019-10) Charter Amendment - Recall

An ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of the City of Euclid, the question of whether Article III, Section 2, Recall, of the Charter of the City of Euclid shall be amended to require a declaration of intent to petition for the removal of any elected officer of the City; to impose a 45 day time limit on the filing of petitions; and to increase the number of signatures needed to file such petitions to 25% of the electors voting in the most recent general election. (Sponsored by Mayor Cervenik)

Councilman Van Ho moved for passage, Councilwoman Jones seconded.

Director Frey – This was introduced to City Council in the last term and placed in Executive Finance Committee. There was not an opportunity for that committee to hear and discuss the matter so essentially it died there at the end of Council term. We had discussed at that point reintroducing it and have done so this evening.

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It would be the position of the Charter commission as one of its recommendations to City Council to place on a general election or primary election ballot this issue that would then change the initiative and recall section of our charter to require not only a filing of a declaration and put a time limit as to the period of time in which signatures could be gathered, but also to increase the percentage from 15-25%. This is the unanimous recommendation of the Charter Commission as I recall. This was introduced and placed in committee near the end of the last term.

President Holzheimer Gail – It was my recommendation as well to have this go to Committee, not in order to let it die in Committee but because we did follow that process last time and for every other Charter amendment that we've considered was to have the Charter Review Commission members come and present their research and their findings and how they came up with that recommendation. I would still like to do that and we have plenty of time for the May primary. The filing deadline would be February 15th.

Director Frey – I checked just this evening to see if they have an election calendar on for 2010 and they have not put one on for anything later than this Special Election Date in February. I sent an e-mail to the Board representative and asked him to confirm the last date. I believe if we act on this by the second meeting in February, that will be adequate time to have it placed on the ballot, if that's council's desire for the May 4th election.

Councilman Langman moved to place Ord. (019-10) to Executive & Finance Committee. Councilman Wojtila seconded.

President Holzheimer Gail – Any discussion on the motion?

Councilman Gilliam – I was a member of the Charter Review Commission as well and honestly and truthfully, I was split on this because I did agree to the 45 day limit, but I did not agree to the increase of the 25% needed to actually file 25% of the registered voters. This has been going on for awhile and the Charter Commission has spoken. I know that Council has sat down with us and we discussed the plus and minuses of it. But at the end of the day my position is not whether or not I agree with this, my position is that I think the ordinance is drafted and should be put to the voters. I'm not expediting this but I would not want this to go to Committee. I would prefer this be passed tonight and let the voters decide. That is my personal opinion.

President Holzheimer Gail – This would be comments only on the motion to send this to Committee.

Councilwoman Scarniench – I agree with Councilman Gilliam. I don't feel this belongs in Committee. I know I don't agree with our Law Director on his philosophy. The Charter Review Commission did their job, as far as I'm concerned all we are is a pass-through to send this through. I think we've talked about it enough. This goes to the voters and the voters speak. We can see by how the other issues passed that they understood what they were doing. I just feel with everything else that we've got coming up over the next few weeks that this would be another thing we need to talk about and I'm not really sure we need to talk about it. Thank you.

Councilman Van Ho – I concur with the two prior councilmen, let's take it to the voters because that's the ultimate in democracy in the city, let's let them make a decision.

President Holzheimer Gail – I appreciate that. As we have done with the other Charter amendments, we have had a committee meeting, that was the procedure we set up when we sent it to Committee for the first time and I would like to follow that, but that's my opinion. There's been a motion and second, are there other comments on the motion?

Councilwoman Minarik – I would like to see this go into Committee. Number one, because I know there were residents who were planning to come to speak on it but they heard that it was probably going to Executive Committee, so they didn't bother coming and commenting. That's the number one reason.

The second reason is, in light of what Councilman Gilliam said, there maybe room to adjust this, lower the number of signatures required, maybe extend the number of days, something. I would like to hear the Charter Commission's viewpoint on this. As far as the resident who spoke, I did go to a Charter Commission meeting and I did ask questions and I never went to another one because I was told at that meeting that they didn't have to answer any questions. So I just assumed, what's the point. It may be that there are other residents who feel the same way as I do that they didn't bother going and asking questions because that was the attitude and that is what I was told.

I would like to see this go into Executive so residents have a have a chance to ask questions, make comments, that we can understand what's the Charter Commission's thinking was more so. It is not that big of deal we have until the end of February. Thank you.

