

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
January 8, 2008

The Regular/Organizational Meeting of City Council was called to order at 7:30pm by Mayor Domenick Mucci, Jr. who presided. The meeting was opened with a silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Councilmen Chanoski, DiLoreto, Fortunato, Lalich, Metcalf, Perkins, and Stasiulewicz. Also present, City Manager Bruce Williams, Law Director S. Gary Repella, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Health Commissioner Patty Reda, Parks and Recreation Director Dwan Johnson, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Finance Director Mike Marshall, M&R Superintendent Joe DeSantis, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Rocky Augustine, and Engineer Michael Dolak.

Roll call was taken. All present and accounted for declared Mayor Mucci.

Mayor Mucci welcomed new Council members Chanoski and Stasiulewicz and announced that this was the organizational meeting of Council and then announced the new standing committees of council. Mr. Lalich moved that the committees be accepted. Second by Mr. Fortunato. Roll call. All ayes. So moved.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

No minutes.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk read a letter from Alan Schreck, Ph.D. that had been sent to Council via e-mail and voiced his strong opposition to a bar at Belleview Park at the Starters Office. Mayor Mucci, hearing no objections, ordered that the letter would be entered into the record.

2007-104 – BY THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Messrs. DiLoreto, Chanoski, Perkins

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO LEASE THE STARTER'S HOUSE AT BELLEVIEW PARK WITH THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT THE BEAST PROPOSAL LAND AWARD A LEASE AGREEMENT.

Mr. Perkins **moved to amend Ordinance No. 2007-104** and that the following part sentence be deleted from the Caption and from Section 1. **“WITH THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT THE BEST PROPOSAL AND AWARD A LEASE AGREEMENT”** Second by Mr. DiLoreto. Roll call. All ayes. So moved.

2007-104 – AS AMENDED – BY THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Messrs. DiLoreto, Chanoski, Perkins

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO LEASE THE STARTER'S HOUSE AT BELLEVIEW PARK.

Mayor Mucci asked if anyone wished to speak on Ordinance No. 2007-104-as amended to please come forward and state their name and address.

Ms. Jean Gossett, Moreland Dr. – “I’ve just written three things here that concern me a lot. First of all I want to salute all the people that come here because a lot of people had told us don’t waste your time they’ve already decided and I hope that’s not true. First of all we have many really frightening things happening in this city and I think we need to focus on the good things we can do to bring Steubenville back where it used to be when I was young. Some of our group have told us were wasting our time made me a little upset because I think when you stand for something you have to come and take care of it. Maybe you won’t listen to us but at least we were here to let you know how we feel. Going back to what people said about don’t come and waste your time that you’d already decided I’d just like to leave you with these words, please say it isn’t so.”

Beth Morris, 1319 Oakgrove Rd., Wellsville, Ohio 43968 – “Speaking of a private citizen but with a specific credential in the drug/alcohol field recognized in the State of Ohio through the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professional’s Board I want to let you know that I have a credential as an OCPS otherwise known as an Ohio Certified Prevention Specialists. This required proficiency and the understanding of and implementation strategies for prevention, a field that is grounded in scientific research with regard to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse and the assurance and achievement of positive results. Strategies fall into the categories of information dissemination, education, community mobilization, training, environmental approaches, and problem identification regarding alcohol and other drug abuse. As a prevention professional I can tell you that there is a danger when governing officials will provide for a policy reversal to permit an alcohol establishment in a hereto for alcohol free public entity. Such a policy carries an unspoken but clear ethics regarding alcohol use in the community. A community must bear responsibility in preventing alcohol problems. Why? Because the reasoning clearly shows that prevention and alcohol problems no longer lye with the single strategy concept that one time in this field is an individual holding only the individual totally accountable and responsible for his or her alcohol use. There were no expectations at one time held responsibility for this issue towards other entities of the community. Now however, this is changed and viewed differently. The entities of the community carry the weight and share in the responsibility of shaping the community and their perception

regarding alcohol use. This is achieved throughout environmental strategies. Environmental strategies are key to destroying these problems in the communities and they are those policy, practices, and regulatory measures that impact a communities attitude regarding alcohol consumption. You by approving this proposed establishment are influencing the community's attitude towards alcohol contributing to a culture to introduce and normalize alcohol use in a setting primarily devoted to youth and families for recreation and social purposes. Councilmen, I ask you to consider and to make the proposed truly a pro-healthy, pro-safety, or even a pro-community choice for decision. Can this Council guarantee that this measure will not adversely in some point in time effect the intention and purpose of Belleview Park. Nor can it guarantee that it's not going to effect or even jeopardize the health and safety of those youth and families who frequent the park. The presence of a liquor establishment always presents the possibility of nuisance activities, disturbance of peace, public drinking and intoxication, (inaudible) just to name a few. Alcohol problems have resulted in a public health issue nearing crisis proportion. Environmental prevention is essential, which includes conscientious responsible and accountable actions by governing officials. Do not be one who contributes to environmental risk factor which such an establishment represents. Refuse in this instance to embrace a favorable attitude for alcohol and refuse the temptation for meeting a dangerous and unacceptable cultural for this setting. Instead please preserve this park as a municipal resource that is wholesome and family friendly and let that be your legacy."

Mayor, "Before we continue on, this Council is very open minded, this Council wants to hear everybody, we do have rules and regulations down here. We will let the person speak. The Ordinances and our Charter states that we have a maximum three minutes however its up to the Chair to waive that. We will listen to you in entirety but a reaction to their speeches is not necessary. Thank you."

