

City of Willoughby Hills

Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of December 8, 2016

Policy No. 2: All Council Meetings shall be recorded by audio recording device and will be held in perpetuity and shall be part of the official records and minutes. Written minutes of Council shall be shortened wherever possible.

The Regular Council Meeting was held on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 7:05pm in the Willoughby Hills Council Chamber. Vice President Plecnik serving as President Pro-tem presided.

Members Present: Councilman Christopher Hallum, Councilwoman Janet R. Majka, Vice President John Plecnik, Councilman Christopher L. Biro, Councilman David M. Fiebig, Councilwoman Jennifer Sommers Greer

Councilman Fiebig moved to excuse the President Nancy E. Fellows. Councilman Biro seconded.

YEAS: Unanimous.

Others Present: Mayor Robert M. Weger, Finance Director Frank J. Brichacek, Jr., City Engineer Pietro A. DiFranco, Clerk of Council Victoria Ann Savage

President Pro-tem Plecnik: I would ask for a motion to elect a Vice President Pro-tem given as Vice President of Council I automatically serve as Council President in our Council President's absence but we'll need a Vice President Pro-tem for this evening's meeting.

Councilman Hallum moved to appoint Councilwoman Jennifer Sommers Greer to serve as Vice President Pro-tem for the Regular Council Meeting of December 8, 2016. Councilman Biro seconded.

Roll call: YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig
Abstention: Greer

Motion passed.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Next on the agenda I would ask for a motion to amend the agenda because we were able to get the minutes completed on time for approval, to include the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2016 as well as November 10, 2016. Do we have a motion to amend the agenda?

Councilman Fiebig moved to amend the agenda to approve the minutes of November 10, 2016 and October 27, 2016. Councilwoman Majka seconded.

Councilman Fiebig: Mr. President. I have just one point of clarification to make so we would do November 10th as amended to clarify that when I mentioned the a...suggesting that the fire chiefs application and that whole process be done by extending it to Zip Recruiters or an on-line site like monster.com. The verbiage came out to use "on-line monsters". I don't know how that happened. Just to clarify because on-line monsters are not a very good thing to recruit fire chiefs with.

Roll call: YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer
Motion passed unanimously.

DISPOSITION OF THE JOURNAL

President Pro-tem Plecnik: I now entertain a motion to adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2016.

Councilwoman Majka: Mr. President, move to adopt the minutes of November 10, 2016 and October 27...

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Well, we can only do one at a time. So, October 27th would be the start.

Councilwoman Majka moved to adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2016.

Councilman Biro: As Council President you could chose to adopt both.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: I remember the last time we had this discussion the Law Director told us to do it one by one, so...

Councilwoman Greer seconded the motion.

Roll call: **YEAS:** **Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Greer**
 Abstention: **Fiebig**

Motion passed.

Councilman Fiebig moved to adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2016 as amended.
Councilman Biro seconded.

Roll call: **YEAS:** **Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer**
Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

President Pro-tem Plecnik: We will not read through the Correspondence, Notice and Minutes listings but they will be recorded in the Journal for the record.

CORRESPONDENCE

Interoffice Memo of the Director of Finance to Council President and Members of Council dated November 9, 2016 re: Notice of Acceptance of a \$2,000 Donation to the Police and Fire Departments from Swagelok Foundation (Emailed: November 9, 2016)

Email: Building Commissioner to Council Office, Law Director, Mayor, Mayor's Assistant and President of Council dated November 23, 2016 re: 10-Day Notification – ResCare Ohio/Eddy Road (Emailed to Members of Council on November 23, 2016)

Memo from Assistant Finance Director to Council Office, dated November 23, 2016 re: New Hires (Emailed: November 23, 2016)

City Engineer's Report dated December 1, 2016 (Emailed: December 1, 2016)

Interoffice Memo of Mayor's Assistant to Mayor/Safety Director, dated December 1, 2016 re: Results of Public Surplus Internet Auction (Emailed: December 2, 2016)

Mayor's Court Monthly Statement to City Council of Fines and Other Monies Received or Collected for the month of November, 2016 (Emailed: December 2, 2016)

WH Community Rentals for November 2016 (Emailed: December 5, 2016)

Email of Thomas Lobe to Members of Council, Finance Director, Mayor, Mayor's Assistant, Assistant Finance Director, dated December 6, 2016 re: Council President Fellows' Email of November 29, 2016 – Attachments: Interoffice Memo from Law Director and Finance Director dated November 30, 2016 re: Employee Compensation and the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2016

Email of Mayor's Assistant to Council Office, dated December 6, 2016 re: Retreat Agenda (Emailed to the Members on December 6, 2016)

NOTE: On a monthly basis, the Finance Director provides a report of the City's financial activity to City Council. The purpose of this reporting practice is to make the City's finances as transparent as possible and to keep the Council informed as to the City's financial activity. Financial Reports for 2014, 2015 and 2016 are posted on the City's Website

NOTIFICATIONS

Planning & Zoning Commission and Architectural Board of Review Meeting of November 17, 2016 (Emailed: November 17, 2016)

Planning & Zoning Commission and Architectural Board of Review Meeting of December 1, 2016 (Emailed: November 29, 2016)

Letter from Dominion dated November 30, 2016 re: Notice of Filing New PIR Adjustment Case: PUCO Case No. 16-2205-GA-RDR (Emailed: December 6, 2016)

Recreation Commission Meeting of December 7, 2016 (Emailed: December 6, 2016)

Recreation Committee of Council Meeting of December 8, 2016 (Emailed: December 1, 2016)

Service Committee of Council Meeting of December 8, 2016 (Emailed: November 30, 2016)

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

MAYOR'S REPORT: Monica Drake has been appointed Cuyahoga County Airport Manager – her excellent background and experience is included on our website and I look forward with her to address the concerns of the residents of Willoughby Hills.

NOPEC for electric service only they reached an agreement with NextEra Energy Services. It's effective January following the terminated of NOPEC's agreement with First Energy. What this means is Willoughby Hills residents will be automatically enrolled in that program unless they opt-out or they opt to take the variable rate of NextEra Energy. You can call Gloria in my office and ask any question you have, she just got the rates today so she'll be able to answer them for you.

A leaf update, thanks to Councilman Fiebig, we contacted Eastlake for the borrowing of the leaf machine, the large one and they gave it to us and hopefully with the snow tonight and this week we will finish the leaves if this all melts but we did a pretty good job at getting them all done.