Councilman Langman – This should go to Committee and quite frankly whether we have a lot to do or not is irrelevant, that's what we all signed up for. We owe it to the residents to give this a full and complete hearing so that if they wish to come and ask questions, they have the opportunity to do so.

President Holzheimer Gail – There's been a motion and a second. Roll Call on the motion to send this to Executive and Finance Committee.

Roll Call: Yeas: Jones, Minarik, Wojtila, Langman, Holzheimer Gail.

Nays: Gilliam, Scarniench, O'Neill, Van Ho

Sent to Committee.

President Holzheimer Gail – We will hopefully plan an Executive and Finance Committee, we will definitely plan one in time for the deadline for the May primary of the Board of Elections. That brings us to the Committee of the Whole Public Portion. This is where you may speak to anything for the good of the city. Please state your name and address for the record.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Christopher Litwinowicz – 21970 Morris Ave. What's being past out is something we should have done at the Charter Review. The names in it don't hurt. We're just trying to figure out how to do this. Trying to keep this hush and quiet and passing them out, they ain't signed yet but this is what I had developed for our city.

Some of the things that needed to be done, Law Director, anything wrong with it, please let me know right now, or by the end of this meeting. As no name, it is just to figure out if it has to be Ward or has to be President. No offense, I'm trying to learn this so I had to take the first move.

President Holzheimer Gail – So your question is, is this format correct?

Mr. Litwinowicz – Yes.

President Holzheimer Gail – I'm sure the Law Director will need to look at it.

Mr. Litwinowicz – We don't need to discuss that right now. Some of the things that I see wrong with our city and why I come to this podium is what if. Someone may comment about leaves being in the sewer and they come out and fix the problem but what if. They still haven't. This year 2010 this is gone. I'm a businessman. I wanted to offer a way to get 2,000 people into this city. How much does that benefit the city?

In my city it seems like it's a freeze. I like the development on 185th Nottingham Road, Euclid Ave., love it. But what are we going to do about the Mall? Now I like to see a couple of things happen. I'd like to see redevelopment, economic development. I wish I could arrange a business meeting with my council and the people that are, Mr. Yuko. Same letters people read.

Now this is a little different from the last time I was here. Health care. Been declined food stamps for five months and now my grandma can't get nebulizers from Drug Mart, they playing games all day. What else can we do? I wish there was a community college at Euclid Shore.

The budget, we need public access. If its not visible we need to be able to use the equipment regardless of what people say. That's really violating. There ain't no money involved, I'll volunteer for free. I'm also a well known producer and want to do major things in this city, entertainment-wise and we can develop money.

Last 30 seconds. Happy Holidays, don't get, this right here, it's like I'm in school but I'm doing it myself. The only thing different on this legislation is the City of Euclid and a certain name. I just wanted to know if I was to do it, or is this right, that's all. Happy Holidays.

Mr. Marcus Epps – 25580 Tungsten Rd. I just came before you all tonight, I haven't been here probably in about two meetings since the swearing in, just to wish you all Happy Holiday and Happy New Year to everyone as well as to the citizens and community as a whole. Let's look forward to a happy and prosperous year here in 2010, we're excited about this new Council that is here as well as the additions in the administration. We're just looking forward to a great year, thanks a lot.

Mr. Jim Zdesar – I'm a Platoon Chief with the Euclid Fire Dept., 27 year employee. I am the Shift boss running the shift at a fire. I worked Sunday. The call volume was up. I just want to put on record that 16, 13, whatever, anything under 16 is unsafe.

I never felt so uncomfortable on the job as I did on Sunday when we were running under 16 as a boss and I've been in environments where you don't want to be as long with all these other people right back here behind me.

We have given back. We have negotiated in good faith. When I got on we had four stations, 23 firefighters. Then we went to 21, then we went to 19, then we went to 16; and now we're going I don't know where. But we are dedicated employees, we do our job. If we run under 16 we are inviting problems. People are going to try to do more than what they can physically do. They're going to start to freelance at fires and I'm going to lose control of a fire. Like we all said, we don't want anybody to be injured on the job, citizens or firefighters. The Chief spoke very well about the mutual aid situation. We can't just ask for it, sometimes we have to give back.