William C. Watson, 1618 State St. – "I don't care how you work it, reword it, how you say it on paper and try to present it, the voice of the people who you represent is saying to you, under no circumstances, by any chance, do we want alcohol on city recreational property whether we get leased or whoever does it. I think the people coming tonight have spoken and I pray that they will continue to come out throughout the year to check on their councilmen and their representatives because you have chosen to represent us and if you don't we need to replace you."

Mayor, "Once, again, reactions are not necessary."

Andrew Hrezo, 1010 Granard Parkway – "I thank you for this opportunity to address Council on this issue. I've spoken to a number of people on this and their sentiments are unanimous that this ordinance at this time is a bad idea. The document, by discussions, I have been able to collect approximately one hundred signatures strongly petitioning the City Council to vote no to leasing the starter's building overlooking the ball fields at Belleview Park in anyway that would permit the sale of alcohol in or at this building. Since Council is planning on spending more then \$2.million dollars on Belleview Park I ask why does the City want to jeopardize this by increasing liability to the City by allowing the sale of alcohol on park properties. Obviously, the City Manager knows that this is a real possibility because the bid specifications for this ordinance state that quote, "the lessee will procure property and liability insurance name the City of Steubenville as an additional insured" unquote. This additional liability insurance seems necessary since the bid specifications for this ordinance state that any liquor license will be the sole responsibility of the lessee. Certainly all us here agree that additional liability is incurred when there is the sale of liquor. Number four, another concern is that the bid specifications state that the City agrees to provide lessee with properly zoned parcel and an exemption from the City's current policy concerning consumption of alcohol in City parks. Here we now have the City needing to change park zoning and long standing policies against the consumption of alcohol in City parks. This makes no sense at all. A beautifully upgraded park is being planned and a poorly conceived idea is jeopardizing this and will increase the liability risk for the City. One final point that I'd like to bring up, the architectural drawing of the master plan for Belleview Park show that part of the existing building housing the Twine's establishment and it's out door drinking area will be removed to increase the turning radius at the entrance. Given this engineering detail which shows on the engineering master plan, it appears that the current Twine's establishment will need to look for a new home. I don't want to imply that anything improper was being done but it just has the appearance of (inaudible) and its bid specifications seem to benefit the future needs of Twine's if it needs to relocate to another location. With that additional point I close and I ask City Council not to pass Ordinance No. 2007-104 and to allow the City to keep its current policy of no sale or consumption of alcohol in the City Park. Thank you again for this opportunity to address."

Mayor, "You made reference to that you had a petition with about a hundred signatures." Mr. Hrezo, "Yes." Mayor, "Would you like to submit that petition for the record?" Mr. Hrezo, "Yes I would. I still have to collect a couple of them that are still coming in. Do you want them now?" Mayor, "Hearing no objections the petitions that were just presented to no alcohol with kids at Belleview Park is submitted for the record. Hearing no objections it is so ordered."

Patrick Lee, 705 Belleview Blvd. – “I don’t want to repeat what has been said before but I want to make a comment on the timing of this. I think it’s particularly bad timing, the last two months we’ve had numerous shootings in Labelle and Pleasant Heights, and then the very next night I hear that, well, its not a response to this, but instead of concentrating on our real problem such as that I think your wasting some resources and time on trying to do something that might conceivably make the problem worse and so I’m very disappointed if you go ahead with this I would be very disappointed that instead of buckling down and trying to do something about a real problem that we have about these numerous shootings in our neighborhoods, you instead concentrate on something of this sort.”

Richard Adams, 660 Ross Park Blvd. – “I also don’t want to repeat what has already been said. In Steubenville, were struggling, I think everyone would agree, to create the kind of environment that’s safe to raise our children, our grandchildren, a place where older folks live out their lives, and I can’t see anything positive coming from making alcohol available in this complex. I can’t see anything positive to it at all, but the negative’s have been stated (inaudible). Lets work to make our community a safe place where we can live and the decisions we make either support that or they don’t support that. Again, I cannot see anything positive to our goal of making Steubenville a safe productive place for us if you go ahead with this.”

Don Cohen, 4525 St. Andrew – “Being a life long resident of the area I know of the devastation that alcohol has produced by so many families. Steubenville is a city that’s growing in pride and wants to be prosperous and bring new people into the area. The new people that come in, come in because they want to raise their family in a safe environment (inaudible) the values that they have you want to bring, these are the values that we want to have in our community. Having a facility at the Belleview Park where alcohol is available its not going to, in a sense, cause more people to want to come. Were trying to build in this valley and this city and we need to do all the positive things that we can to ensure that the people who move here who want to move here because of the University, the support they receive from other families who have moved here aren’t going to get it and the growth in this area has really been because of people moving here who want to be here because it has been a safe place. I’m totally against any alcohol being on the Belleview Property.”

Tony Piergallini, 710 Lawson Ave. – “I think my reputation from the past nearly twenty years speaks for itself with the educational program that the Police Department backed me with along with the members of Council, teaching DARE, about alcohol. I know there was a statement made that people take their kids into restaurants where alcohol is served, that is a choice. Putting alcohol in a city park or next to a city park isn’t a choice. Now your forcibly exposing young people from the City to this. Thank you for your time.”