Then my Mayor's Retreat will be held Wednesday, December 14th from 8:30am to about 2pm at the Willoughby Hills Community Center. Each director and department head will give a 20-minute presentation on outlining the 2016 accomplishments and 2017 goals. We have one guest speaker J. Scott Scheel who will...you met at the last Council meeting. He's got a presentation for the Shoppes of Willoughby Hills that will be at 10:00 in the morning and go for about an hour. And there'll be questions and answers at the end of each session to ensure that all the departments stuff was heard.

Thanks to the VFW Post 4358 and all of the participants of the Veterans Day ceremony including soloist Councilwoman Janet Majka for the Veterans Day Ceremony last month.

Thanks to the Recreation Department, Fire Department, Councilman Hallum, the Service Department, and all residents that made the Winter Fest a success. An ambulance full of toys was collected and distributed to area children.

My condolences to the family of Tony Fatica of Diane Court who passed away last week and the family of, the Hines family of Stratford who lost their daughter this week.

The upcoming events, Breakfast with Santa is this Saturday, it goes from 8:30 to 12:30pm and the spots are limited and I think that we are sold out with 500 people.

My best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and a reminder that City Hall will be closed December 26th in observance of Christmas.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank Mayor. Any questions for our Mayor tonight?

Councilman Fiebig: Mr. Mayor, there are a number of calls that I had in the past week or so from residents concerned about the cell tower at the grange and I do believe that some of them are here this evening as I had made suggestions to them to voice their concerns. Did you get a letter that was distributed from a resident somewhere in the area, perhaps on River Road, did you receive a copy of any communication that went out from a resident regarding this cell tower?

Mayor: Yes, I did and I answered it this afternoon.

Councilman Fiebig: Could you share that please with Council so that we...I didn't see a copy of it and I'd like to and I'm sure that the rest of Council would like to see that letter.

Mayor: Sure.

Councilman Fiebig: Were there some...was there some information in that letter that was incorrect? Or was the letter...can you describe the characteristic of that communication that went out to everybody?

Mayor: It was very factual. What else did you want to hear?

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, I heard that there was some information that went out regarding a cell tower that would be put up and there was no information that it was going to be designed to look like a tree, that it was more or less was going to disguise it, was that what you received?

Mayor: Yeah. Correct.

Councilman Fiebig: You did receive that, okay. All right, I'm sure we'll hear from some of the residents that are here hopefully to express their concerns and I think that process right now, can you update us on where we are right now in the process of that cell tower?

Mayor: Well, Council approved the contract with the cell tower company for two cell towers, one at the grange and one at the West Miller property. It's already been approved. But it's contingent on going through the Planning Commission. So right now, it's in the Planning Commission and right now they have to come to us with plans. So, they haven't done so yet, but I think that they are ready to do that in the meeting in January.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, so you'd anticipate that they come to the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. We don't know yet a date. You haven't been in communication with them to find out when they would plan to come. The only thing that they've presented is preliminary information to the Planning and Zoning Commission, is that correct?

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay. Council approved in form the contract.

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: The financial end of things. So, that was our involvement in it.

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: And that ended our involvement of it. We don't go back and approve what the Planning and Zoning Commission does, we just simply approve the money part of it. Is that...I'm I pretty clear on that?

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay. And one of the stipulations that I understood is that we put in there is that the design of it was to be 140' and it was going to look like a tree.

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: So that it doesn't have an adverse effect on neighboring properties, at least visually.

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: As far as any health concerns and that those issues are probably debatable. I think the FCC, the American Cancer Society are a couple of reliable sources that, you know I did some research on it and they say issues are inconclusive however there are other sites and other information that is out there that does express some concerns and they're warranted concerns within certain parameters but again we can review the distance from the cell tower to any of the residents that are nearby houses and that number, do you know that number right off the top of your head?

Mayor: No, I don't.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay.

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: All right, we'll review that in the Planning Commission.

Mayor: Yes.

Councilman Fiebig: I think Chris Hallum and you are on that committee.

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: All those things will be reviewed in that commission, right?

Mayor: Right.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, all right.

Mayor: And they have at least two meeting before it would be approved. So, make one or the other.

Councilwoman Greer: Mayor, so Council did approve the contract and I assume that it was signed and returned. Was the contract signed?

Mayor: No.

Councilwoman Greer: It hasn't been signed yet.

Mayor: No.

Councilwoman Greer: So, my question is are we...once we do sign that contract, are we legally obligated to follow through with that contract if they bring forth responsible plans or do we have card blanche to say...to essentially change our minds and say we have residents who are concerned and we are not going to do this because we can't come up with something...you can't come up with something that we would approve.

Mayor: Correct.

Councilwoman Greer: So we are still able to stop this cell tower.

Mayor: Right.

Councilwoman Greer: Without being in breach of contract.

Mayor: Right.

Councilwoman Greer: Okay.

Councilman Fiebig: Because...as we approved the contract it was subject to approval by the Planning Commission.

Mayor: Yes, it was.

Councilman Fiebig: We only approved it with that stipulation, that was a main stipulation in there.

Mayor: Right.

Councilwoman Greer: I just wanted to make sure, sometimes it's reasonable approval. Like if we had already entered into the contract...if we don't give any approval for any reason, I just want to make sure that we weren't in breach of anything. Okay, that's good news.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Any other questions for the Mayor? Hearing none we will skip our Law Director's Report as Mr. Lobe is absent and we will move on to the Finance Director's Report, Mr. Brichacek.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: No report tonight.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Any questions for our Finance Director? Hearing none, we will go to our City Engineer's Report, Mr. Di Franco.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Just one item, the Stark Drive force main was completed this week. It went smoothly except for one minor issue which the contract was able to address yesterday. I'm open to questions.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Any questions for the City Engineer tonight? Hearing none, it's now time for Committee Reports of Council. I know that we had two committee meetings tonight, would any of our chairs like to report?

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Service Committee Meeting of December 5, 2016

Councilman Biro: Service did meet this evening at 6:03. Committee members, myself and Ms. Majka were here for the meeting. Also present were John Plecnik our Vice President, our President for tonight and Mr. Brichacek, our Finance Director, and Mr. Grubiss, our Service Director.