I sat with the Chief this morning and I went over my comments. I thank him for his time this morning. I would be more than willing to give my phone number. I'm at the station, to Council people I will explain tactics to you. I will explain what happens at a fire and why we need certain people. Twenty-one is the number we really need if we're going to handle all the priorities and the tactics that need to be done at a fire. I can be reached at Station 1 on C-shift and I'll be glad to talk to anybody on Council. I just thank you for your time and anything less than 16 is unacceptable. 19 is where we should be and 21 would be what we really need. Thank you.

Mr. Jeffrey Beck – 25540 Chatworth. The first I heard tonight I heard about the safety force reduction was tonight, I hadn't heard this before. Speaking as a resident, I am extremely concerned. If these guys out here tell you they don't have enough people, then they don't have enough people. I know we have a hole in the budget. If we're going to start charging for garbage collection, then we need to do that right away. I'm surprised it wasn't on the agenda tonight. We need to get this hole filled quickly because these guys need to get back up to par.

I don't want anybody in this city injured, including these guys. They were at my house last year for an incident and the response was great. Whatever you've got to do, please do it and do it quick so they get back up to speed. Thank you.

President Holzheimer Gail – Seeing no other comments, we'll move to Councilmen's Comments.

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

Councilwoman Jones – I'll keep it quick and short, just like our meeting was. I want to say Happy New Year to everybody. Remember we're starting not only a new year but a new decade. So I'd like to wish a Happy New Year and let's get off to a nice fresh start to this decade.

I also want to say thank you to the firemen and the gentleman that got up and spoke and those that are here tonight and to those that couldn't make it tonight on giving your comments and letting us know that the number we are maybe looking at going to is too low. I appreciate your comments, you can never express them too much, so I do appreciate the comments that you did make tonight and in the future that you may make. I will do what I can to help us fix this budget problem. I don't have an answer but I think as a group we can come up with something. I don't know what that answer is, and I'm not saying that we have an answer, I'm not speaking for the Mayor or anybody else, but hopefully going into 2010 something will work out. I don't know what that is and I can't read into the future, but I'm just hoping for a miracle to happen. Thank you.

Councilwoman Minarik – I would like to announce the Shore booklets on programming is out and you can pick up a copy of what programs are going on at Shore at the Library, Shore Cultural Centre or you can visit the website, Shore Cultural Centre.org. It is also going home with the kids.

I have a couple of questions. One to the Service Director. New Year's Eve, I was out clearing my driveway because of the slush and left over ice because I knew that the temperatures were going to drop drastically. All the little side streets had inches of slush, so is there a reason that the city doesn't come and clean out the slush because the following day, my street and a lot of them around were just sheets of ice because the slush had not been cleared off. That's my first question, think about that one.

Chief Cosgriff, I must have missed something. Why did the shifts drop down to 13? Were there layoffs? That's all I have to ask so you two can take turns.

Director Smith – That particular subject matter was actually raised by another person on Council that had some experience I guess in previous years with similar circumstances. When I received that phone call, I went out, I looked at the streets myself with Asst. Director Bock. We got Street Supt. Reese on the phone, we reviewed it with him. We talked about the temperature, the amount of snowfall. He went out and he addressed some of the intersecting areas and some of the streets that did have some

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slush accumulated, but as far as addressing it on all of the streets from a material standpoint that was an issue number one, the amount of material that would be required and then we actually felt it would create more of a problem for us. That it would freeze before it actually would drain off.

Councilwoman Minarik – Plowing the streets one last time to get rid of the slush would cause a bigger problem?

Director Smith – It wasn't a matter of plowing, at least from my perspective and if Mr. Bock would have any comment, that is fine. But the material that was on the street, it was not entirely slush. We weren't confident that if we applied salt that it would turn to slush and we would be able to get it off in time.

Chief Cosgriff – We schedule the entire year in advance and there was 19 firefighters scheduled for duty on Sunday. We do allow the firefighters to take comp time off to bring us down as far as 16. Due to some of the contract negotiations over the past few years, there is a lot of comp time that is on the books. If that comp time is burned off at no cost to the city, that's a good thing for everybody involved. The guys get their time off and it doesn't cost us anything. The problem is that someone can call in sick at 8:00 AM after all of the comp time has been granted. We were scheduled for 16 but the sick time brought us below 16 for the first 8 hours of the shift. We did burn off 64 hours of comp time and obviously 24 hours of sick time. It did cause us to fall below 16 for the first 8 hours of the shift. Consequently we had to take a truck out of service.