Nathaniel Richmond, 454 S. Sixth St. – “I’m a recovering alcoholic for the last six years and I am an X-felon. The thing I want to say about putting alcohol in the parks, I’m also, I’m from Chicago, Il., by putting alcohol in the parks the people going to go to this establishment and buy alcohol evidently somebody going to be in the park drinking alcohol. Like they say, there’s little children there and the police going to come and arrest them and its going to cause a lot of problems, a lot of the shootings that’s been going on down here I know personally from a fact that they stem from an alcoholic rage as far as people going out to these clubs around here getting drunk and putting their courage up then they go with their guns and go shoot at these people that they don’t like especially the Chicago Guys. There’s something they got about the Chicago Guys coming down here selling drugs. Well when I first come down here in 1996 my grandmother was born and raised here, she’s eighty years old she teach us good morals but as we grow old we tend to go our own way some of us but when I first come down here I thought of it as a place to raise my kids until I fell back into some of my old habits. But right now its no place to raise no kids its not safe for the old people because all these (Inaudible) lazy. The police seem like they can’t do their job. I don’t think they putting in enough man power and that’s all I want to say for now.”

Ed Quinn, President of the Hilltop Community Development Corporation – “I’ve checked with our Board of Trustees and our mission is to improve the neighborhoods of Labelle and Pleasant Heights and checking with the Board of Trustees we all feel that this would not be an improvement in fact it could be a very serious detriment allowing alcohol in the park so we are opposed to it.”

Michael Herson, 3812 Bristol – “As you well know I won’t spend any more time taking up two other council meetings stating my opposition and reasons for it. You heard from learned citizens as well as just everyone in this community that they think that the one line that allows the alcohol sale in the bid specs is a wrong idea. But I do want to thank Council for amending the Ordinance and now to make sure that everyone understand what the amendment was that will now have to come back for a second vote before Council approves whoever, if anyone is going to lease that property. So I appreciate that and I think that’s a good move so then you can make a good decision as a Council. This property is public property and as shared before, this is to be open for all citizens. No one here I don’t believe is opposed to a bar anywhere in our community per say but we don’t want it in the background with a school right next door. We have laws prohibiting that. There are youth that are

going to be throughout this area, the parking that this bid is allowing is that they have to park at the pool and at the ball field. This is going to be sending a very wrong message to our youth about what we value and to hopefully cut off some redundancy here I just ask if anybody here who opposes this park if you could just raise your hand just so we don't have to continue on for what were here for. Were citizens, were just letting you know our opinion that this is something that we don't approve of and the rest of the ordinances is a whole other question. Just the one part that allows the sale and consumption of liquor that gives an exemption for our laws and for our own policies. The City has those laws for the protection of our citizens and I ask that the City not make an exception for this business for a private business to have an exception to the law that applies to all the city parks. No one is asking for anything special except for this property and I would urge members of Council to reconsider that part of the bid specification and appreciate it as the difficult task you have in front of you and we will be back in the future I image to see how this all turns out."

Mayor, "Thank you Mr. Hernon, and as you well know, it was stated before, you are always welcome at our meetings but I would like to reiterate one point that seems to be extremely important this evening, with the amendment to the ordinance that means that if this ordinance does pass this evening, the City Manager will accept proposal and we'll have to come back to the ordinance as were doing tonight and have another approval for the leasing of the building. That's a very important part, thank you for bringing it to the forefront Mr. Hernon."

Huey Patterson, 328 Union Ave. – "In the 1980's I had a business myself and I really wanted to succeed. I wanted to put a hole through the building that I had, to face the North End playground, where I could sell what I had to offer to kids through that hole because at the time they were selling food on the playground with license, without any kind of health, any kind of, lets just say I was doing everything I could to be legal. I wanted to put a hole through that wall and face the playground. Anchor Madison who was our engineer at the time, the city owns a glazed tile wall that they left when they tore down the produce place that was right up agan that building. They told me if I put a hole through that wall that I could possibly damage the glazed tile wall and make it fall on somebody and hurt them. I told the city who was in charge, I even give em a percentage of the money that I took through that money because I wanted to succeed in what I was doing because I had all my money invested in it. I even told them I'd get Gil Thermes to put a fence there where the kids didn't have to come out into the street and harm themselves where I could serve them ice cream cone or a slush. You know what I got told? No Huey, we can't have you put a hole through that wall, you might serve beer through it. I didn't have a beer license. Now your ready to give a whole building to somebody and when you talk about Twine's I was little upset he was up there right by the park at that time and I was being told I couldn't sell something through that hole because it might be beer. I wanted to put a record player up there, I wanted to put Bose speakers there, I wanted to reinforce the roof, where the North End would be someplace that I grew up and I wanted the kids to see what I had to offer them. But I had to go out of business because I couldn't fight what was going on there by people who didn't have license to sell food. And Harvey Woods was your park recreation guy and they took all the ballgames up on the hill, they quit playing at the North End and North End is what it is right now. I hope the guy don't get a chance to make the Belleview be something that they didn't give me a chance to do that down there and all I wanted to do was sell ice cream."

Peter Zanatic, 1814 Norton Place – "That park is in my neighborhood. A couple of things and I'll try not to be redundant. I have no objection to the leasing of the starter house. I have an objection to some of the terms that are being permitted within the lease hold. There may be a good reason for this. One would be economic, we need the money so desperately whatever it takes lets get it done. I suggest that would not be a valid reason. We've got \$2 million dollars that we can do something with the parks so we don't need to generate a business that has negative social ramifications, I won't speak to that. We have a policy that one must take care, one of my specialties is in the field of management. One of the great cares one must take is to pay particular attention not to reverse or alter policy and there's a reason for this. It has to be good reason for altering a policy because its establishing. We have a policy that was put in place that there would be no liquor sold or consumed in parklands by the way there's beer that shows up in Belleview Park. I walk that area and I recognize beer bottles and I recognize beer cans, that's why they are not permitted. Let me suggest to you that if you put a lease hold property up in that starters where we have a balcony, which, it's a great view, and that's a benefit to the property, but it is hard to conceive that that will not encourage some people who would have gone to that place that had alcohol to just sort of wonder out to catch the last two innings with their beer or raise something to them and I would suggest some going to be carried around. Eight year olds, want a taste, who wouldn't give a kid a taste? The Chief can't be around with the cops all the time. I see an empty beer can, I understand how they might get there but they're not allowed to get there. Your going to acknowledge and therefore your encouraging it. But there are some other ramifications I think you must at least consider if you would. One is the changing of a policy is dangerous, it should be well thought out. If there's a strong economic necessity it is worth pursuing, that's not a valid argument. The other thing is you establish a precedence and let me tell you if you let it happen in Belleview Park why can't you let me put my tent next to the Amphitheater because, you know, people are thirsty when they come to those events where the bands are there and its hot, a beer would be