This was kind of an informational meeting looking at different equipment that we need eventually and it was quite a wish list of things. We looked at the prospect of purchasing a plow truck, a leaf machine, service truck, like a...I'm sorry, a sewer truck. A new pick-up truck for service as well as an excavator. These are items, kind of pricey items and we didn't quite make it to a million dollars we tried, but we couldn't make it. These are things, it's kind of a wish list we'd like to have in service like the sewer truck. It's an expensive item, \$420,000 but we've had ours for I don't know how many years, 10 years it runs in the spring, summer and fall, 5 days a week, 8 hours a day so there is a certain amount of wear-and-tear. There's some things that we need to purchase but we're looking at other options like used equipment, you know, just trying to full-fill the needs of Service without having to break the budget, so those are discussions that we'll be having next week in the finance end of it to see what we can and cannot do and what we can afford and the ability to look at grant monies for some of this equipment so, trying to allocate for some of things that we require to help run the City, to keep our sewers clean, and what-not. So, that is kind of the short end of it; the meeting was tonight and I'll have longer minutes at a future date and we went into public portion at 6:33. Mr. Cihula and Ms. Fulton came forward for questions and comments and at that point the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 and I stand open for questions.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you Mr. Biro, any questions? Hearing none, would Councilwoman Greer like to report on recreation?

Recreation Committee Meeting of December 5, 2016

Councilwoman Greer: I will because it will be quite some time before the minutes are prepared and read so I'll just do it now and minutes will be found with Vicki in the Council Office.

The Recreation Committee opened at 6:37pm this evening and the purpose of the meeting was to try to have Council have some input on Recreation Commission's budget before the budget was actually proposed. I think that the suggestions might have little more teeth if they're given before its prepared.

So, the first item that we discussed was the VFW event, this was the first year for it. Some people had said that maybe too much money was spent and there were some things that they could have been adjusted. The Mayor said that overall it was a great event but perhaps it was too long. He thought that it was very nice that the vets were involved but next year maybe have a better date and shorten it up a bit.

Council Vice President Plecnik suggested that when we have Recreation Commission sponsored events that we look at the cost, attendance breakdown. He said that you just have to let common sense dictate if something is costing \$50 to \$60 per person, it's too much and we shouldn't do it and I suggested that maybe the Rec Coordinator take a rough look at that for all the events and make sure that we're getting good use of the City money.

We also talked about the Community Center. Mr. Plecnik said that it was over 10 years old and costs are going to go up and we'll have some things that will need to be replaced including the carpet. The Mayor said that there will be some capital expenses that weren't spent this year but they will be spent next year on carpet and perhaps on some other things. We also looked at salaries of the monitors and Denise the Rec Coordinator. We

did talk that the rentals are up for the year and they are the highest that they've ever been since the Community Center came into **existent** that we are still losing about \$10,000 a year even with those rentals. I suggested that perhaps we look at the Audit Task Force Report and see if there's any other better uses for the Community Center and Vice President Plecnik said that we should look to the City of Eastlake, they have changed some things around and perhaps we talk with them and see how it's working for them. So, we're going to brain-storm and look at a couple of those things and see where the rentals came from.

In public portion Linda Fulton came forward and suggested we look if we could find better flooring choices such as laminate or carpet squares which may be less maintenance. Frank Cihula came forth and said that he had attended the VFW event and was also part of it and he said that it started too early for a Sunday and that the attendance was very poor and with that the meeting closed at 7:01. And I stand open to any questions or comments.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Any questions for Councilwoman Greer? Well hearing none, I believe that all committees have reported so I would ask are there any other Council Representative Reports tonight? Any other Council Representative Reports? Perhaps the Chagrin River Watershed Partners?

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Councilwoman Majka: Yes, there was a Chagrin River Watershed Partners meeting in Mayfield Village today. The meeting itself lasted about a half-hour to free up our time to look at the various watersheds within our region. There's about 5 or 6 area maps that we were working on and we could...it just showed us the process of that members go through in identifying problems within the watershed community that might come from sources such as run-off, pollution, housing, excess tree harvesting and just one of the many things that this organization does is just work with individual communities to address these problems and provide for a fee that each city pays to the partners their expertise in planning and helping to solve these problems. They are doing similar things to what we're doing, they're looking at their budget for next year, they're looking at a couple key changes in their leadership structure, it was, for me very interesting to see the process where you can look at maps and watershed areas and the message that we could all benefit from is that since we the tri-county area, Lake County, Cuyahoga, and Geauga County is just rich in small little streams that feed into bigger streams that feed into rivers and then eventually feed into Lake Erie. Everyone knows that we are a Lake Community. And the public service message that we would like to put out and that they would like to put out is that it would benefit everybody's health and welfare to be kind to your watershed areas and we can all do our part. Whether it's just not be so heavy on our lawn and garden fertilizers to bigger issues like what cities do with their waste and when they put in hard surfaces, maybe they would choose nonpermeable surfaces as we did over here at the Community Center. Just little changes that we could all do and they're big on education so you can look on the websites that's Chagrin River Watershed Partners in Willoughby Hills as a paid participant so our tax money goes to this organization. We do have our representative here tonight that's going to talk about some similar issues, water issues that will be a little later in our meeting.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you Councilwoman Majka. Any questions?

Any other Council Representative Reports? Well hearing none, it's time for Public Portion.

PUBLIC PORTION

Section 107.08 – Public Meetings of Municipal Bodies

(a) All meetings of any municipal body are declared to be public meetings open to the public at all times.

All meetings shall provide a reasonable opportunity to hear public opinion.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Before we jump in, I'd like to make two quick notes, first of all, it's wonderful to see so many neighbors come out. I know that many of you are here to discuss the cell tower and while this body is not in a position right now to vote or consider the issue because it is in the Planning and Zoning Commission as the previous discussion established; two of our representatives on our Planning and Zoning are with us, Councilman Hallum as well as the Mayor, so we're certainly in a position to hear what you have to say and hopefully we can find a response and a way of handling the issue that makes all the neighbors satisfied as possible because ultimately we're all here to represent you.

The second note I'd like to make is just reading verbatim what our Council President often does to explain Public Portion. It's an opportunity for the public to come forth. Comments should be restricted to matters aligned with the responsibilities of Council. It is not an opportunity to debate topic nor is it an opportunity to belittle or degrade anyone. If the Chair deems that comments are of a personal nature or an attack on an individual, the individual will be asked to sit down. We asked that you limit your comments to 3 minutes so that everyone has a chance to speak and with that I will open Public Portion at 7:32pm, would anyone like to come forward? Please state your name and address before you speak.

Joann Majeski – 14085 Sperry Road, Novelty, Ohio. It's really Newberry Township. First of all, I want to commend Willoughby Hills for their wonderful roads. We came through some other state routes and they were not as good and when we got on Route 6 in Willoughby Hills, I commend the Road Department for their snow plow efforts. But that's not why I'm here tonight. I have a letter to read and I will go read it as follows:

Dear Mayor Weger and Willoughby Hills City Council Members,

The law firm of Ziegler Metzger LLP is representing me in my capacity as Trustee and with the administration of the Gulick Family Charitable Remainder Unitrust. I am pleased to inform you that two organizations in your city, namely WHISPER and Corn Fest, will receive a check for \$2,500.00 each tonight as a result of being two of three beneficiaries of the Gulick Family Charitable Remainder Unitrust. The other beneficiary of this trust is the Cleveland Institute of Music.