Mayor Cervenik – It is also because I sent correspondence to Chief Cosgriff that until we are able to solve our budget problems which we need to do as everybody said very shortly, that we do not have the capacity right now to bring someone in on overtime to fill that gap. I talked with the Chief on Friday. He was fairly confident that because very few people do take off, schedule time off in January, I think the schedule I have for C shift has 19 virtually every day but one and one day there's 20. So for the month of January we do run a much less risk hopefully and hopefully that will, Sunday was an oddity but hopefully through January we will continue to have 16 people on each shift.

Overtime for firefighters is very, very expensive and at the same time, I know it is very expensive but I, as the Chief said, he does not bare all the responsibility. I don't sleep well many times at night thinking about the fact that we're not manned to a capacity that one, can save our residents and their property. Two, that we're not manned enough to protect those men and women that protect our residents in the first place. I hold a very heavy burden in making those decisions. That's why there was only 15 rather than calling in a 16 person on Sunday.

Councilman O'Neill – To the residents that are watching, just a reminder that under extreme weather conditions, in this case, snow, emergency vehicles do respond a lot slower to the emergency. EMS units have to respond to houses. Please shovel your snow, shovel the walks. I would extend this out to the young kids that might be watching or their parents that might show this tape to them to take care of your elderly residents, your neighbors. Shovel the snow, it is a good way to earn a little bit of money and take care of your neighbor. There is a delay when there is excess snow in walkways and driveways. I can tell you first hand, I have first hand knowledge of that. It slows you down when you're trying to get to a house and you're tripping over the snow trying to get a gurney up to the house. Do yourself a favor, clean off your sidewalks, clean off your stairs, clean off your driveways, take care of your neighbors and check on them.

To the residents on 214 where they've been undergoing a long time sewer water replacement. Thank you for your patience. I would ask Director Smith if he could just maybe comment on a timetable on what we're looking for in the spring to finish up that project.

Director Smith – We certainly appreciate the cooperation and patience by the residents as well councilman. We've had numerous meetings with the contractor to talk about the condition of the road, along with his schedule. He owes us some paperwork when he will complete the project. We would expect it by July, right at this point in time but we don't have that in paper. I don't want to consider it firm, but we would expect it to be wrapped up in July.

Councilman O'Neill – That's with the paving, sidewalks, curbs and everything?

Director Smith – That is correct.

Councilman O'Neill – What might be left would be the landscaping? Some of the landscaping might need to be done after that?

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Director Smith – Not necessarily. He felt that it would be, in July, will be complete by July. So sometime in the month.

Councilman O'Neill – General security to the residents. The economic times kind of breed for desperate people. They're looking for an opportunity to steal, rob, whatever. Keep an eye out for your neighbors. If you see something suspicious, go with your gut instinct. Call the police, don't try to intervene, make the phone call to the police dept., let them come out. If you can safely write a license plate down, maybe a description of the vehicle. In the past we've had cars in driveways where the houses were being broken into in mid daylight. Fortunately there's a street off of 200th Street where an astute neighbor saw something suspicious and wrote a license number down and it is my understanding successful apprehension was made because of a neighbor getting involved. The police can't be everywhere. I think they do an excellent job in the city as well as the fire service. It really is going to take neighbors looking out for each other. With that I'll say Happy New Year and goodnight.

Councilman Wojtila – To Director Pietravoia if you could ask your department to give us an update on the NSP, Neighborhood Stabilization Program. I'm always curious to get periodic updates on that. It may have been a couple of months since that, so an e-mail or even at the next meeting would be appreciative.

I did talk to the Service Director about the slushy streets on New Year's Eve and my request was to plowing because last year a similar situation happened where the streets did get pretty icy. My street was very typical of that and it wasn't plowed and it did get pretty icy that next day and the day after. I think plowing of the streets, with the warm weather, followed by pending cold weather, is not a good situation. I agree with Councilwoman Minarik on that.

With regard to the budget issues. Mayor you mentioned nothing certain certainly but the fact that if Cleveland were to raise their tax and that we provide 100% reciprocity that would have a suffer impact. What does it take to change the reciprocity to something less than 100% and have you looked at that? I know it is a big can of worms.