great. Why not, and by the way you know where I could use this precedence? You permitted it at the starter house on public property in a public park with no economic necessity, we could always use money I'm not suggesting we don't, but there is no urgency in this. I think it'd be a great place to have an establishment in that starter house serving light beverages, maybe little gourmet sandwiches, maybe a little yuppie place, maybe we'll (inaudible) the community, first croissants (inaudible) says yes, they make nice good things and I'm sure that can be done but I think there are other uses. I have no objections to the leases that's a good use of the property. What I object to is allowing alcohol that would violate a policy and therefore you have to get rid of it. It's a change of policy and I question whether it was well thoughtout."

Rick Yanch, 1301 Oregon Ave. – "The Mayor has come to our hilltop meetings and I believe there's been statements in this chamber saying that the future of our city is the University and the Hospital. Am I correct? I think I am, its been documented. So I'm just wondering here, has anyone contacted the University and Trinity Health System on their input because if they are the future of this city I am not sure if they are for it or against it. I'm just going to ask this question. Has anybody behind this rail talked....."

Mr. DiLoreto, "Right here but I'm not going to tell what he told me."

Mr. Yanch, 'So I'm not sure exactly, I'm not a rocket scientist, but if I was trying to better this city I would certainly want to do it in a manner that would be conducive or be supported by the two major trusts where our city wants to go. So if they are against this I see no reason why this should be passed. Its really simple future basic future growth of Steubenville and lets not encourage some of the stuff that's been said here before me."

Doug Lower, 1634 Pershing Ave. – "We are in sight of the building in question. Damon's is about one thousand feet away, perhaps eighteen hundred feet away. There's been a problem there, there's a bar, people come out of that bar, the University had such a problem with that. In the last semester they've had to switch two of the dorms around so that the women are no longer harassed by the people who come from the bar. Are we simply taking the problem and moving it one thousand feet? The second question, if money, there must be money driving this otherwise there wouldn't be a question at all. If money is being held up as an objection and somehow some budget is going to get through this process I beg you to consider that as a very short sighted goal compared to trying to build up the cadre of people here who believe in community, your hearing a good number of them tonight. There is a strong contingent of people here who really want to build community. I simply leave you to reflect Jimmy Stewart's movie it's a wonderful life, if you go the root of money its going to speak rather (inaudible) and I recommend you reading (inaudible).

Patricia Butler, 180 N. 4th. St. – "My only comments is I'm asking the council to vote no for the entire ordinance, not just the amendment because the public has already said and they're represented by the north end, south end, west end all over this town, they do not want it."

Carmen Frye – 708 N. 6th. Ave. – "I'm not against you leasing the building either but I am recovering from alcohol, I've seen it ruin too many families, and like this man had said before, I consider myself a recovering alcoholic. I got fifteen years dry time and I admire your grandfather so much because he has a lot more time in then me and he's a hero to me and if he can do it all of us can do it."

Mr. DiLoreto – "(inaudible) and all these problems that we had here. We might even have the meeting on the war zone, Pleasant Heights and Labelle, and let some of these people out there see what's up there. Were cleaning up Beatty Park, we don't need a lot of money, we need a lot of help and your all going to be invited, so I thank you for your time, and no our minds are not made up. My mind is made up at the last second cause I want all the facts."

Mr. Fortunato – "I think this is a very ill conceived ordinance. I am totally against it. You'll have your office up there, you'll have people parking behind the swimming pool going up the hill coming down. You have a lease here for twenty years, your giving your building away for twenty years to somebody, we don't know who this is supposed to be and you have in here 'liquor will be limited to consume in the starter's house, atop the shelter house and no carryout liquor.' You try and enforce that, I don't believe it, not for one second. I think this is not a good ordinance. I did not go for it and I would ask the other members of Council to please go along with me because we have more important things to do then this. We have to get our ducks in a row for our spending \$2.7 million in the parks and I'd like to first know how that's really going to be spent. This might be in the center of all and that would ruin the whole thing."

Mr. Chanoski – "I'd also like to thank everybody for coming out and showing enthusiasm about our parks and this issue. I would like to address Mrs. Gossett. She was my first grade teacher and I want you to know that my mind has changed ten times in the last week. I've lost a lot of sleep over this issue it's a big issue. You changed my mind again so, and I think for the last time. So I want to thank you and let you know that it's a big deal to come out here and speak your mind and it means a lot to me for sure. It's my job to serve the will of the people and that was what I was voted in for and I'm a school teacher, so I base all my decisions on what's

called the law of origin. I don't know if your familiar with that but the law of origin is what's best for kids. I'm not here to change any of Council's mind but decision will be based on the law of origin and I want to thank you for coming out and speaking up."