My aunt, Irene Gulick, who passed away November 23, 2015 and my uncle, Stanley Gulick, who passed away December 2, 2012, were avid volunteers all over Northeastern Ohio as well as Pt. St. Luci, Florida. They volunteered at Playhouse Square, the Cleveland Botanical gardens, Cleveland Art Museum, Vintage Ohio at Lake Farm Park and Hospice of Florida, just to name a few. They especially loved to volunteer at the Willoughby Hills Fall Corn Fest back in 2011 and 2012. They also greatly admired the WHISPER program and the help it gives the elderly of Willoughby Hills in order to stay in their homes.

I am happy to announce that WHISPER and Willoughby Hills Corn Fest organizations will continue to receive monies annually for the next eight years, until all funds are depleted from this charitable trust annuity.

Aunt Irene was of Polish ancestry and Uncle Stan was of Slovenian ancestry were always very involved with the SNPJ farms and had a true love for polka music, especially the Joey Tomsick Orchestra.

As tribute to my aunt and uncle, I hope that Willoughby Hills Corn Fest may one day consider having a Polka concert in their memory and hopefully with the Joey Tomsick Orchestra.

Thank you so much for your time tonight.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you Ms. Majeski. Please come up.

William Smith – 2473 River Road. Mr. Mayor, Council Members, I've come here tonight to speak against the proposed cellphone tower at the grange next to the historic cemetery. You say that because you own the

property you can do with it as you please. Granted, the grange is in much better shape since the City became owners of the property. But the addition of a cellphone tower on the property is not an improvement. The old grange members sold the property to the City for a fraction of the property's appraised value to ensure that the Maple Grove Grange would remain a part of the landscape with the community for years to come. If they only knew a cell tower would become a part of this landscape, I know that I can speak for at least two of the grange members, my late parents when I say they would have never sold it to the City. The City said that it has taken steps to ensure its historic value of the grange property by erecting a camouflaged tower that supposedly looks like a tree. From what I've learned the pole part of the tower will be galvanized steel, unpainted with a chained link fence surrounding the base. The height of this tower will be way above the existing tree line. I don't think many people will mistake this for a tree. As for the cemetery, at the meeting of the Planning and Zoning on October 20th the representatives for Verizon mentioned that they would bring the utility tower above ground rather than below so as not to be surprised by accidentally digging up an unmarked grave. The fact that this conversation even took place should be a clue to any reasonable person that this is not a good place for a cell phone tower. Graves in the cemetery range from 1844 to 1934. By my count, 76 souls are buried there. Allowing Verizon to dig a foundation for the tower practically on top of the cemetery is highly disrespectful and distributing. There is also the issue of declining property values. There are many web pages dedicated to this issue one of which is emfanalysis.com/property-values. There you will find articles from the National Association of Realtors saying that cellphone towers may bring extra tax revenues, greater reception and security to a city or town, despite these benefits many remain spectacle of towers because of potential health risks, environmental aesthetics and impact on property values. There's also a New York Times article on how realtors have a hard time selling homes next to cell towers. There are many more citations. I've recently been in contact with residents on Maple Hill Road perhaps these folks have the most to lose. I would be incensed if I just spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on a brand-new home only to see it lose value due to the actions of my city. Mayor Weger, Council Members please take the long view, beyond the almighty dollar signs that Verizon Wireless is waving in front of you, to not spoil our neighborhood.

Marinko Marijolovic – 2525 Maple Hill Road. I've sent an email to the Mayor and to all of you on Council. I appreciate the feedback from everybody. Fred Wyss also responded. I guess my biggest issue is, you know, as Bill mentioned, the development was going in, everybody knew that the development was going in, no one made any mention; I was here at the Zoning Commission when my house was approved, not a single person mentioned, oh, by the way, we're going to put a cell tower in there. My issue is mainly about safety. As many of you had mentioned, it's inclusive, I don't know if we want to find out 20 years from now that oh by the way, they're very bad for you. And the other issue is that I understand the law only requires 500' notice but I think in this situation you guys might have wanted to alert some additional people as well and the other thing is we live on the edge of the City there so putting a cell tower there I don't even know how that helps the City of Willoughby Hills that much. Yes, the little bit of money that we're going to get I understand, around \$1500 or so, I don't know if that's going to make that big of a difference. But if anybody is going to benefit from that cell tower, I would imagine it would be the folks passing by on the highway or the freeway there; the folks living over in Waite Hill or Kirtland because we're right there. There are some people down in the valley I guess that might benefit a little bit but when I'm at home I'm using my internet rotor so, I'm not really looking, unless I'm walking around my yard going where's my service, I don't understand the benefit of all of it. On top of that, the grange was given to the City to kind of uphold which appears you guys have done a good job in doing so, but I just don't think putting a cell tower in a residential area, I've not heard anyone else doing that. I've talked to a number of people at work and everybody's like yes, we all have cell towers and when you tell them where it's at, it's along the highway or a commercial zoned area, I say yes, ours they want to put in a residential area. So, I don't think it's a good idea, I think that it needs to be reconsidered and you know passed on it. There's got to be a different way of figuring out how to raise an additional \$20,000.

Robert Ovalle – 2507 Maple Hill Road. First off, I'd like to ask you guys a clarifying question, were there any other sites considered before selecting the two that are currently in the design of the project?

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Just so you know because there are so many people in public portion, our tradition is to answer the questions in Unfinished Business so it's not that Council and the Mayor are ignoring you but we will respond to that question, if someone choose to respond, after everyone has spoken.

Robert Ovalle: So, if you guys could consider that question and answer it whenever it is appropriate I would appreciate it.

I also submitted a letter, I appreciated your response Mayor Weger. I'm hoping that the rest of the Council Members read it. My main concern in addition to the aesthetic piece of it as well as the health side effects possible is the overall impact on property values, in the perceived impacts the health risks associated with cell towers are very wide out there and they are people saying that there are no health impacts, there are people saying there are significant health risks and just that controversy alone is enough to drive enough uncertainty on the whole matter to drive potential buyers away from the home market, or home site that would have this type of structure. So, I've contacted 3 separate realtor companies and they're drafting letters that support this type of view in terms of the adverse impact on home values. I've also contacted 2 legal firms who have said that we should get a copy of the permit application as well as solicit this input from local realtor companies and I've prepared to collectively engage legal counsel to help prevent this from happening. So, I guess with that being said, I just wanted to make sure that you guys know that we are that opposed to this structure being placed where it's being placed and if there are other alternatives I would strongly request and advise, respectfully ask that you consider other alternatives.

Sandra Beyerle – 36600 Maple Grove Road. My property is the only one that directly touches where the cellphone tower is proposed. I've been there about 4 years now. I bought into this community and that particular lot because it's beautiful, it's wide open, it's just...I knew that the development was coming in behind us, it looked like it was being beautifully planned and then this. So, I echo what these other gentlemen have said and Bill has really spent a lot of time and energy on this. I just want to go on the record in saying that I'm not in support of this. I don't want it anywhere near my property. I'm outside in my yard, in this abandoned field that was pointed out to me before, it's not just an empty field, it's part of my yard, I'm out there with my dog all the time, I just really just don't want to see it, hear it, experience it, there are other options for this City.

Tom Marsh – 36520 Maple Grove Road. I'm not going to repeat the other things that were said but the point, I'm about 10' outside of 500' and I understand that the 500' was a zoning matter but really since we got the City and the zoning all part of the same, you know, same side of the coin, I really think that a wider distribution should have been given so, you'd probably get a lot more people here tonight. So, I agree with the other things that were said.

Ed McKenna – 2964 Lamplight Lane. I'm going to change the subject entirely, okay. As the Mayor reported that Monica Drake has been appointed as the new Airport Manager. Today I had the opportunity, there was a meet and greet session there and just as he had indicated, she has experience and is well qualified for the position. She really wants to make the airport a better place. She wants to open communication lines. So, I had a good chance to see her. It's filling a vacancy that has been there for a while and hopefully it will be a good situation for us. There was a second item that was done at the meeting today, they had a chance to display a new fire truck that they had just received; it's a 550 with specialized equipment for an airport. It was good to see...it was also good to see that it's a specialized fire truck that's in our area now and might be available for sharing our resources with it at times when those special needs are required. If you have any questions, I'd be open to answer them after public portion.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you, would anyone else like to speak? Going once, going twice, seeing no one else, public portion is closed at 7:48pm. Thank you everyone for your input. At this point, we open Unfinished Business which is when Council and the Mayor have the opportunity to respond if they choose any questions or concerns of our residents. For my part, I think I'll just repeat I think our jobs as representatives is to hear what our voters say and represent them, not our views but theirs, although I'm hopeful that working

through Planning and Zoning we can find a way to address this issue and maybe the location of the tower does have to be moved for safety and other concerns but hopefully the meeting in January will give substantial notice to people and perhaps we could look giving notice to a wider geographic area to make sure that everyone's informed because what the law requires a certain number of feet it doesn't prevent us from extending the notice, so I hope that can be accomplished.

Would anyone like to share their thoughts in Unfinished Business, on this or any other matter?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilman Fiebig: Again, thank you to everybody for coming to speak your mind, it really helps to hear from residents and you know we're all neighbors. I live on Hanna, I'm right, you know, nearby as some of us are right in the neighborhood so it does help to get feedback from people. It's a little hard as a Councilperson to walk door-to-door but when I was walking door-to-door last year, down in the valley people there, all of them, said I wish I could have better cellphone reception. So, there was a crying need for better reception down in part of our City. Not only just for revenue, but it's a safety issue. People were saying, look if I have a 911 emergency I can't...I don't have a landline anymore. So, it's not just about the dollars and cents, believe me, trust me, that was not the issue but your thoughts and concerns are so important and vital to any process because we are all the government and when we all participate we can get the job done. So, thank you for taking the time to come out especially on a night like this and stay vigilant and let's stay informed; my phone number is available to you and I'm available as I think all of us agree to discuss these and any concerns.

I can just speak to one issue of other sites being pointed up. The City does not go and seek out a site to put a cell tower in we were presented this and they said that they did their research and they came up with this was the best site for it but maybe we can go back to them and say look, what was Plan B? What was Plan C? There are some, for example, down the hill there's a parcel of land that...I know the owner of it, maybe they would be...it wouldn't be City property but maybe he would be willing to do something.

I wanted to make a point, but I know she left, what a wonderful thing that somebody would leave in their estate, to donate to the City. You know when the State took away the estate tax we don't receive a certain amount of revenue anymore that we used to have that luxury in having certain things that we could kind of figure we had \$50,000 maybe \$200,000 that year and we could buy a piece of equipment like Mr. Biro talked about, you know earlier, it really helps all of us. But we don't have that anymore. So, it was terrific and wonderful that she would do that but I've got to point out that the Corn Fest is a LLC that was established by the Mayor's secretary, it's a private foundation and it's really not giving it to the City and we're going to have to work through those issues legally and found out what we can do about that because WHISPHER is a budgeted item but Corn Fest LLC is a private organization and so as far as I know, is it defunct now or it's still open, so okay we have to work through that issue. But again, it's wonderful that somebody would do that. It's a wonderful, wonderful, testament to somebody who passes that they a legacy like that. That's all I have.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you Mr. Fiebig. Would anyone else like to bring up unfinished business?

Councilwoman Greer: I would like to reiterate what my colleague said here. I also live right down the street, I'm the Councilperson in District 1 and I live pretty close to the cell tower and I was somewhat neutral about that idea but the feedback that I got back was that we need this tower and that's all I heard until this past week. So, I would really like to encourage you, now that you all are involved in the City a little bit to please stay involved. I know it's impossible to come to every meeting but maybe hop on the website once a month, look at the channel on the television and if there is anything that comes up like this please call me, send me a email or any of us. We really do like to hear feedback because when I do vote on these things I really try to be your voice. So, this is very helpful, thank you very much for being here tonight.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you Councilwoman Greer. Would anyone else like to speak in Unfinished Business? Going, once, going twice, well hearing none it's time for us to take up Legislation.

LEGISLATION

Ordinance No. 2016-44 – AMENDED – 3rd READING

An ordinance amending Part Thirteen – Building Code, Title One – Standards by the establishment of Chapter 1351 – Notice of Foreclosure Filing of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby Hills.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Now this is Ordinance No. 2016-44 as amended, on its 3rd Reading and I believe this was the ordinance proposed by Councilman Hallum through the Planning and Zoning Committee. Any, I mean at this point, if Council wishes we can take a vote or we can leave it on 3rd Reading. What are the wishes of Council?

Councilman Biro moved for passage. Councilman Hallum seconded.

Roll call: YEAS: Hallum, Biro, Greer
NAYS: Majka, Plecnik, Fiebig

Motion fails.

Ordinance No. 2016-46 – AMENDED – 3rd READING

An ordinance accepting the mutual agreement for technical assistance between the City of Willoughby Hills and Lake County [Ohio] Soil & Water Conservation District.

Councilman Fiebig moved for passage. Councilwoman Majka seconded.

Councilwoman Majka: I was just going to say that we do have a representative from the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District here tonight who might like to say a few words about this legislation.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: We'd certainly invite you forward to share your insight. Would you please state your name and address, just like everyone along with your business, if you may?

Dan Donldson: My name is Dan Donldson and my address is 119 Safford Street, Madison, Ohio. I am the Director at the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District and before you is an ordinance to modify or adopt a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Lake Soil and Water District. As you may recall, you passed some legislation earlier this year which is your updated Erosion & Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Ordinances. This is a new memorandum relating to the erosion & sediment control ordinance. The Lake Soil and Water District is kind of a daily administrator of that ordinance. We'd still work through your administration and your legal department for any enforcement but the daily administration, plan review, daily inspections, working relationships with the building community in your community is all done by soil and water staff and of course, your consulting engineering staff. So, I just came in today, I always like to entertain questions or comments. This is not a new document for this Council. This Council or this community I believe has had a similar agreement with the Soil and Water District going back quite a while, I want to say maybe 17, 18 years. So, the Soil and Water District works on a wide variety of conservation issues in your community. We work with a lot of landowners that you may or may not get feedback on. We are available to assist Planning Commission Members especially related to natural resource management or natural resource related concerns with new development. We do a lot of commenting on that especially head water streams, wetlands, riparian setbacks, things like that. And I would just like to offer if anybody needs current aerial photography or topography maps or anything like that, we'd be happy to work with you if you needed it for a view of your cell towers.

Roll call: YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer

Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2016-51 – 3rd READING

An ordinance providing for temporary appropriations to meet the ordinary expenses of the City of Willoughby Hills, State of Ohio for the period beginning January 1, 2017 through March 31, 2017; repealing conflicting legislation and declaring an emergency.

Councilman Fiebig moved for passage. Councilman Biro seconded.

Councilman Fiebig: Mr. Brichacek, when do you project you might have a completed budget to present to Council? Any idea yet? Any idea yet when there would be a completed budget for the year?

Mayor: Probably sometime in February.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, February, great, thank you.

Roll call: **YEAS:** **Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer**

Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2016-58 – 3rd READING

An ordinance amending Part One – Administrative Code, Title Five – Administrative, Chapter 157 – General Employment Provisions, Section 157.01 – Compensation of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby Hills; repealing conflicting legislation and declaring an emergency.

Councilwoman Majka moved to table. We've been advised by the Law Director that parts of this are no longer under our jurisdiction because of the union coming into play. So, I don't think that it relates anymore and I think that we should table it.

Councilman Fiebig seconded.

Roll call: **YEAS:** Majka, Plecnik, Fiebig

NAYS: Hallum, Biro, Greer

Motion fails.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: The motion to table fails so, I would ask if there's any other motions to be made on this by Council tonight?

Councilman Hallum: I would recommend that we leave it on 3rd Reading.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Any other input from Council people?

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Hearing none, Ordinance No. 2016-58 will remain on 3rd Reading.

Ordinance No. 2016-62

An ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Heights-Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team for special rescue services; repealing conflicting legislation and declaring an emergency.

Councilman Fiebig: Move to adopt Ordinance No. 2016-62.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Well, here we have to make a motion to waive the 3-Reading Rule first, if we choose to.

Councilman Fiebig: No, I'm not going to make that motion.
Councilman Biro moved to suspend.

Councilman Hallum: Is there any reason why we need to passed this tonight? Is there any issue if we don't?

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Well, I do believe that we have some members of our Fire Department including our Acting Chief here tonight. Would they mind coming up and sharing their thoughts? This is actually a mutual aid agreement that Willoughby Hills participates in. So, would you mind joining us and sharing your thoughts on whether or not if this is urgent enough to waive the 3 Reading Rule and adopt tonight?

Acting Chief Heller: It's just my understanding that it is time sensitive...not at microphone therefore comments cannot be clearly heard.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: If I'm not mistaken this expands the number of cities with which we have a mutual aid agreement so it gives us more access to more resources.

Acting Chief Heller: Not at microphone, comments inaudible.

Councilman Hallum: Thank you, I'll second.

Councilman Fiebig: Mr. President, I'm certainly not opposed to the idea of it and all but have we had time to review this in full, in committee? Or review the...I did ask the question about getting the previous contract and seeing what the changes were. Did we get that Council Clerk?

Council Clerk: No, but I cc'd you when I sent the email out.

Councilman Fiebig: So, that was my only concern there, Chief is that could we look at the last one and then look at this one and just compare them? We're not going to be out of compliance or anything by not passing this tonight, right? We're still going to have something in effect, isn't that correct?

Mayor: The current contract expires December 31st, so...

Councilwoman Greer: So, we won't be part of mutual aid?

Mayor: No, it's the Tec Team, river rescues...

Councilman Fiebig: Yeah, it's Heights-Hillcrest, you know highwater rescue and all that which is important to us to have.

Tim Serazin: Not at microphone; comments inaudible.

Councilwoman Greer: So, even if we don't pass this...

Tim Serazin: Not at microphone; comments inaudible.

Councilwoman Majka: By function normally we're still going to be able to get services.

Tim Serazin: Not at microphone, comments inaudible.

Councilman Hallum: May I ask another question? Is there financial responsibilities within this for us?

Tim Serazin: Well, the financial responsibilities are \$5,000 a year...and this is going to increase it slightly.

Councilman Hallum: When you say slightly, what is slightly?

Tim Serazin/Acting Chief Heller: Not at microphone, comments inaudible.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: By the way, I hate to interrupt Chief but our clerk is noting that we won't be able to record your commentary if you don't come to the MIC.

Councilman Biro: I was just going to suggest that and it would probably be in our benefit to have her come to the microphone. We'll get a better view of you too!

President Pro-tem Plecnik: And while the Chief is coming up, I will say it looks as though the fee does not increase until 2018 at which point it goes up to \$5200 and would ultimately reach \$6,000 in 2022 so, you'd see an increase of a \$1,000 or 20% by 2022 but it would go up gradually with no increase next year; a \$200 increase for 18; 200 for.... oh, it's Ordinance 2016-62; \$5400 in 2019; \$5600 in 2020; \$5800 in 2021. So, you're seeing a \$200 increase per year starting in 2018 if I'm not mistaken.

Acting Chief Heller: Correct. It's my understanding...I've been to one meeting on this Tec team merger. It's my understanding that when they...when a city is not part of the team and requests the team to come out they're going to get charged \$6,000. Now, personally last year I called the team out three times. But because we were part of the team we weren't charged \$18,000.

Councilwoman Greer: So, aren't you saying if you're not part of this team you're going to be charged or now regardless of whether you're part of the team you're going to be charged?

Acting Chief Heller: No. We contributed our \$5,000 buy-in per year to be part of the team. However, if we were a city that was not part of this team, the merger team, and we needed them, called them out, we'd be charged \$6,000.

Councilman Fiebig: As a one-time fee.

Councilwoman Majka: Each time.

Councilman Hallum: So, if I understand correctly then, there is no additional cost to this for the coming two years, right?

President Pro-tem Plecnik: One year; 2017 the rate stays the same.

Councilman Hallum: So, for next year there is no increase at all; we're going to maintain part of that but double in the amount of people...mutual aid...

Acting Chief Heller: Yes, equipment, staffing, we'll double that and then in 2018, it will increase \$200.

Mayor: It's the TEC team, not employees, Tec teams, like the structural support of buildings, the water rescue would be used...

Councilman Hallum: Okay, thank you.

Councilwoman Greer: This sounds like a great idea, I don't see any reason why we wouldn't enter into it. I am a little concerned though that it doesn't sound like any of us know much about this change and if we don't

vote on it our membership will stay the same. Maybe we should just wait, get the contract changes and vote on it next time.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: I would like to pose that question directly to the Chief. Is that a correct understanding that if we delayed adopting this until our first Council meeting in January we would still be fully covered under this agreement? We wouldn't pay \$6,000 if we had an emergency between then and now? Is that correct?

Acting Chief Heller: I don't know the answer to that.

Councilman Hallum: Didn't the Mayor say the contract actually is only good till the 31st, so we'd be covered till then unless something happens between then, that's the question, right?

Councilwoman Greer: Didn't you just say we're covered no matter what, that this is just paperwork?

Tim Serazin: There's nothing in place that says that but I'm sure; not speaking into a microphone; comments not able to be fully heard..... I'll pay the \$6,000 if they charge us.

Councilman Hallum: Could we get that on record?

President Pro-tem Plecnik: You should be speaking into the microphone when you say that.

Councilman Fiebig: Spell his last name S-E-

Councilman Hallum: I'm going to withdraw my second at this point.

Councilman Fiebig: Just to reiterate, you know when you have a contract like that and you haven't had a chance to review it fully, we wouldn't be doing our job, like a 100% if we were to just say "yeah, let's go for it". That's why I'd asked a few days back if we could get a copy of the last one so that we could review it so...

Acting Chief Heller: I didn't know that you had requested a copy of it.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, anyway that's why...it's not that...definitely we're a 100% in on it and if you want to communicate that to whoever the powers be, but if we could have the last one, just have the Law Director review it; have us have a chance to look at it side-by-side and I'm sure that it will be the first thing on our agenda the first meeting of the new year and I mean, I'm sure nobody would be opposed to it if we had to, like they were breathing down our neck and we would have to have a meeting before the end of the year, we would do it.

Councilman Biro: Normally, we have a meeting usually around Monday to discuss if there is anything new that comes up and this would have been a good time to discuss that and get...it would have given us enough time to vet that out and find out by today whether or not if there was some discrepancies between the two contracts, so I kind of agree that you know, it would be...it would behoove us to do this tonight and then possibly just do it at our first meeting in January.

Acting Chief Heller: Just so you know, this did go before Mr. Lobe and he did read over it. So, I did do that.

Councilman Fiebig: Oh, okay.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: So, we still have a motion from Councilman Biro but no second.

Councilman Biro: At this moment, I would like to withdraw my motion.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Councilman Biro withdraws the motion, so there's nothing left to discuss unless Council wishes to make another motion with respect to Ordinance No. 2016-62.

Not seeing any takers, next order of business on the docket is Ordinance No. 2016-63.

Ordinance No. 2016-63

An ordinance amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 2016-3 – AMENDED to comply with state budgetary laws requiring municipalities to maintain positive account balances throughout the year; repealing conflicting legislation and declaring an emergency.

Councilman Biro moved to suspend. Councilman Fiebig seconded.

Councilman Fiebig: This is an urgent matter that needs to be in place before the end of the year, as I understand it, correct?

President Pro-tem Plecnik: I believe so.

Roll call: **YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer**
Motion passed.

Councilman Fiebig moved for passage. Councilman Biro seconded.

Roll call: **YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer**
Motion passed.

Resolution No. 2016-16

A resolution to approve a Then and Now Certificate and to authorize the Finance Director to draw a warrant for the orders or contracts associated with such certificate and declaring an emergency.

Councilwoman Majka: As I understand it, this is just a matter of paying for services rendered so with that in mind, I would like, I would move to suspend. Councilman Hallum seconded.

Councilwoman Greer: Is this what we discussed last meeting and this went just a bit over with the road, the Worrell Road Project?

Councilwoman Majka: \$700, something like that.

Councilman Fiebig: If that was so why does it say purchases over \$3,000 or higher in the "Whereas"?

Finance Director: Because the actual purchase order that was issued for that purchase was over \$3,000. The contract was about \$700.00 over the contract amount. This particular purchase was over the \$3,000 and the purchase was made without a properly approved purchase order. Payment request is coming after the fact. I have the authority to approve a Then and Now situation up to \$3,000.00.

Councilman Fiebig: Oh, that's why the language is in there but this is for \$11,427 and some change over what the original bid was?

Finance Director: No, it's not over the original bid this is an individual purchase. This is the part, this is the asphalt hauling.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay.

Finance Director: They placed the order but they didn't pay attention to the amount of the purchase order so they placed an order that exceeded the amount of the existing purchase order and there was an \$11,000 purchase order. Even if this was within the contract the problem becomes were the materials ordered without having an approved purchase order so the purchase order would have to be issued after the fact. In that situation, the Finance Director can approve up to \$3,000.00 but when it's beyond \$3,000.00 it has to be approved by Council. It has nothing to do with appropriation of a contract.

Councilman Fiebig: I see, I get that point. But why again was it \$11,400 over?

Finance Director: It wasn't \$11,000...

Mayor: It was a portion over that was over but the whole purchase order is bad because it exceeded the...

Councilman Fiebig: The amount in excess was only the \$700. Got it. Thank you for clarifying that.

Roll call: **YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer**
Motion passed.

Councilman Biro moved for passage. Councilman Hallum seconded.

Roll call: **YEAS: Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Biro, Fiebig, Greer**
Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

President Pro-tem Plecnik: All of our legislation is complete. Next on the agenda is "New Business". Do we have any new business to discuss today?

Councilman Fiebig: I'd like to make a motion for Council to consider to abate the sewer fee increase that was placed years ago, for the 2017 calendar year until it could be reviewed in Finance to see it's need.

Councilwoman Majka seconded.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: So we have a motion and a second and let me clarify to review the sewer fee increase scheduled for next year.

Councilman Fiebig: Yes, to abate it. In other words, don't on January 1st raise the sewer fee.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Well to actually, do you mean to just review or to actually abate?

Councilman Fiebig: As I understand it, it's set to go up 5%, I believe.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: I don't believe a motion can amend an ordinance. So, you could have a motion to review it but I think, to actually to abate it would require an ordinance. Am I correct Clerk?

Councilman Fiebig: Okay.

Councilwoman Majka: Okay, so we can review.

Councilman Fiebig: I'll amend the motion to review the increase.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: To review the increase with the hopes of abating it.

Councilwoman Majka: And I second that as amended.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: So we have a motion to increase the 2017 sewer rate by Councilman Fiebig with hopes to abate it. Seconded by Councilwoman Majka. Any discussion on that motion?

Councilman Hallum: I think it's prudent to review, to make sure.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Any other discussion? Let's lower sewer fees, Clerk please call the roll.

Roll call: **YEAS:** **Hallum, Majka, Plecnik, Fiebig, Greer**
 NAYS: **Biro**

Motion passed.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Motion carries. Council shall review and I would think that it would be appropriate for a Utilities Committee Meeting in the very near future to review the 2017 sewer fee schedule with hopes of abating it and I will say, well, I should pass the gavel to say anything, so I won't. But I think my opinion on the sewer fees are well known.

Any other new business to being before Council?

Councilman Fiebig: Just a moment to, it's probably "Unfinished Business" but may I ask what the progress is on the Open Checkbook Program?

Finance Director: It's pending right now. I've made contact with the Treasurer's Office and going through the accounts right now because we have a number of redundant accounts that I've got to figure out how to compensate for that.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay.

Finance Director: It's really a technical issue but basically in very simple terms, in our system we have account numbers that would be the same object number in one fund has one description and another fund has another description and it's just trying to figure out how to reconcile those discrepancies. So, when the information comes up on the Treasurer's software it comes up accurately. That's been the hang-up.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, good. Thank you for the great work.

Finance Director: I've been in contact with a couple another communities about how they've handled it. That's been the one hangup that I've had.

Councilman Fiebig: Thanks. By the way, does having a lot of open accounts or having too many accounts any issue at all, or is a good time to maybe review that for the coming year?

Finance Director: To be honest, I don't like our chart of accounts. I've had to work with it but it's been kind of a miss-mash. I can see the various chefs over the years that have been involved and that has resulted in things like this problem but rewriting the chart of accounts I've actually started doing it but it's a very time consuming job and with all the other projects, I've not been really able to get back to that. Yeah, our chart of accounts has worked for us for a long time but it's not the most elegant...

Councilman Fiebig: It could be cleaned up I know just from reading those reports. If you need the Council's help to put time...

Finance Director: It's not a matter of needing help, it's just basically having it as a priority project.

Councilman Fiebig: Anyway, you have our support on anything that you need to do on that, okay.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Thank you, just by way of information to the public, OhioCheckbook.com is provided by the State Treasurer's Office at no cost to cities and it takes the data from our bookkeeping software and essentially makes it public so, when our Finance Director completes the task in working with the Treasurer's Office, you'll be able to see for yourself precisely how the City's money is spent each year. So, it's a wonderful thing for Willoughby Hills and we're certainly looking forward to the project being completed as soon as possible.

Any other new business?

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilman Fiebig: Just wanted to extend wishes to our colleague for a Happy Birthday a couple days ago.

Councilwoman Greer: Oh, why thank you.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Happy, Happy Birthday.

Councilwoman Greer: Thank you very much, I appreciate that.

Councilman Biro: This time of the year our blood supply is critically low, so I would hope that our community, we'd pull together and attend any blood donor services that are in the area. Working in a hospital, we see, you know, UH became a Trauma One Center and the blood really flows, so if you can, if you have the time please donate. It does truly save lives, it's your chance to save somebody's life.

Councilman Fiebig: Chris, thanks for bringing that up and it's really important to remind people of that and my son, my youngest son donated blood last week. I'm very proud of him.

Councilman Biro: Good way to get him started. Good, that's the way I started. I was eighteen. Just continue.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY

Councilman Hallum: I just again wanted to follow up on what the Mayor said earlier. I want to thank the Recreation Department, Denise Edwards as well as the Rec Commission, the Fire Department, all the volunteers that helped out with Winter Fest, it was really a great success. We donated toys to, my...I have a non-profit Hallam's Heroes we donated toys to Forbes House which helps victims of domestic violence as well as Lake County Jobs and Family Services and there's a couple of local churches that they sent me some families that they were supporting for Christmas that had kids and we donated toys to them as well. So, it was a great event and a good thing to do for the community.

Mayor: I'd like to just recognize Emerald Glen Title for their donation of toys. They bought probably \$4,000 worth of toys they donated to the City and that was a huge help.

Councilman Hallum: Thank you Mr. Mayor, I wanted to mention that too. We went, Gloria and I picked up 8 shopping carts to help them bring back to City Hall of toys.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: Many thanks to Emerald Glen Title. I guess I would add myself, a thank you to our former Fire Chief Richard Harmon as well as our Rec Commission Member Dan Phillip. I still remember

working with the two of them when we came up with the idea of Winter Fest, may be across the street in the right place, maybe not, and it's amazing to see how the event has grown over the years including the Willoughby South Choir, Santa Claus, Toys for Tots, other local non-profits and so many others, it's just become a wonderful City tradition. And I think that should pass along to Denise how grateful we are to her too in her work in coordinating that event. But...

Councilman Hallum: I would like to mention one more thing, Eat-n-Park, they gave us a really great price on the cookies.

Mayor: The pizza was donated by La Vera Party Center.

President Pro-tem Plecnik: And La Vera makes very good pizza for those of you who are weighing whether to come to the next Winter Fest. But on that, I myself would just like to wish all my neighbors a very, merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Season Greetings, Happy New Year. I know that we are all looking forward to the Holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilman Fiebig to adjourn. Councilman Hallum seconded.

YEAS: Unanimous.

The Regular Council Meeting of December 8, 2016 was adjourned at 8:26pm.

APPROVED: January 12, 2017
Date

Nancy E. Fellows
Nancy E. Fellows
President of Council, Pro-tem

ATTEST: Victoria Ann Savage
Victoria Ann Savage, CMC
Clerk of Council