Mayor Cervenik – Unlike most communities whereas City Council has the authority and the ability to change the credit that is allowed to what you pay other cities. In the infinite wisdom of leaders in the past, and I use that sort of sorely, they put in the Charter. I'm not sure what date it was but it was put in the Charter that the residents would have the authority to reduce credit. In essence you would be asking the residents to increase their taxes on themselves, which is the same as asking for a tax increase.

The City of Parma, the City of Eastlake and others a few years back never would have survived if their council would not have had the ability to reduce the credit allowed to other communities. The way Cleveland and other communities and Euclid sold income tax increases was that 60-70% of the people that work in your city don't live in your city. So in essence one, seniors aren't paying the income tax and nor are many of your residents. You have "outsiders" paying for your services.

In order to reduce the credit, we would have to put a Charter amendment on the ballot and we would have to convince the voters to do so. I've talked to you all about the 920 provision that also was put in many years ago that keeps our real estate assessments at the same level of income from the time that the people voted them in. Most communities don't have that, in fact I think we're the only one that has that. That's not true for school levies, but it is for city levies. We get how much in for Recreation? Two mils, \$1.2 million, we're actually getting less than that because of delinquency. That's what we got back in the 70's when they first passed it. That's another problem we have in our Charter. Those are items we're going to have to talk about and deal with and we're going to have to educate our voters or we're going to continue to rely and be utterly dependent upon income taxes. That's what has got us in a real jam right now.

Councilman Langman – Welcome Back to Director Will, you were missed. Glad everything is going well for you now, it is good to see you back. Regarding the move with the Fire Dept., and I like the resident first heard of it this evening, hopefully that will be worked out this week so we can get the manning back up to the safe levels. But as other people have already said, our budget situation is real and it is serious and I don't know whether we can expect major improvement even in 2011. We're going to have to come up with a team effort to address the very serious fall off in our revenues. What that mix is, I don't know. We're talking amongst ourselves about what can be done, what should be done, taking into account all of the various services that I believe this city has to provide.

I think the Mayor mentioned it and I tend to agree that we can't just be a city of safety forces. Residents have other concerns and other expectations too. We have to balance all of those interests. It is going to be difficult but I think we can do it.

The only other item I'd like to point out is we talk about manning and staffing and so forth, unfortunately we do not have Chase Brass here anymore or GM or Addressograph or Rockwell, or

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TRW. So part of the equation is rebuilding our economic base. As you can imagine in these times, everybody is looking to do that. Our Economic Development Department which in one scenario we could eliminate or wipe out entirely, but that would hurt our efforts to rebuild this city and we have to do that if we're going to fund services in the future. So it's very challenging but again, that's what we signed up for and we'll be tackling that over the next several weeks. With that, I'll say goodnight.

Councilman Van Ho – First of all I'd like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Second, I would like to remind everyone from 5:00-7:00 tomorrow evening there's a public meeting with RTA about revisions in service. One of the revisions being considered at this point is a cut out of almost all service on Babbitt Rd. If you don't want to see that happen, you had better be at those meetings and speak up. The meetings are at the Library, tomorrow from 5:00-7:00.

Also I too do not want to endanger the firemen or the citizens, so we need to figure out what we're going to do if that is revenue enhancements which is a fancy word for some type of additional fees, bring it forth. Yes, we're going to take it in the neck for doing that but let's do it.

Also Director Smith, you mentioned we didn't know exactly when the sewer project on 214 would be closed up.

Director Smith – Approximately two weeks ago we had a meeting with the contractor out at the site and we requested a written schedule. We have not yet received that schedule. We just know through what he has told us that he will complete the project in July.

Councilman Van Ho – We don't put an LD date for liquidated damage date in the contract when we let it? So many days after notice to proceed it is to be done.

Director Smith – You are correct, there is a completion date in the contract. That particular contract was one year so it wasn't anticipated to be completed this year. However there was some thoughts that possibly he would have the project completed in 2009. Obviously it didn't work out that way. To say that by the time the rain days, some other delays are factored into that, without looking at the calendar I can't say that we would be entitled to the liquidated damages, but I can tell you based on some other concerns from some residents out there about the work ethic of the contractor I did review the inspection reports and when the contractor, I'm not going to compliment him on his progress out there on the site, but he did certainly have personnel out there during the week as was required. Several weeks he had multiple crews out there.

Councilman Van Ho – I just would like to see when we open a project like this that we know when the close out date is anticipated and that we hold them to that unless they can prove legitimate delay because of something that the city did. Thank you.

President Holzheimer Gail – I would like to congratulate Patrick Smith again and his family. I was able to attend the Eagle Scout Ceremony and Patrick truly exemplifies what a Boy Scout and Eagle Scout is. One of the examples and I know there's many, one of the values or one of the principles of scouting is do a good turn daily and Patrick, there was a call or a need from a neighbor of his to bring garbage out and he's performed that for several years now bringing his garbage out with no payment just to be a good neighbor and just to help serve his community. I know that's the same with raking and shoveling and just one of the examples and Patrick has been a great example to the other scouts in the Troop and has shown leadership and really made the activities he's been involved with fun. Patrick congratulations and his parents have both been very active in the Troop volunteering their time as well. Just wanted to acknowledge Patrick and his parents once again.

In terms of the budget process at this point we're looking at the beginning of February, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th, potentially to do budget hearings, Mayor is that correct?

Mayor Cervenik – Whatever the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday is.

President Holzheimer Gail – February 1st would be the first council meeting so I believe that's the 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Certainly we are at a point, we've all realized that we are in worse shape than we thought we were going to be several months ago and I know that we all take that seriously. I appreciate the firefighters being here tonight to show their commitment to the city. I know it will be difficult but if we all work together and have the same goals and principles in mind of serving our residents, maintaining a safe, vibrant community, we will be able to work towards that. That means we may all have to give up something, but I think if we come to the table with open mind and creative thinking I'm certainly hopeful that we can accomplish that.

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In the meantime prior to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th, again Council, let's continue the discussions, if we would like to hold some informal meetings, of course everything is public to discuss options, to discuss 920 provision, to discuss garbage collection, to discuss any of the issues that are considering or want to get information on, we can certainly start that ahead of time. Mayor we will get a packet ahead of time? I know there's going to be some time it takes to close out the final figures from 2009 and finalize the budget.

Mayor Cervenik – I apologize for wanting to take up our time on Tuesday and Thursday but unfortunately it is very much necessary. It will be my intention to not have budget hearings consist of each of the Directors and Chiefs read line by line what's already in the book. I'm going to expect Council to do that ahead of time. I'm going to ask each Director to highlight maybe three or four major changes that we could make in the department and the negative effect those changes would make as you've heard some of them tonight. Also let you know what we really need to continue the progress we made in the last few years of working together. Everyday you pick up the paper and there's just more and more of this going on. Cleveland is going through tremendous economic downturn as we are. They have a \$50 million budget hole. Back in September everything was fine, everything was balanced. So, at least we've known for awhile we were in some trouble. I will say we are going to be a little higher, I'm not giving a number because the final number we give you will be the final number. But we will finish a little higher than the \$1 million that was projected. A couple of other funding sources, the checks did come in before December 31st, so that has helped for a little bit. We've got a ways to go and we will present a package of what we feel the revenue enhancements, how they could be put together, how they should be billed, what they will bring in. Our goal will not to look at just 2010, some of the revenue enhancements we're looking at will be more than what's needed to get through 2010 but knowing 2011 we need to build up so we don't go through this again. We will be putting a whole package together for you but it is going to be slightly different in presentation. I'm looking forward to it, believe it or not, I really am because we've got to get it resolved.

President Holzheimer Gail – My last announcement is there will be an Executive and Finance Committee meeting this Wednesday, January 6th starting at 6:30. Billy Casper Golf will be here to present their proposal and answer questions from Council. This Wednesday, January 6th at 6:30 here in Council Chambers. With that I will wish everyone a Happy New Year as well.

Councilman Gilliam – I hope the citizens of Euclid and everyone in this room enjoyed the Holiday Season and Happy New Year to all of you. I'm glad to be back. I thank the individuals who called and were concerned about the loss of my grandmother in New Jersey. At 40 years old I've definitely come to the conclusion that the sun will always rise and I will see a moon, so life does go on. She's no more in pain anymore and I'm grateful for that.

Moving to Euclid, I would definitely like to talk about individuals with their homes. I know that times can be difficult but make sure that we're trying to shovel our walkways so our young individuals can walk the actual sidewalk and not within traffic which puts the driver and our young people in danger. When I was much younger, I was able to go to people's homes and ask for \$10 to shovel their walkway or possibly shovel their driveway for a few dollars more. I do see young people attempting to do that and I would ask our citizens to give them an opportunity but not at your personal safety and risk. If you see young individuals out there doing that, make it an opportunity to engage that young person to reward that young person for a good job and give them a chance to get some of that economic stimulus money that we've all be chasing for.

In addition to that specific to Ward 1, I did receive some calls about a fox being spotted in the area. I'm not necessarily an animal expert but I believe I saw a fox myself and just to let the residents of Ward 1 know that when your children are playing outside, be mindful that we do once in awhile occasionally have deer and other wild animals that come into play. Just tell your children to be mindful of that situation. Ward 1 is definitely embedded in the woods next to Metroparks so you're going to see different types of animals and species from time to time.

I wanted to also announce that Walgreen's opened up on January 1st on the corner of Dille Rd. and Euclid Ave. I was glad to see, I went in and met the manager and some of the staff and quite frankly it was quite crowded and heavy traffic in there. Residents, utilize your resources, Walgreen's is one of them. The ability for us to attract other businesses depends upon how we utilize the resources in our area and make them profitable and we make them accountable to us by providing an excellent service.

Lastly, many people have come up to me and said, I need a job, or I'm working part-time, I need additional income. We do know times are hard and jobs are definitely difficult to come by. But there are opportunities to work for the U.S. Census Bureau. These particular jobs they have many different positions available, such as a census taker, or crew leader, crew leader assistant, recruiting assistant and census clerks. The minimum qualifications are that you are breathing and you can call to

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apply. Take the opportunity to increase your income if necessary or at least work for a temporary time on a full time basis. They offer numerous benefits such as getting paid weekly, flexible hours. You will receive paid training upon being accepted. You will receive reimbursement for authorized mileage and other work related expenses. Most importantly we need to have numbers here in the City of Euclid. We need to have an accurate count so that we are not in jeopardy of losing any community development block grant funding based upon our population. So it is important that our residents get involved. I'm going to give you this number, there is a local recruiter in Euclid, I do not know this person's name. If you call, 1-866-861-2010, they will direct you to the appropriate coordinator for this particular city. There is a test involved. Most of it is multiple choice and some of it is problem solving. It is about 2 hours but once you complete that test, based upon your score, you are eligible for a specific job. If you don't like your test score, you can test again, so you can rank higher to get a higher paying job. I just want to put this information out there. The number once again is 1-866-861-2010. Take advantage of this opportunity and help out your community. With that I'll close, good evening.

Councilwoman Scarniench – To the firemen, to the policemen, to all of our service workers who have done a marvelous job over this holiday, I thank you and the residents too. It is really tough for me and most of the firemen know it, how I feel, when it comes to manning and closing of stations, but I also understand the budget. I truly hope that we get this solved as quickly as possible and everybody will work so that we keep everybody moving and everybody safe.

A couple of things, fire hydrants, I noticed today, please when you're out there shoveling, don't shovel all the snow on the fire hydrants. I saw a lot of that today. You have to have those fire hydrants open, so that if a fire truck needs to get there, it can get to the water.

As I traveled over the holiday I've seen an awful lot of garage doors being left open. Folks you're looking for robbery, you're looking for people to come into your property and damage it or steal. Please, I don't care if you're gone for 5 minutes, keep the garage door closed.

To Patrick, congratulations again. Euclid is very unique. We have an awful lot of Eagle Scouts, my son was one of them. Something that we don't do is say thank you to the Scout Leaders because our Scout Leaders in this city, every Troop, they're awesome and that's why we have the kids that aspire to be Eagle Scouts and to do what they do. I want to thank all of those Scout Leaders that are out there.

Water. Just for the residents to know, there is a water leak on Euclid Ave., probably over at 228 by Cortina's. Hopefully the Water Dept. has been there and shut the water off. But when we left to come to this meeting, they hadn't been there yet. 222 is flooded from Euclid Ave., passed the retention basin. Our guys are out there right now waiting for the Water Dept., hopefully by the time I go home it is done. If you could avoid this area, please do that because even once they get the water cleaned up we've got to make sure the salt gets down because it is covering the whole street. If you have to go that way, find an alternate route tomorrow morning.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate former Councilman Gruber. On December 23rd, he got married to Polly in a ceremony right here and I was here so I wish them both good wishes, good health and a long and happy marriage. On that, I say goodnight.

President Holzheimer Gail – Congratulations to former Councilman Gruber.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Attest:

Clerk of Council

President of Council