Mr. Metcalf – "I didn't think I was going to speak tonight but I have three children, thirteen, ten, and two. I've listened to Mike who has more children then I do, I've listened to Dave, I've listened to everybody, Rick, Debbie, Pokey, everybody, Yonk, on this issue and I've listened to everybody that's called me. I've had a couple of meetings, I have talked to an unnamed official at the University, I have read this over and over and I understand the point of the citizens saying no alcohol in the park. I also understand that going getting bids for an entrepreneur to do some sort of business in there would be good and enhance the park in some manner with our improvements. Like Mr. Chanoski I've gone back and forth and one person I always lean on is my wife. I think at time she probably has more common sense then I do but I said in the beginning (inaudible) I learned that. In the initial beginning she said I don't see a problem with it because Twine's always there should be the successful bidder in the future and the only bidder and be able to look at that. Then last night she goes, we have children, we have problems with children in the park, I think you should vote no on this. I then come to the conclusion that we need to look at these bid specifications so I'm going to make a motion at this point in time that we table this issue for two weeks hence and have the final vote in two weeks and go over these bid specs and make sure that were one hundred percent correct in everything that we do. And that's going to be my motion, it could stand and die on the floor but that's what I'm going to stay with at this point in time."

Mayor, "There is a motion on the floor to table Ordinance No. 2007-104-as amended. Do I hear a second? Hearing no second the motion will not received a second."

Mr. Chanoski – "I want to encourage Council, people are here to hear this issue and I think we should make a decision."

Mayor, "The motion died for lack of a second. Is there any other member of Council wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2007-104-as amended?" There being no one wishing to speak, Question was called by Mr. Lalich. Roll call. The vote was **4 no to 3 yes**. The no votes came from Mr. Chanoski, Mr. DiLoreto, Mr. Fortunato, and Mr. Metcalf. **Mayor, "Ordinance No. 2007-104-as amended duly defeated declared Mayor Mucci."**

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Chanoski – no report

Mr. DiLoreto – no report

Mr. Fortunato – "From Planning the re-appointment of John Snyder and Tom Timmons to the Reinvestmet Board." Second by Mr. Lalich. Roll call. All ayes. So moved.

Mr. Lalich – "Reference was made about the random shootings on the Hilltop and that the police were lax in their duties. That is not true. I had discussed the situation with our Police Chief last week. There are ongoing investigations, things that cannot be said in this community or cannot be published in the newspaper, but I assure you that this Police Department is doing everything possible to take this under control and there are situations in which they cannot reveal a lot of what's happening. So I just wanted to put your minds at ease, they are doing their job. Thank you."

Mayor, "Just to follow that up, yesterday I was in Cambridge for an Eastern Ohio economic meeting. When I returned home WTOV was trying to reach me because of that very concern. I explained on air to everybody that we are living in a safe community. These are not random shootings, it's a group, its targeted, our Police Department is on top of it, but just like everything else, we encourage the public, if they have information to us or to help us to please contact the Police Department. And, talking about just the Police work and all, our Fire Department is doing a tremendous job and we had some fires and we encourage people also to contact our Fire Department who is on top of the fires that are being set in our community."

Mr. Metcalf, "I just want to share the same sentiments as Councilman Lalich. I talked with the Chief and the City Manager at length about this issue and just want to add on that if anybody has any information to help our Chief and our Officers who have been working hard, any help that they could get from the citizens is greatly appreciated."

Mr. Metcalf – no committee report

Mr. Perkins – no report

Mr. Stasiulewicz – no report

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Williams “I have nothing specific to report on activity other than to follow up since we do have an audience many of them live on those Hilltops and as you all know we installed security cameras in several of the neighborhoods and I’m going to tell you they’re working. That’s all I can tell you.”

Mr. Repella – no report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

No one had a miscellaneous report.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor, “If there is anyone wishing to speak to Council on City business, please come forward and state your name and address.”

Sarah DiCarlantonio, 700 Lawson Ave. – “I live right smack in the middle of the so called war zone and I am here because I am very concerned about the recent shootings that are going on however, I absolutely feel that the Chief is doing an excellent job. I actually discussed it with him. But this is frightening, it really is. For myself I really don’t care a whole lot, almost fifty years old, half of my life’s over, but I have a nineteen year old that I’m raising and I real concerned about him and every other young person that’s walking the streets. Yet, they are targeting a certain group of people however, it could be some innocent party out there that’s going to get hurt, you know. We all saw on the news, you know, and it is mainly Labelle and Pleasant Heights. You know, I live less than two blocks from what I call the drug store, the Pleasant Food Mart, it is the drug store, period, that’s all they sell in the parking lot and that’s what I always call it, and that’s what I will continue to call it. But you know it moved out to the West End, it doesn’t matter where your at you know, I take personal offense to the letter that the gentleman wrote in the paper the other day stating that Steubenville is not a safe place live. It might not be as safe as it was five years ago but its probably not as bad as it is you know in some areas but it is scary, it is, it’s very scary what’s going on and I do believe that people do need to get more involved than what they do you know, if you know something it is scary but if you call anonymously you know we have to stick together and everybody has to do something cause I sure don’t want to see my son or somebody else’s son or daughter get hurt and that’s all I have to say.”

Dominick Teramana, 4525 Fairway Drive – “I live in the West End, I work in mid-town Steubenville, 200 Stanton Blvd. right in the center of Hollywood Plaza. I would like to commend the City Manager, the Police Chief, and many members of Council, because I know that there is work afoot to get rid of the problems that we have in this City. But I want to point out what I think is something that we really need to start analyzing in this community. We have many, many assets that we should be proud of, that we should be analyzing and categorizing that we have. One of the great things that were doing is your plans for the park system in the City. We need to make Steubenville a model community and I know it can be and I know it will be. I know that were going to get rid of this decaying problem that we have and were going to protect the people in Belleview and Pleasant Heights and its going to return to be the type of community that it always was when I was a kid when I grew up, when I was growing up. I grew in a time when the beautiful art work that was painted was Downtown Steubenville was alive, that’s the way it was, and we all loved it, and I still love it. Tomorrow I’ve got a meeting in Pittsburgh and on the way in I’m going to stop and get that framed and its going to hang in my office because that’s what I remember about Steubenville and Steubenville can be better than that someday. It won’t be easy, I don’t think downtown Steubenville is every going to return to what it was until Downtown’s all over the United States return to what they used to be. It’s not a phenomena that’s unusual to Steubenville, it’s what is the phenomena in the United States at this time. Now, I do take offense to the fact that it appears and maybe it’s not a problem, and I talked to many members of Council and if what they tell me is true and if they’re position on what they think about where perhaps the Social Security Office ought to be, which personally I don’t think the City should be taking a position on that. But if they were and if you were to take a position, each one of you, I would think you would only take the position that’s in the overall good of the community at the present time. I’m not going to say what I think that should be because I know that you are intelligent enough that if you look at the situation’s that are available in this City for that site, you would arrive at the right decision. And what I think you ought to take offense to is the fact this City is being portrayed as favoring one site over the other. The fact that the Historic Landmarks Committee took a position on that I think is ludicrous. I served on the Historic Landmarks Committee myself for ten years. We never discussed anything like that, that’s not the job of the Historic Landmarks Committee. Did you see what the paper did with it? It says City Officials promote Downtown. You know, you shouldn’t let things like that happen and that’s really....my real

point is what can happen in Steubenville. Analyze your assets, recognize where they're at. The college, Sunset Blvd., what's going on. Start thinking about putting some money into areas that are alive, that are creating tax dollars, where the people are shopping still, where the traffic still is. You have to face reality and deal with what is really happening in this community. I know that all of you are smart enough to do that because I know that there are plans afoot to straighten out the problem that we have in this city that is not so different than many other cities we have in this country. But I think that Steubenville ought to become the model community because of the fact that we have no drug in the future, that we have no violence. And, I know the Police Chief, I know the City Manager, I know the Law Director, I know the Mayor, and I know Council and everybody will stand behind that position and we'll make it happen because we have the assets available in this Community to make it happen. Thank you."

Serena Jett, 507 Highland Ave. – "The reason why I'm here is because I made a complaint about a Police Officer walking into my home, opened the screen and the front door, stepped in and called out my name. For what reason, it wasn't necessary. I contacted the office for Mr. McCafferty, filed the report, he has not contacted me back yet. I notified the Justice Department about it. I have been trying to talk to Mr. McCafferty about an incident that happened August 23, 2006 where an Officer pulled a shotgun in my face, nothing has been done about that yet, twelve witnesses came up and spoke on it but they claim they can't find a report. So I want to know, what's really going on? I mean, is it okay for me to just walk up in your house? No, its not. You all have a report, not kind of warrant nothing, to walk up in anyone's house and you think it's okay. It's not okay because if I would have came down and started shooting then it would have been a problem wouldn't it because one of your officers would have been gone. But you know what, I thank God that I didn't. He kept calling my name, calling my name, open up my door this man has not contacted me yet. He did not do anything, he has not done anything since August 23, 2006. I have been harassed by officer Shiman, my sons have been harassed by officer Shiman calling them thugs, calling them wannabe thugs. He made me pull over and almost hit a car because of the simple fact he wanted to pull into a street well I could not pull off because it was oncoming cars coming in going across so he's yelling at me. I came right down here on Mothers Day and made a report his gesture to me behind Captain, I forget his name, on Mothers Day, this past Mothers Day in the afternoon you all have a report of who it was, he making gestures like this (Ms. Jett moved her hands as if someone was calling to come to them) what kind of officer is that. Are you here to protect and serve or are you here to cause a problem that's what I want to know. And then the Chief ain't doing nothing about it he ain't doing nothing and that thing you all got people to come forward, what for, why, they ain't going to do nothing, not a thing. You got Police Officers walking in your house I could ah been butt naked and you walked in. Now that's wrong. That's all I have to say."

Mike Hernon, 3812 Bristol Ave. – "Just thank you members of Council for your decision and for respecting the intentions and the voice of the citizens. Thank you."

Rick Yanch, 1301 Oregon Ave., "There's a lot of people here today there's going to be a lot more people coming and I personally thank them but I'd also like to pick up on what Mr. Yonk DiLoreto said. You had a list Mr. DiLoreto that was ten or twelve issues and when the people come down here maybe there's ways that they could have suggestions to help some of these issues. I'm going to lay up here, Columbus, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania has looked at ways to help their Cities with vacant houses, with landlord issues and I find it very, very informative and hopefully some you all will take these and take a look at them, maybe you've seen them already. Also, I'd just like to lay this up here, it's the Preamble of our City Charter and there's probably a lot of citizens behind me that have never see this."

Mayor, "Mr. Yanch, all members of Council has a copy of the Charter with our Codified Ordinances and that is part of it, so they have seen it. Thank you."

Mr. Yanch, "I understand that Mr. Mayor but I also know that the people behind me may not have this and I think it would be very informative for them to understand what our City is to answer to as the citizens ask and request certain issues, hopefully they'll take them. And also I find it very interesting that in the Herald Star, which has been very, very helpful in reporting a lot of problems in our city, Mr. Dave Barnhouse's article on what Old Steubenville used to be like, also an article on how dangerous our city is becoming and also the issue about the votes tonight on the alcohol permitted in the park and I just want to thank everybody in this Chamber for what they're trying to do to help this City. I've been at odds with several people in this area in front of me but however, I do believe, Mr. Mayor you may be able to help us here, your asking for citizens to come forward, is it possible that our City along with Mr. Williams and a few other people here ask our citizen to come to a private meeting or meeting where there doesn't have to be this kind of decorum where we could speak our piece without a two or three minute thing. But I think a lot off citizens have a lot of things they want to share with people but sometimes they're afraid and hesitant to speak, maybe don't know the rules and that so its just a suggestion."

Patricia Butler, 180 N. 4th. St. – "Three things, number one, you had a meeting earlier this summer about what to do with recreation money. Three times (inaudible) told you what they wanted to have done. Instead of

following through and doing something about it you said your trying to figure out how to put \$2.7 million dollars into Jim Woods and Belleview. Well how about the people said they didn't want it? They want recreation, they want Belleview and Beatty Park fixed up and the North End fixed up for the young people. They wanted senior citizen building and you haven't addressed that part of their request. And another thing there's one thing that I don't want to know is what happened to the money from deforestation of Beatty Park from cutting out the trees in the North End and South End. Where's that money and what's that money go to?"

John Barnes, 1811 Norton Place – “As you can see by Council Chambers by the last couple of times that I've been here there's a lot of concerns that the citizens of Steubenville are really concerned about and at this time are willing to come out and voice their opinions. I think this is a very important document that the gentleman ahead of me laid out that we can find out what we can do to get a response from some of the complaints that we'd like to address Council with that were not getting any answer to. Like him I've been in Steubenville for all of my life, I've see what used to be and what's happened and I really apologize to the younger generation that is here that I've heard trying to be advocates because my generation the baby boomers I consider we sort of dropped the ball here. We've left our city deteriorate to the point right now where it's going to take advocates to get it back to what it used to be and no one wants to be a rebel rouser, no one wants to come out, we'd like to get answers to a lot of questions, we would like to get a response from our Councilmen reflecting what the people say that they want them to do. And its just like the election this year. Change is going to happen if you can see what's happening in the national picture for the presidency of the United States and we the people here in Steubenville are going to have to do the same thing. Were going to have to make choices on our Councilmen. If your not going to reflect the wishes of the people that you represent then were going to have to get different Councilmen. Our City Fathers are not doing what we asked them to do. I was present at two of the three town hall meetings for the recreation funding money and what Ms. Butler just said was reflected at the two meetings that I was there, and Ms. Welsch can tell you if she has the minutes of that meeting, she can tell you that the concerns of the citizens were the children, were the senior citizens. Those two things have not been addressed. I hear that there's going to be improvements at Belleview, there's going to be improvements at Jim Woods and I'll tell you what, I've talked with several people and our fellow tax payers on the West End are just as entitled to a reflection of their tax dollars as the people are Downtown and were not trying to funnel all the money downtown. What were trying to do is be fair with the whole City and those meetings that I were at its not being reflected by the proposals that City Council is making to the recreation department. We haven't heard from the department heads, I've been several times, he's never spoken, I don't know what the recreation department head is doing but I read in the paper what he plans for Martin Luther King holiday and stuff but never has spoken to the people here. Mr. Petrossi sitting over there, he knows that the CDBG money that we received every year is the life blood of any city of our size is predicated on adhering to low and moderate income people. Is that correct Mr. Petrossi? But anyhow, addressing those tracks in the city it says that the majority should go to where the low and moderate income people are and it would be a shame if we let Beatty Park be closed down as we let the CRC close down and Mr. Williams gave me the work of reparations because when they shut the CRC down we were told that the Martin Luther King was going to replace it, which it never has, that's the reparation we've received for giving up what we had. This is my thing for the people in the West End, the tax payers out there, you know sometimes you can't miss what you never had and I'm not saying that's our excuse for not having more in the West End but when they start taking away what you've already had in the South End its just like I say, you can't miss what you never had. But we have the City well covered before with the funds that we have and if the CDBG money is not going to be used in the tracks of the city of which most, the biggest purpose of it is allocated for then were going to have to start addressing Council more, were going to have to get some of these forms to find out what we can do to make Council do what we want them to do if we can't get em out there. The other thing that I would like to address Council on besides recreation is the water bills. I'm sure everyone here is concerned about the water bills and I know that everyone in this room has the same problem. I know that Council's not getting clean water and were getting dirty water. They're getting dirty water just like we are getting dirty water. So they know that were not just out here huffing and puffing and blowing smoke but we think that with the money in the city and the citizens that do pay their bills, even as outrageous as they are and I know my bill has been outrageous. I've never seen water bills and that's why we pay every month instead of like it used to be every three months. Who's going to pay a five hundred dollar water bill every three months and that's what it would add up to if we only got our bill every three months. Our bill for one month I a hundred and some dollars and that's for a family of two, I'm not talking about a growing family. My wife and I, my bill is over a hundred dollars so I would like the Council to do something in reimbursing or doing something to alleviate if it takes doing something with the water bill or something, we need to allocate some money to relieve the bill payers that are.....were paying our water bill, there's a lot of people that can't afford to pay their water bill and they're not paying it and I don't know if their water's being shut off or what but we need Council to do something about the grievances that this City seems to have anymore because no one is getting any answers and there is so much concern and the baby boomers were getting time now because were retired and were coming out and were going to make some noise and were going to find out because we dropped the ball before not because were going to keep doing. Lastly, the children of the city, they opened up Garfield School, the playgrounds are gone, there's no supervision at the schools, we've lost

three schools, Lincoln, Roosevelt, those playgrounds are gone. Recreation, there's not going to be anything or no supervision for those kids and we need to institute that program back again. I know that we have volunteers during the summer that used to be playground teachers to take kids in and supervise kids. The camera's that we were going to use on the highways that Mr. Williams said that we were installing a few up there on Pleasant Heights and Labelle, we need to put them in the recreation playground if that's unsafe for our children, so that our kids can play. I'm sorry that I missed the forum before on the starter's house but I also had a petition to turn in signatures on it against the starters house and I commend Council for standing up for what the people of Steubenville thought about the proposal for the starter house. Thank you."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Mr. Barnes, I want to give you some answers from the First Ward. First of all your water rates are going up all over the country so if you have a complaint please see Mr. Wilson at the United States Congress and the EPA. Secondly, we spent \$517,000. in Beatty Park since 1975. Beatty Park right now the Jabby Young trail was opened up the recreation department opened it up we plan on opening the other half this summer. There are two basketball courts that have been in use in the South End, very seldom used, one down at the old Rogers Project, the other one at Lincoln School. The one at Lincoln School, I'll talk to the church they might buy it so that they can keep it open. We plan on opening it up another court Beatty Park for basketball players down at Beatty Park. Were going to have a work session down at Beatty Park sometime in March, I hope all you people you are invited down there to come down and help out and clean up were trying to get it back in shape and its not going to cost very much money, just a lot of hard work. I'm done for the evening."

Mr. Barnes – "You were addressing me, all I can say is that what your talking about is to be commended I understand that but were paying taxpayers money so we do not need volunteers and that's what I heard you say at the last meeting that you asked volunteers to come down there and help you clean up the park, that's commendable but we have paid officials in the city that are paid to do that to go down there and clean that park up, that shouldn't be on a volunteer basis. As far as your answer about the water all over the city just like you said that about the Governor you can right down the river to Tiltonsville and they have water just like we do and their drinking water, ask them what their bill is."

Royal Mayo, 544 Highland Ave. – "I was looking at the Charter for the City and it says a responsible city is one which seeks to insure that all the citizens needs are met. I say that because I'm (inaudible) the new councilmen. I contacted Charlie Wilson's office and I got a letter back from him and in that letter it said the \$3. million dollars was going to be primary in two parks and \$100,000. was going to be allocated for the other parks. That's less then 4% but what your putting in two parks and I don't know in that cause were talking about just the bigger parks or are we talking about every little park and playground around the city I don't know what were talking about down at the river front. But that's absolutely ridiculous. I don't know how you can sleep in a good conscious give that much money to two areas and you got the North End, Murphy's, the Martin Luther King Center, and Beatty Park and I don't know if any other park is split \$100,000. I don't get that. I asked Mr. Fortunato because Mr. Fortunato lives in the Fourth Ward. Mr. Metcalf, I haven't had an opportunity to speak to him. Mr. DiLoreto who lives where Beatty Park is. Mr. Perkins who lives where Murphy's. We need recreation in those areas too and if were going to meet all the needs of the citizens we need to go in those areas as well. To speak about the shootings I think that's absolutely ridiculous. I believe I spoke to the Chief, may have been New Years Day around there and we talked about it briefly and were going to get together and do some things but I said I'd like to work with him on that issue but I don't believe that there's been an issue since we had that conversation. I don't think there has but that goes to what I was saying before I'm not a police officer but I can speak to some of the youths. I don't know exactly who's doing it but I can speak to some of the youth. We have two officers right now who passed the test and with the forty-five or so police officers we have one but there's two now on the list and I don't know if they're going to be hired but we need more black officers to be the guns in the black community and talk to some of these kids and we have two on the list who are qualified now that need to be hired so some of these problems could be alleviated if there was more of us actually working with some of these kids."

Huey Patterson, 328 Union Ave. – "I have an apartment, no one's lived in that apartment for sixteen years. Whenever there was an effort to give someone a break on refuse I guess you could come down and sign an affidavit or whatever and not pay refuse, pay the water bill. But my wife came down and asked and we were told no, that's not the way it goes. Over fourteen years I've paid you guys money cause I got the gas, electric, and water on in this apartment and then all of a sudden when somebody says well you owe (inaudible) there's people doing that and I said well I asked. I went down I was going outside to (inaudible) about two months or three months and then they stopped all that. So if you got the water on you have to pay refuse in this apartment that no one lives in I pay like sixty some dollars a month. I paid \$190.00 was the last bill in the house that I live in for my grandkids and myself. Can't you guys do anything about maybe apartment or houses that have no one living in em I want the water on but I don't want to pay refuse if no one lives there, that would help me maybe would help somebody else. I also want to know, I got grandkids, I got six automobiles and two motorcycles, and they're all old and when I go to pay a sticker for it I find you guys are getting twenty dollars of that money

here in Steubenville. They tell me Wintersville gets five dollars, Toronto gets ten. Man that's a lot of money every year for me to try and pay for six automobiles and two motorcycles, that twenty dollars tax....what we do with that money. Somebody says it was to fix the streets. I don't know, I got a sister-in-law who gets pretty mad at me when the weeds grown out in the alley and the car scratches along because I got property Mr. Fortunato's Ward. You guys (at this point the tape ran out and the Clerk did not have a third tape)

Mattie Patterson, 818 N. 6th. Ave. – Stated that they never get answers to the questions they ask and complained about her water bill being over one hundred dollars.

Dorores Young – (no address) – Complained about the high cost of water and said her sister in Columbus, Ohio pays for three months what she pays for one month.

Richard Russalo, 1637 Oregon Ave. – Complained about a fire hydrant problem where the hydrant was removed and there is still a hole. He asks that the hole be filled in and paved.

Mr. Fortunato moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Lulich.
Roll call. All ayes. So moved meeting adjourned declared Mayor Mucci.

Pamela L. Orlando
Clerk of Council

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR