SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Tuesday**, **September 5**, **2023**, at **7:30** p.m.

**Present: Council Members:** James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Joseph C. DeMio, Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark, Kelly A. Kosek and Annmarie P Roff. Also Present: Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Finance Director Eric Dean, Law Director Neal Jamison, Safety Director Charles Goss, Fire Chief Jack Draves, City Engineer Ken Mikula and Assistant City Engineer Lori Daley.

Council President, James Carbone, called the caucus to order at 7:32 p.m.

The following Council Committees met to review legislation on the agenda:

Planning, Zoning & Engineering Committee: Chairman Kaminski advised Ordinance No. 2022-152 is to rezone property located at 21930 Royalton Road, in the city from GI (General Industrial) classification to R1-75, (One Family 75) classification (PPN 392-14-006). unfavorable recommendation from the Planning Commission. There was a public hearing on January 3, 2023. During the public hearing, the applicant – Ms. Acierno, asked the legislation be tabled until further notice. Mr. Kaminski mentioned that the owner has since pulled the rezoning application and sold the property. This evening, Council will be voting on this legislation. Mr. Jamison interjected stating that Council should be voting no on this legislation; so as to defeat per applicant's withdraw request. Ordinance No. 2023-071 is an ordinance to rezone vacant property located on Marks Road from GI-A (General Industrial-A) classification to RT-C (Townhouse-Cluster) classification (Portion of PPN 394-07-001). A favorable recommendation was given by the Planning Commission. The public hearing was July 17, 2023. Adoption was recommended for this legislation. Ordinance No. 2023-099 is to rezone property located at 11654 Pearl Road, (PPN 392-26-002) from GB (General Business) classification to R-RS (Restaurant-Recreational Services) classification. A favorable recommendation was given by the Planning Commission. Tonight, there will be a public hearing for this legislation. Ordinance No. 2023-116 is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant of easement for storm sewer purposes from Joseph Z Properties, LLC/ Carso Rosso Winery. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation. Suspension and adoption was also recommended for Resolution No. 2023-117; which is a resolution declaring the official intent and reasonable expectation of the city on behalf of the State of Ohio to reimburse its sanitary sewer fund for the Albion Road and Webster Road sanitary sewer project. Ordinance No. 2023-130 is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for the Prospect Road storm sewer improvements project from Albion Road to Fair Road. The contract is with Digioia-Suburban Excavating, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$3,607,488.50. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation. Mayor Perciak wanted to thank Lori Daley and Ken Mikula who facilitated the project in terms of getting the project repriced and properly funded. This project was a long task involving the Federal Government, finance director and the finance department, Mr. Carbone added, and was speaking for Ms. Kosek as well, that throughout the years Mr. Mikula and Ms. Daley always received and returned his phone calls, along with many of the resident's phone calls voicing their concerns in regards to this issue, and wanted to thank them both for their help.

Public Safety & Health Committee: Chairman Kaminski advised Ordinance No. 2023-118 is amending Chapter 1601; the Fire Code, of the Codified Ordinances to enact a new section concerning open burning and amending other existing sections. Chief Jack Draves advised that back in 2017, the city updated the Fire Code, removing the open burning sections in the Codified Ordinances. At that time, the fire department thought they would be covered by the Ohio Fire Code. Over the years, it has been determined that the city does not have control to enforce some of the issues that can be nuisances, and that Council may receive complaints themselves. The goal is to work together with the law department to change some of those issues so that they would be better defined; like recreational fires, cooking fires, and open burning. Should there be someone that is noncompliant with the fire department's cease and desist order, they would now be able to discuss with the city prosecutor and ultimately issue a violation into Mayor's court if need be. The Mayor stated that due to many complaints throughout the city, the city has to make sure to keep things safe for the residents. Ms. Kosek asked if section 1601.28 was a new section. Mr. Jamison confirmed that it was a new section; however, the city took that section out 6 years ago, and now they will be inserting it back in. She also wanted to know why in section 1601.25, which is the building site and fire system plans, suitable electronic media formats will not be required or allowed any longer. Chief Draves stated suitable electronic media formats were used when contractors had to submit plans to the engineering department. Chief Draves hoped that 6 years ago, the fire department would be able to take those digital medias and manipulate them themselves. Due to the difficulty in keeping up with software, they have decided to just accept the regular drawing plans from the engineering department and the building department which have been sufficient for what the fire department currently needs. He also stated that as long as the fire department gets a set of drawing plans they can review, it doesn't need to be in a specific digital format. Chief Draves mentioned that on Monday, September 11, 2023, the fire department will be having their 911 ceremony at 9:45 p.m. at Fire Station 4, for their remembrance ceremony. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation. Suspension and adoption was also recommended for Ordinance No. 2023-119 which is to apply for financial assistance for Fiscal Year 2024, in connection with the opioid epidemic. Ordinance No. 2023-120 is an ordinance authorizing the disposal of various items of equipment and furniture utilized by the fire department but no longer needed. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation.

Building & Utilities Committee: Chairman Clark advised Ordinance No. 2023-121 is an ordinance enacting a new chapter 1476 of the Building and Housing Code of the city's Codified Ordinances concerning solar energy facilities. This applies to residential and non-residential structures as well as both ground and building mounted structures. Mr. Clark stated that this is a proactive measure to make sure that the city does not put themselves in a position of challenge and also allows a review process for this. This will be placed on first reading tonight and referred to the Planning Commission for their recommendation. Mr. Jamison commented at the next meeting, we hope to have another new ordinance for short-term rentals prohibiting any residence under 30 days to be rented out. Mr. Jamison will get Council a draft of that ordinance as soon as it's done. Mayor Perciak added that he met with other Mayors and managers. All the cities, especially Rocky River, are going through the same thing concerning short-term rentals. Mr. Jamison stated that he has been receiving many calls, as well as the City Planner, George Smerigan, from investors inquiring about buying properties, specifically for short-term rental use. The city felt that it was time to get something on the books to get in front of the situation. Ms. Kosek stated that she appreciates the city looking at this due to a number of residents having issues with this and the city not being able to do anything regarding it.

Public Service & Conservation Committee: Chairman DeMio advised Ordinance No. 2023-122 is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and city engineer to prepare and submit an application for State of Ohio Issue 1 funding for the wastewater treatment plants B & C rehabilitation project. This is a total overall estimated cost of \$34,060,037.00. Mr. DeMio advised that the city would be using the sewer capital improvement fund for about \$20 million dollars leaving a reserve somewhere around \$9 million dollars or \$10 million dollars, and bond out what we need if the city does not get any additional grants. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation. Mr. Dean stated that there is going to be a mix of funding going into paying for this project, and Lori and Ken having been working with the consultants as well. He stated that currently, they are looking into the OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) 0% interest loan which is the best that the city can get. Ideally, the city will be backing the OPWC loan with an OWDA (Ohio Water Development Authority) loan which would have a lower interest rate than the market. Mr. Mikula stated that this is a critical project with a prediction of over \$30 million dollars, and the city is trying to get additional grant money for this project.

<u>Finance Committee:</u> Chairwoman Kosek advised Resolution No. 2023-123 is a resolution authorizing the finance director to certify to the fiscal officer of Cuyahoga County unpaid property maintenance nuisance abatements for levy and collection. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation. Suspension and adoption was also recommended for Resolution 2023-124 which is a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Fiscal Officer.

Recreation & Community Services Committee: Chairwoman Roff recommended suspension and adoption for Resolution Nos. 2023-125, 2023-126, 2023-127 and 2023-128; all being donations for The Town Center Enhancement & Walkability Initiative. Respectfully, donations are from: Joseph C. DeMio and his wife Marie in the amount of \$1,000.00, The Kiwanis Club in the amount of \$20,000.00, R.A. Kalfas Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$5,000.00 and Gordon Glissman of Countryside, Inc. Landscape in the amount of \$2,000.00. Mr. DeMio wanted to let everyone know that serving the community as long as he has, he felt that this was important. The funds came from their personal funds. He is honored, with the blessing of his family, to be able to donate money to the community.

Committee of the Whole: Chairman Carbone advised Ordinance No. 2023-129 is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a purchase agreement with Doodle Button, LLC for two parcels of property located at 19231 Royalton Road. Mr. Carbone stated over the last couple of months, the city talked about a land-swap with the Chamber of Commerce, and that has gone through (Ordinance No. 2023-077). He also added since then, this resident next door reached out to them asking if they would be interested in purchasing their property. Mr. Carbone thinks that this would be a good opportunity to expand the scope, if there are plans in the future, for a fire station in that area. He also believes that this would help the planning phase of it to make it safer in that area. Mayor Perciak wanted to thank the law department for assisting the city in this particular project, making it easier for the city to avoid extra 3rd party costs. He also mentioned that this will alleviate all the ingress and egress problems Ms. Kosek was concerned about, and would provide for us additional parking. Mayor Perciak also mentioned that the law department brought to his attention that this fire station project would be a ballot issue. The finance director advised the Mayor that city money cannot be used to campaign for passage at the November ballot. Mayor Pericak stated that letters will be going out. Mr. Jamison added that this particular property was a rental, and that no one will be displaced due to this. This will require all 7 affirming Council votes to pass. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation.

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Mayor Perciak stated that at the next Council meeting, he would like for Council to mention a resolution about the renewal of the city's school levy. Mayor Perciak personally supports renewing the school levy as submitted by the Board of Education and would ask all residents to do the same. Mr. Carbone suggested Mr. Dean meet with the Treasurer of the Strongsville City Schools, Mr. George Anagnostou, to give the city more clarity on the school levy. Mr. Carbone stated that he is behind the Mayor supporting the renewal levy, and thinks that the city's schools are proven and going in a wonderful direction. Mayor Perciak also added that the city has a lot more challenges within the school system, and they have to be ready to meet those challenges; the school levy renewal is focused on that more than anything. Ms. Kosek inquired when a finance meeting will be taking place. Mr. Dean stated that his plan was to submit the budget request to the directors on Friday, September 15, 2023, and would like to have that request back by the end of September. He stated that he would like to meet with Council on the first or second meeting in October, if that meets everyone's schedules. Ms. Kosek suggested that the meeting be held at the beginning of November if everyone was okay with that. Mayor Perciak advises that the meeting should take place sooner due to the economy and income tax collections slowing down.

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Council President James E. Carbone called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:**

The Clerk of Council certified that the meeting had been posted in accordance with Ordinance No. 2004-273.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**Present: Council Members:** James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Joseph C. DeMio, Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark, Kelly A. Kosek and Annmarie P Roff. Also Present: Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Finance Director Eric Dean, Law Director Neal Jamison, Safety Director Charles Goss, Fire Chief Jack Draves, City Engineer Ken Mikula and Assistant City Engineer Lori Daley.

### **COMMENTS ON MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 17, 2023, were approved as submitted. The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on July 25, 2023, were approved as submitted.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance No. 2023-099 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ADOPTED BY SECTION 1250.03 OF TITLE SIX, PART TWELVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF STRONGSVILLE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 11654 PEARL ROAD (PPN 392-26-002) IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FROM GB (GENERAL BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION TO R-RS (RESTAURANT-RECREATIONAL SERVICES) CLASSIFICATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. First reading and referred to Planning Commission 07-03-23. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 07-06-23. Second reading 07-17-23. Public hearing 09-05-23.

Mr. Carbone invited anyone wishing to speak **IN FAVOR** of the Ordinance to approach the podium and address Council.

Beshoy Hanna and Hany Potroos, 8446 Hunting Dr., North Royalton, Ohio 44133:

Mr. Carbone - Would you like to say some words in favor of this?

Mr. Hanna – Sure, we are working on the rezoning of the building to bring new flavors to the city. It is going to be a Biggby Franchise and our goal is to truly get involved with the city and actually bring and offer something brand new.

Mr. Carbone - Is that building currently vacant?

Mr. Potroos – Vacant for the last five or six years.

Mr. Carbone – I know you guys are in North Olmsted currently, correct?

Mr. Potroos – There is a location in North Olmsted, yes.

Mr. Carbone - Anything else you would like to speak on?

Mr. Potroos – I would just like to let you know that the coffee that we are using, the Biggby coffee, is almost 50% organic, and our goal is for it to become 100% organic. The second one...they buy direct from the farmer. They pay the full price as if they are buying from the middle person. They really try to include the farmer...education and farm living. They are really involved with the community in all aspects and that's what we would love to bring to the community.

Mr. Carbone - Okay, very good. Is there anything else?

Mr. Potroos - Thank you, sir.

Mr. Carbone – Anybody else in favor of this rezoning?

(No comments)

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### PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd):

Mr. Carbone then invited anyone wishing to speak **IN OPPOSITION** of the Ordinance to approach the podium and address Council.

(No comments)

Hearing no further comments in regard to this matter, Council President Carbone closed the Public Hearing on said Ordinance.

### APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

SCHOOL BOARD - Mr. Clark: Thank you President Carbone, there have been two Strongsville City School board meetings since our last meeting. The first was on August 3, 2023, and the most recent was on August 24, 2023. As you know, the 2023-2024 school...school is back in session. During "Welcome Back Week", they held a pep rally at the high school and introduced an acronym of "S.T.R.O.N.G" (Safe, Trust-worthy, Respectful, Own-it, Never Settle and Get Involved). Muraski Elementary school, which physically sits in ward 3; but also serves a large number of ward 4 residents, added a new pavilion and unveiled that early on. A great benefit to the students and also the community they utilize and enjoy. There was some public comment and great ideas from residents coming, getting involved, and sharing their thoughts on things in the school. I want to transition to finance because this was the first meeting when we had a chance to hear from Treasurer, George Anagnostou on the full report of the finances. On the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2023, there was less than a 1% variance from the forecast. Superb financial management as you have heard me report on numerous times, and I think we are very fortunate to have the financial stewardship that we have there from the schools. As we mentioned during caucus, there are some uncertainties ahead, and we want to make sure that we continue to support our schools. I would encourage all to get involved by doing things like watching the school board meetings that are available; go to the public sit-in as well as to watch virtually. It is There is also a strategic vision that's been unveiled and available at www.strongnet.org. communicated to all the parents. Once again, it is also available for residents that care about our schools and our community as a whole; strong schools...strong community. A lot of great things happening in our schools, and I am happy to report out on some of that positivity. It would not be me if I didn't share a couple of save-a-dates. A special date to me, but also a special date for our Strongsville Education Foundation, is Veteran's day which is on Saturday, November 11, 2023. That will be the casino night for the Strongsville Education Foundation. I am pretty sure...yes, it's at the recreation center, I had to check that one. It's nice to see our school board here supporting us as we have their liaison here tonight, Richard Micko, as our Council liaison. I will take any questions, but that concludes my report on the school board other than to say, good luck to all of our students this school year. Mr. DeMio – Mr. Clark, If I may for a moment. I just want to thank Richard Micko. Please share with your board that it was very kind including the superintendent, to allow us to use the auditorium for the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip again; that was a nice help to us. It allowed us to have the kids there getting them familiar with the high school being 8th graders, and now going to the D.C trip, and I wanted to extend that. This is probably the first year we haven't had a member of the school board with a kid, or a Council member with a kid, that's going on a trip. I know Gordon has helped before, Richard has helped before, Jim, and Kelly is right around the corner.

### SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Clark (Cont'd):

Ms. Kosek – I know, but I think you do have a school board member who has a kid who's going.

Mr. DeMio – We do, but they are not here tonight. Right...correct, I just want to thank you Richard Micko, because that saved us in the cost of doing business in getting the kids there; I really appreciate it, so thank you so much.

Mr. Kaminski – I also want to chime in and thank Richard Micko for the help over there at the Albion Middle School. A lot of projects going on over there, but it's looking really nice. We appreciate all the help.

Mr. Clark – That concludes the school board report.

**BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Mr. Clark:** As we discussed in caucus, we have one ordinance on for this evening, and that is the solar energy ordinance. Ordinance No. 2023-121 is enacting a New Chapter 1476 Title Six Part Fourteen of the Building and Housing Code which will apply to residential and non-residential. The recommendation is first reading and referred to the Planning Commission. I will be happy to take any questions.

Mr. Carbone - Any questions for Mr. Clark?

(No comments)

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM - Mr. Short: Thank you Mr. Carbone, it's been a few months....one month since I had an update on Southwest General. I always say, we have a great asset and really a gem in our back yard here to provide healthcare services to the City of Strongsville. I want to share a quick encounter that a nurse had after she had gotten off her shift and was in her scrubs shopping at a local grocery store. A man approached her, whose father had been in the I.C.U. and had passed away, tapped this woman on the shoulder and said, "Are you a nurse at Southwest?" The nurse replied, "Yes." The man said, "All I have to tell you is that you are so wonderful for what you do. Everyone that we met at the system was so caring, kind, and understanding. It was like a family taking care of him. I moved from another hospital system years ago. I have had surgeries at there, so I knew my dad was in good hands; it's full of good people. I just want you to know how much we appreciated you guys and what you do." Again, I think that just demonstrates the care and commitment that Southwest General has for its patients and the cities here that it serves in southwest Cuyahoga County. On that note, they continue to meet safety patient care and core quality goals for the year. In fact, they have now gone more than 388 days or over a year without a central-line associated bloodstream infection, they have gone 40 days without a catheter track infection, and have gone more than 62 days without a Cdiff infection. Again, focusing on those key core areas and keeping patients safe. Lastly, in terms of consumer expansion and projects at the hospital and services they continue to add for the community; the renovation of the pain management center is now complete. The Center for Bariatric Surgery, which moved over from the old St. Vincent when that closed, is now open in the Middleburg Heights Medical Center right across the street from the campus. Although surgeries will still be done at the main campus. A new independent medical group will be adding primary care physicians to the Brunswick Medical Center in that office space. They have three new providers joining the practice at the system; one will be in behavioral health, one in the OBGYN unit, and one in the family medicine physician unit.

**SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short (cont'd):** Lastly, I do want to say...back to nurses I did forget to mention that three of them were recognized with the Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurses for service and overall patient experience. I had their names...here it is. The three that received the award over the summer were Brian Digoila, Liz Kazmierczak, and Polina Bufogle. Congratulations to them, and continue to keep up the good work at Southwest General Hospital. That concludes my report, any questions?

(No comments)

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Short:** We are going to have a meeting the last Monday of the month, here at Council chambers. We will get the agenda and the meeting notice out to the members. Any questions? Thank you, that concludes my report and I will turn it back over to you Mr. President.

Mayor Perciak – If I may Mr. President, just one thing to add to your report Mr. Short. The Business Expo is Wednesday, October 18, 2023; we are 50% sold out already. October 18, 2023 will be the Business Expo at the recreation center.

Mr. Short – Thank you Mr. Mayor for that oversight.

Mayor Perciak - Thank you.

Mr. Short – It's a great event, so if you have not signed up or have a business that wants to, I would sign up quickly.

Mr. Carbone - Thank you.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Mr. DeMio: We have on page three Ordinance No. 2023-122; it's a little under \$30 million dollars. We talked about it at the caucus, we have known that this was coming. This has to do with our sewer plant and the majority of the money is going to come out of our sewer capital improvement fund. Ten million or so are going to be bonded out or receive grants. We talked about it again, as I said earlier, we talked about it earlier in caucus. What is so very important is the times have changed. In the old days, we would just replace a part and it would be fine. Now with technology and the computerized systems, the way they all have to talk to each other, the units themselves, to allow sewage to go the proper way. This is the cost of doing business in our sewer plant. We have an engineer here who spent a moment and shared with us what's going on; the Mayor had to step out. Mayor, your finance director explained to us the ins and outs of what he is going to try to accomplish to get a zero percent if we have to do that. If you want to add anything, I think this Council is ready to go.

Mayor Perciak – I'm betting he gets the zero percent.

Mr. DeMio – I think that would be awesome.

Mayor Perciak - Is that a safe bet Mr. Mikula?

Mr. DeMio – I think that's awesome. I don't think your Council has any questions, Mayor. If there is anything you want to add, please do so.

### PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Mr. DeMio (cont'd):

Mayor Perciak – It's been a long journey. The engineering firm, Joe Walker, our engineering people, Ken Mikula and Lori Daly, and our finance people. We are trying to work our way through as quickly as we can, but as you know, interest rates are not in our favor. I really don't know, at this point today, when it would be proper to approach the bond market because the interest rates are constantly moving in the wrong way. The bond market is what it is. The finance director and I, along with our outside analysts, will continue to study the situation. If need be, we will bring in some more experts to help us with the bonding on that.

Mr. DeMio – Okay, thank you, Council is there anything that anyone has to know? Okay, we would like to suspend and adopt that tonight, and we will work from there.

FINANCE – Ms. Kosek: Yes, we have two resolutions tonight; Resolution No. 2023-123 and 2023-124. Resolution No. 2023-123 is...we have eight parcels that have some nuisance abatements that we had to take care of. We need to send them down to the county, so that they can pay them. I ask that we would suspend and adopt that. The second one is Resolution 2023-124 which is accepting the amount and rates that were determined for our tax levies by the county. I would ask that we suspend and adopt that as well. I assume there are no questions, but if there are, I will be happy to address them. The only other thing, as we talked in caucus, is that we will be setting our finance meeting hopefully in the first part of October. Aimee is going to check her schedule. She thinks maybe we already have something on the books, but none of us can quite find it. We will locate it, and that will be circulated this week.

Mr. Carbone – Yes, if you can get that out Aimee. Any questions for Ms. Kosek?

(No comments)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING - Mr. Kaminski: Planning, Zoning and Engineering we have several ordinances. Ordinance No. 2022-152, this process started last fall. This is a zoning change classification on Royalton Road. Since we had that public hearing, the property was sold, and they have withdrawn the application. We will be voting no on that this evening. Again, that is Ordinance No. 2022-152. We also have Ordinance No. 2023-071 which is a zoning change for vacant property located on Marks Road from GI (General Industrial) classification to RT-C (Townhouse-Cluster) classification. We will be voting on that this evening as well. Ordinance No. 2023-099, which we just had the public hearing, which is a zoning change on Pearl Road, going from GI (General Business) classification to R-RS (Restaurant-Recreational Services) classification. We also will be voting on that; that was Biggby Coffee. We have Ordinance No. 2023-116 which is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant of easement for storm sewer purposes from Joseph Z Properties, LLC. The recommendation is suspension and adoption on that. We have a Resolution No. 2023-117 which is for the reimbursement of the sanitary sewer fund for Albion Road and Webster Road sanitary sewer project. The recommendation is suspension and adoption. Finally, for Planning, Zoning and Engineering we have Ordinance No. 2023-130 which is authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for the Prospect Road storm sewer improvement project; which goes from Albion Road to Fair Road. We have talked about this project numerous times. We really want to thank Lori Daley and Ken Mikula from engineering for all their follow-up on this project. The fact that we are able to get this started is a huge accomplishment.

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Kaminski (cont'd): The recommendation is suspension and adoption on Ordinance No. 2023-130. That concludes my report on Planning, Zoning and Engineering. Are there any questions?

Mr. Carbone – Mr. Kaminski, I would just like to say on Ordinance No. 2023-071 with the rezoning of the property on Marks Road, I just want to first start by saying I have the upmost respect for the property owners of that property, but I am a firm believer in preserving industrial land. We did in 2018 a partnership with The County Division of Planning. When you go to page 77 part 3: "Enhance and Preserve Business Parks", if you go to...if you look further down it's to preserve our parks for further employment. When you look at further employment, that's where the Mayor and his administrative team have really succeeded with back-filling not only empty spaces, but building new. They are such a value, and 82.4% of our income comes from payroll tax and approximately half of that comes from our industrial parkway. I think that this is the most valuable land we have and I do not believe that we should set a precedence here. I will be voting no against this ordinance this evening.

Mr. Kaminski – Any other comments or ...

Ms. Kosek – I actually...I know that the owner and the developer are here. I don't know if this would be an appropriate time for them to speak about the project. I had some concerns that we had discussed immediately before the meeting. One of my concerns is how close the property is to the railroad tracks. We discussed about how we would keep the people who are living there safe; particularly children. I think we all have people in our lives that need to be restrained from those kinds of hazards. I don't know if Mr. Cappy or Mr. Weinerman would like to talk about your reaction to my statement about the railroad tracks, please.

### At this time Ben Weinerman, developer from Pride One Construction, came up to the podium to speak.

Mr. Weinerman — Good Evening everyone, Ben Weinerman, 2211 Medina Road. As you introduced, we are proposing a rezoning of a property for a 90 unit cluster community. The units would start out approximately \$2,200.00 per month and go north of \$3,000.00 per month. With the respects to the concerns as far as the railroad tracks go, we have absolutely no problem putting in a 6 foot privacy fence along that perimeter to deter anybody from wandering outside of the community limits. That is not an issue at all. Outside of that, we are only proposing a rezoning on the 15 acres of the total 40 acres. The remaining balance of 25 acres would remain industrial zoned. I would be happy to answer any questions. I have looked at this project a lot of different ways as well, and with that railroad track splitting those parcels, I think it makes sense. We have one of the most important things facing our companies today is workforce. To have a variety of different housing is going to be very critical as we move forward to be able to supply workforce for all of our companies. Also, we have talked about the problems with Marks Road and not being able to have trucks. I look at this project a little differently now, so I will be voting yes, this evening.

Mr. Weinerman – Are there any other questions I can answer?

Ms. Kosek – Thank you for being responsive to that issue.

Mr. Weinerman – Absolutely.

### PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING - Mr. Kaminski (cont'd):

Ms. Roff – I just...there were concerns from some of the residents of where the water, electric, and everything was going to be brought in...and the sewer.

Mr. Weinerman – Sure, we've met with your city engineer, Lori Daley, several times. Our intent right now would be to do a private force main and the buildings would be on private grinder systems which would then pump to the gravity sewer on Foltz Parkway. It would be going underneath the railroad tracks and tying into Foltz Parkway. The water main right now would need to be extended down Marks Road, almost a total of one mile. There would be a 12" water main that would be extended south from Lunn Road. That would also provide utilities to the industrial property to the north of us as well.

Ms. Roff – I know there was some concern about not having received any communication from the railroad system themselves. Did you secure that? Were you able to...

Mr. Weinerman – Yes, we have talked with CSX and there is a process to go through their engineering department. We haven't started that engineering yet; but they said it's very normal to put utilities underneath the railroad. We just need to submit in a formal fashion once we are to that point.

Ms. Roff - Thank you.

Mr. Clark — You provided a forecast of the impact to the schools based on the current tax situation and the future tax situation. I took your numbers and went to validate them with, as I spoke of earlier, the quality of our treasurer; and I appreciate the accuracy of your estimates. Based on your assumptions, he confirmed and so I see it as a positive for the schools from that stand point. There are some pie in the sky ideas that I personally have of how that property could be utilized in the absolute best case scenario because of where it sits with a railyard...or coming through there and the opportunity for a rail spur. Sometimes perfection can be the enemy of progress, so I thank and I appreciate what you put together. I commend you on the packet that you presented to us throughout this entire process as well as the property owner's willingness to answer our questions, and go check out the property, and dig in and investigate different things. I appreciate your professionalism throughout the entire process.

Mr. Weinerman - Thank you, we appreciate your feedback.

Mr. Carbone – All the units will be rentals, correct?

Mr. Weinerman – They will be for rent, yes, that is correct.

Mr. Carbone – Anything else from Council?

Mr. Short -1 would just like to say, as the Councilman for that ward, I have looked at this extensively. I don't want to steal the Mayor and engineering's thunder, but I think Mr. President, I do agree that GI is best developed for GI. Especially, in Strongsville as we continue to develop, there is only so much land to go around; however, without giving away I think where this property

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is located the fact that GI there is very remote, I would like to quote my colleague Tom Clark, "Pie in the Sky".

### REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

### PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Kaminski (cont'd):

Mr. Short (cont'd) - Considering the location of that and where it's at, I think this is probably the best use of that land given the fact I think that GI would be very hard developed...hasn't been developed for 60 years there. As the Councilman for that ward, I will be voting yes for this project, so thank you.

Mr. Weinerman - Thank you.

Mr. Carbone - Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. Weinerman - Thank you all.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH – Mr. Kaminski: First of all, before I jump into Public Safety and Health I do want to remind everybody this coming Monday, September 11, 2023, there will be a ceremony at the main fire station #4 on Prospect Road. That will start at 9:45 a.m. I have had the opportunity to attend that the last couple of years and it's a great ceremony. Again, September 11, 2023, come and I would say pay your respects and join that ceremony. It would be great to see everyone there at 9:45 a.m. In Public Safety and Health, we have three ordinances this evening. We have Ordinance No. 2023-118 which is amending the Fire Code. Chief Draves was here earlier and can touch upon that in a second concerning open burning. We have Ordinance No. 2023-119 which is approving an application for financial assistance with the Ohio Attorney General's Office in connection with the Law Enforcement Diversion Program. The recommendation is suspension and adoption. We also have Ordinance No. 2023-120 which is authorizing the disposal of various equipment and furniture which is no longer needed by the fire department. The recommendation is suspension and adoption on that. I would like to give Chief Draves a second to talk about Ordinance No. 2023-118 if he will.

Chief Draves – Yes thank you Mr. Kaminski, back in 2017 we did amend the Fire Code Ordinance and we eliminated the open burning section, hoping that we can rely mostly on the Ohio Fire Code. Over the years, we realized that the Ohio Fire Code doesn't give us enough vocal control over some of the open burning, recreational fires, and cooking fires that we receive. We feel with the changes to the ordinance, we will be able to handle some of those issues and be better able to rectify them between the residents. If need be, then we would be able to issue a violation notice and submit them to Mayor's Court in order to get some compliance. That is the main gist of it, so we can define some of those things a little better so that we can have some local control. The other issue is we updated some of the language with regard to applying for permits...hydrant permits, and propane permits. Those are handled by the building department. We just cleaned up some of that language. That's the gist of it, thank you.

Chief Draves - Thank you.

Mr. Kaminski – Thank you Chief Draves. Any other questions concerning Public Safety and Health? Alright hearing none, that concludes my report.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you Mr. Kaminski.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Ms. Roff: I have four resolutions today, all of them are to accept donations for our Center of Town project. The first is Resolution No. 2023-125 and that is a donation from our own Mr. DeMio and his wife Marie. The second one is Resolution No. 2023-126; and that is an extremely generous donation from the Kiwanis Club here. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. I have Resolution No. 2023-127 that is a donation from R.A Kalfas Construction, Inc. here in Strongsville. Suspend and adopt for that. Resolution No. 2023-128 is a donation from Mr. Gordon Glissman. Suspend and adopt for that. Thank you to all of those donors as they continue to move towards developing that area that everyone is looking forward to. We had our ground-breaking a couple of weeks ago. Our Council people were there to help shove some dirt around, but it was a nice day. Looking forward to seeing things start to move forward. The Mayor would like to say something, I know, about this.

Mayor Perciak – Yes Ms. Roff, I think we impressed some people with the ground-breaking ceremony and what we are trying to do there. As I understand it, the City Club is going to double their donation from what they originally did. The law director and the law department will have the information for us at the next meeting. A lot of good things are happening as a result of it and it's beginning to take a life of its own. The snowball is beginning to get a little bit bigger so we are grateful.

Ms. Roff – Very nice, I see Mr. Dean took a little sigh of relief when he sees these donations come in also. I am looking forward to this. This has been...we have been talking about it for a while. I'm happy to be sitting on this committee and being...and to be a part of this project, thank you Mayor.

Mr. Carbone - Thank you Ms. Roff.

Ms. Kosek – If I might, I want to thank The Rotary Club for the Strongfest that they put on in August. I know that many of us were there. It was a lot of fun and raised good money for this project. I want to thank...I'm looking at Mr. Kaminski because I know he was very much involved with it. If you want to say some words about that, but it was a good event and hopefully raised a good bit of money for this project.

Mr. Kaminski – Yes, The Rotary Club also committed a total of \$50,000.00 over a three year period. This event in particular is one of those events that we are using to raise the money for the Center of Town Initiative. It was a great event, so next fall definitely join us. Thanks Kelly, I appreciate that and I will pass the thanks onto The Rotary Club.

Ms. Roff – That is all I have today, unless anybody has any questions.

Mr. Carbone – I know we are all working hard to offset the cost. It's been pretty nice seeing how the business community and the residents are all coming together...and our civic groups. I worked with Kiwanis for many months, but Kiwanis reached out to us and their \$20,000.00 donation is on top of what they also committed last year to Castle Park as well to make sure that was cleaned up, safe and everything. It's just really nice seeing business, civic groups and our residents coming together for such a great cause. We just have to continue to knock on doors and solicit even more.

### RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Ms. Roff (cont'd):

Mayor Perciak – Mr. President, it's going to continue on as our Economic Development Director and I continue to meet with some of our local businesses in our business parks and the foundations that they have. They are providing for us a Segway to meet with representatives of their foundations so that we can see what we can do to continue to offset the cost and offer naming rights. That process is going on. We met with one the other day and we are waiting to hear as to what they will do and what they won't do. As we continue on, we are setting these up trying to set them up at least on a weekly basis.

Mr. Carbone – Awesome, thank you very much for that update.

Ms. Roff – Real quick to add Mayor, it's not limited to the businesses. We will take any amount offered. Will you not Mayor?

Mayor Perciak – We have a program available for anyone who wants to contribute. You are correct, Ann.

Ms. Roff – Yes, so any residents that want to be a part of that and have a piece of history here in Strongsville, come on forward, thank you.

Mr. Carbone - Thank you much.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Carbone:**

(No report)

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Carbone:** We have Ordinance No. 2023-129; this is a purchase agreement for certain property located on Royalton Road. Over the last several months, you may have heard us talk about a land swap with The Chamber of Commerce. This is for a possible future location of our fire station. As we were having those conversations and as that swap went the properties, this land owner who is...Neal, what it out of state that reached out to us?

Mr. Jamison - He is in the area.

Mr. Carbone - He reached out to us and that used to be a rental home that sat vacant and asked if there would be any interest to us in purchasing it. That is why we are at this point that it is on our agenda. There is definitely an interest that can span the opportunities there with that fire station and most importantly, make the ingress and egress path as safe as possible. I think it will benefit the planning of this immensely. The recommendation here is going to be to suspend and adopt.

Ms. Kosek – Jim if I may, and I fully understand where we are coming from talking about the fire station, but I think some residents think that this is already decided and it is not. This is property that would be beneficial to the city regardless of what use we do with it. I just want to be clear with the residents, that has not been decided and it is a possibility.

Mayor Perciak – It's a ballot issue.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Carbone (cont'd):**

Ms. Kosek - Yes, it's a ballot issue and it's a possibility, but it's not decided. It would have to go the ballot. I just want to make that clear for residents who have been here asking questions.

Mr. Carbone – Definitely, thank you for clarifying that. That is a ballot issue, but whether it's for a fire station or anything else, to be able to have that property and be able to control a piece of our corner...of our downtown, I think it's still very valuable.

Mayor Perciak - I couldn't agree with you more, sir.

Mr. Carbone – Next, we will go to Reports and Communications. Are there any questions for me? I'm sorry.

(No comments)

### REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICERS:

MAYOR PERCIAK: Thank you Mr. President and good evening everyone a couple of housekeeping chores. September 17, 2023, The City Club will again be holding their Breakfast-on-the-Bridge. I think all of you who have attended know that it's a wonderful day to kick off the fall season here in The City of Strongsville. We get about 1,000 breakfast participants on the bridge. It is sponsored by the Strongsville City Club, and if you want tickets contact any City Club member or our own Charlie Goss, and he can advise you on how to get tickets. Again, Breakfast-on-the-Bridge… I think we begin at 7:30 a.m. or 8:00 a.m., Charlie?

Director Goss – Yes, from 7:30 a.m. to noon, Mayor.

Mayor Perciak – Thank you, then right after that, our Arts in Strongsville will continue their Day at the Chalet until 5:00 p.m. We have a full day here in the Metroparks on September 17, 2023. Now I would like to address...vou see there's a map up there and it's the Foltz Parkway Extension which so many people have brought to our attention through the last several months. What I would like to do is give the Council a little update on this. Our city engineer is here with us and he will point the things out as we get there. In 2020, after the sale to CCL which the Council approved, we made finishing this project and the extension of this road a top priority. We advertised, we interviewed, and selected MS Consultants to re-draw the plans and obtain our Army Corps permit. Since the previous extension of Foltz Parkway, over 10 years ago, it was evident that the wetland areas have expanded throughout the site, especially at the south end toward Boston Road. Numerous comparisons and financial analysis were done and it was determined that an extension of approximately 2,000 feet to a cul-de-sac is better and a permittable option. Still, we were at an impasse with The Army Corps of Engineers, to the point where we were getting no answers or responses from any type of communication with them, either through ourselves or our consultants. Fast forward to 2023, the cul-de-sac option plans are complete. Mr. Mikula, if you would turn that around and show everybody with the map please, Council was seeing it. Turn it around if you can. Thank you, sir. With the cul-de-sac and careful avoidance and protection of all conservation, we can keep most of the wetlands, streams, and all the different riparian zones, and open up approximately 50 developable acres.

Mayor Perciak (cont'd) - This could yield us four medium to large scale end users with the potential of 871,000,000 square feet of total building space. The end users would provide between 1,000 - 2,000 new jobs to the city of Strongsville and the region. Still, we were at an impasse with the Army Corp to the point we were getting no answers or responses from our phone calls, our emails, through our consultants or ourselves. Earlier this year, upon my request, Representative Max Miller intervened with The Army Corp on the city's behalf. Here is the latest news as of now, as of July of 2023, The Army Corps has responded swiftly and in a determined manner. To prioritize the project, they have replaced the project manager. Committing to expediting our process, we have now entered into the public coordination process. The public notice has been properly posted for the mandatory period of 30 days and the deadline for public comments expires today. Numerous letters of support have been submitted. All public comments will be considered, and the proposed mitigation plan will be evaluated. This process will take about 30 - 60 days. Afterwards, we will get correspondence from The Army Corps which will spell out the conditions of the permit. It is likely one of the conditions will be to preserve the land south near Boston Road. Other conditions may include providing for or paying for mitigation of wetlands. I'm not sure we are going to get into that, but that may be one of the conditions. We would be then in a position to bid this project out in 2024. I just want to stress with Foltz Parkway being cul-de-saced, there will be no entry into Boston Road. That is the condition in which will be placed on the permit from The Army Corps and from everybody else. That should put to rest any type of questions or answers that our business park will be exiting into Boston Road. It is cul-de-saced off and there will be no entry into Boston Road. Anybody accessing Foltz Parkway or the business park, will have to through Foltz Parkway and there will be no ingress or egress off of Boston Road. Now, at this point, what I would like to do is bring up our experts from Euthenics, Al Piatek and Ashley Wright to discuss what we know about our studies currently with the interchange.

Mr. Piatek – Thank you Mayor, and good evening Council. I have a hand-out that summarizes my talking points this evening. Would that be alright if I hand that out?

Mr. DeMio – I don't think that mic is on...is it?

### At this time, Mr. Piatek distributed a Boston Road & I-71 Interchange Traffic Study handout to Council which is attached to the back of these minutes.

Mr. Piatek – Okay, can you hear me? As the Mayor said, I have Ashley Wright with me this evening. Ashley was our lead traffic engineer on this study working hand in hand with our subconsultant, TransSystems to complete the study. We submitted a draft copy of this study to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) this past June 2023. They have reviewed the study, provided us with comments, we addressed those comments, and resubmitted to the department. We had communications with ODOT last week that they have accepted our study and have no additional comments. With that said, I think it's important to go back to why this study was done initially. This goes back to language that was within House Bill 110 that was approved back in June, 2021. I will just summarize and paraphrase the language within that bill. It basically directed the Ohio Department of Transportation to perform a traffic study within the municipal boundaries of the City of Strongsville, North Royalton, and Brunswick. As far as the scope of our study, this was jointly defined by the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) and the Ohio Department of Transportation. It's important to note that this scope had two specific parts. Part 1A which included a draft purpose and need an evaluation of multiple interchange arrangements at Boston Road and I-71 including a no build, and traffic forecast for future traffic.

Mr. Piatek (cont'd) - Part 1A is the report that we have submitted to ODOT and they have accepted. Part 1B has not been authorized, but Part 1B will include the environmental field studies, the public involvement plan, public meetings and alternatives evaluation report to identify a preferred alternative, and an interchange justification study to ultimately allow an interchange. We looked at a number of things as Part 1A. I would say the two key items were a look at the operational analysis of the existing conditions or key intersections along the State Route 82 corridor from Howe Road to West 130th Street, along the Boston Road corridor from Pearl Road to West 130th Street, and along State Route 303 from North Carpenter Road to West 130th Street. In addition, we looked at the traffic apparitions as to how multiple interchange configurations at Boston Road and I-71 would impact...what impacts that would have to the State Route 82 corridor, Boston Road corridor and State Route 303 corridor. Some of the preliminary findings: First, a Boston Road interchange would modestly reduce congestion along State Route 82 and State Route 83 (he meant to say 303) for each interchange build, alternative, and analyzed. What this means is a Boston Road only interchange solution does not remedy congestion within the studied area. We looked at the right-of-way impacts of the different interchange configurations. Those ranged from moderate for the partial interchange configurations to significant for the full interchange. We looked at and identified the improvements that would be required on Boston Road within the interchange area. Our report is on the city's website (www.strongsville.org). There are graphics contained within the reports, all 760 pages of it. The first 20 something pages contain the exhibits of what these interchange arrangements would look like. Some additional findings: There were higher concentrations of crashes found around State Route 82 and the I-71 interchange compared to the rest of the networks analyzed. There would be utility impacts along Boston Road with any widening of an interchange. There's existing communication lines and power lines; these would require relocation. There's underground utilities such as water lines, gas lines, and sanitary sewer. There would likely be adjustments needed to these utilities, but most importantly, there are two active 12" petroleum pipelines that run along the south side of Boston Road. These are outside of the existing right-of-way located within their own private easement. Any impacts to these pipelines would require significant coordination with that private utility. As far as the next steps, we have spoken with the Ohio Department of Transportation as recently as last week, and have been told that ODOT officials will be reaching out to the communities in the near future to discuss the next steps. Those include the items I had mentioned in Part 1B. In addition, the language that was included with House Bill 23, in the Transportation Bill that was passed this past June, I will just paraphrase and try to summarize. Basically, it indicates that the Department of Transportation will ensure that interchanges are constructed at certain intervals that meet certain criteria. If you look at I-71 between State Route 82 and State Route 303, that section appears to meet that criteria. Again, the study is on the city's website and I would be happy to address any technical questions. If you want to submit those through your engineering office, they can reach out to us and we could provide a timely response. With that, I will open it up to any questions.

Ms. Roff – Will there be an opportunity for you, since I was not aware that you were going to be here today, an opportunity, if we did have as Council, questions that we could offer our residents too...that there would be another time that you can come back. We can get the questions to you ahead of time, but to answer it because I don't have anything ready. I wasn't aware that you were presenting, sorry.

Mr. Piatek - Yes, we could do that.

Ms. Roff - Thank you.

Mr. Clark – Question, you talked about Part 1B and obviously not being complete and not being authorized yet and you outlined a little bit of what that scope would entail. Certainly, the logical next steps...earlier, it outlines the area referencing Strongsville, North Royalton and Brunswick. Does Part 1B also identify any type of forecast for growth within Strongsville, North Royalton and Brunswick and extending to Columbia Station?

Mr. Piatek – Part 1A included the growth along the corridors that we studied. It included State Route 303 corridor along the intersections that we analyzed. It didn't identify necessarily improvements there, but no that was not part of the study.

Mr. Clark – Right, and it was the growth of the historical look. My question is, would Part 1B also look at forecasted future growth, in not only the three areas that are identified which each has shown and continues to show growth: Brunswick, Strongsville, and North Royalton, but neighboring cities that would also use that thorough fair and when you identified the opportunity that's based on what is outlined in that state bill, the criteria...I guess, what I am getting to is would we make a decision based on what's happened over the last 20 years or proactively will Part 1B look at how would we prevent and make sure if we make a change or make a decision, it's better for the next one?

Mr. Piatek – I would say for the first part of the answer to your question is I don't know the scope for Part 1B. I gave you the generalization of what the scope includes. As far as what exactly will be looked at, the extent, how far away from Boston Road, and what other communities I guess I can't speak to that. That will be determined when the details for Part 1B are defined.

Mr. Kaminski – What type of timeframe are you looking at for Part 1B?

Mr. Piatek – Part 1B is really out of our hands at this point in time. With the language that has been inserted into House Bill 23, ODOT will be reaching out to...I am assuming weeks...the next few weeks. They are aware of the language. I can't speak for them, but I would assume within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Kaminski – Where would they typically hold these public meetings? Are they in one of the cities or do they rotate them around?

Mr. Piatek – As far as the next step, it's my understanding that the ODOT leadership...someone within the ODOT leadership will be reaching out to the communities. What exactly does that mean? I'm not sure, but I am assuming that would be reaching out to the Mayor and the engineering department to start that discussion with the process of moving forward with Part 1B.

Mr. Kaminski – Thank you.

Ms. Kosek – I have a question that may not be directed specifically to you, it may go more to your administration, Mayor. I understand that NOACA and ODOT set the scope for Part 1A. Who will set the scope for Part 1B? How will it be...I assume if it's coming from...maybe I should not assume, I would hope that if the scope is coming solely from ODOT and NOACA that there is funding that is coming along with the scoping, is that something that you can respond to Mayor?

Mr. Piatek – I assume the scope will be set in a similar fashion for Part 1B as Part 1A; that it will be a joint agreement between NOACA and ODOT.

Ms. Kosek - Do we have any idea if there will be funding that will be accompanying the scope?

Mayor Perciak – I believe what she's asking for is, who is going to pay for this?

Ms. Kosek - That's what I'm asking.

Mr. Piatek – Honestly, I cannot give you the answer to that; I don't know. Given that ODOT is now required by House Bill 23 to look at this, I would assume that they would have some involvement with funding.

Ms. Kosek – I would hope, but we often have instances where there are things that come from Columbus that tells us that we must do things without any funding.

Mr. Piatek – I certainly would hope that the City of Strongsville would not bear the cost of all of this. There is typically some local participation, but yes, I would sure hope that something of this magnitude would have support from the state or at the federal level.

Ms. Roff – How is this something that can be presented to where anybody that would be affected by it, whether they are for or against anything that is proposed, is offered to the public in a reasonable time frame and given a timeline for people they can talk with in case they have questions along with us?

Mr. Piatek – That's all part of Part 1B as indicated in the Part 1B scope. There will be a public involvement plan which will outline all of the items that you are talking about. There will be public meetings, exhibits similar to the one shown of Foltz Parkway here I'm assuming; and there will be a chance for the public to comment.

Ms. Roff – Thank you.

Mr. Carbone – We just have to be very clear that the scope of service is defined with our friends at NOACA and our friends at ODOT at the table, so that we are all on the same page.

Mr. Piatek – That is correct.

Mr. Short - I do have one question and this is kind of where it can get to me, but in your Part 1A preliminary findings, you say the solution does not fully remedy congestion with (unintelligible), but obviously it does remedy some congestion. I would be curious to see what those numbers are and how that impacts the traffic flows.

Mr. Piatek – That's vague; I understand that. My interpretation, or our interpretation of the results...! drive I-71 every day. I work in Strongsville, so I drive through that corridor and I see the backups on State Route 82. Our study...the findings show, that although some congestion will be reduced, there will still be backups on State Route 82.

Mr. Short – You're saying you can't avoid that, right?

Mr. Piatek – Right, our studies show that an interchange solution at Boston Road does not fully remedy that congestion.

Mr. Short – It doesn't eliminate all the traffic on State Route 82, but it would reduce it, thank you.

Mr. Piatek - Right.

Mr. Carbone – With your experience, how many of these projects do fully remedy congestion like that?

Mr. Piatek – Fully remedy...I will give you a little history, and I'm sure most of you are aware this. Boston Road and I-71...this has been studied for a long time. There has been a lot of studies that have looked at the interchange at Boston Road, and the congestion on State Route 82 has existed for 15 or 20 years, since the mall, maybe longer. So, ODOT has done prior studies to look at short-term, medium-term, and long-term solutions to remedy that congestion. Both ODOT, and the City of Strongsville have implemented some of those short-term solutions; the traffic signal coordination project and the safety project to widen the westbound to northbound ramp. Those were all short-term lower cost solutions to improve traffic flow. Some of the other studies did identify, I would say, pretty big and dramatic changes to that interchange; not looking like anything it does right now. I think we are past the point of adding a lane for capacity. I think we are past that. It would...what exactly that solution is, I don't have it before you tonight. It would be an expensive mitigation strategy.

Ms. Roff – I just do want to go back to one part that you have here, Part 1A for the preliminary findings. You talk about utility impact and the widening of Boston Road. By widening of Boston Road, what are you referring to? Are you referring to two lanes, ten lanes, an area of widening, or all the way down Boston Road?

Mr. Piatek – It's within the interchange areas, so I will loosely define that as whatever turn lane lengths are needed to be developed at let's say the intersections of Howe Road and Boston Road, the various ramps, and extending it maybe 500 to 1,000 feet east of Benbow Road. That's kind of the area that would be needed to...just within the interchange areas to provide and acceptable level of service. Depending on the alternative, that may mean widening to 5 lanes within that area...4 lanes, 5 lanes, 6 lanes. Again, those graphics are in the study.

Ms. Roff – Is that is something that would have to happen with all the options that you proposed? Whether it's just an off ramp, an on ramp, a full interchange...all those things?

Mr. Piatek - Correct, any ramp connection would require widening of Boston Road to some extent.

Ms. Roff – Thank you.

Mr. DeMio – Jim if I may, I think the two points...people have been very patient with all the reports we've had. I mean 700 pages, this tonight, and the photos. The Mayor and I talked about how many years looking at this, directly and indirectly, while Mayor Ehrnfelt and before Mayor Ehrnfelt. Tom Clark and Gordon mentioned two things I want to hit on. I just hope, whether this ultimately goes through or not, I hope they take a look at the true growth. I think it's great to look at what Strongsville is doing. I think it's great to look at the "three" if you will; but you cannot overlook the growth on Pearl Road on the Brunswick end and on the Strongsville end. You cannot just look at North Royalton. You have to include the look of Columbia Station. It has changed drastically in less than a year and a half or two years with the golf courses going down, with the waterworks that has to change, and with the widening over there. It would not be prudent of us not to have that information; it cannot be done. I'm a golfer by trade and I'm losing my golf course. There's a few of us...not a very good golfer I might add, but we're losing those. Those aren't...it's not two or three homes going up. It's a lot, so this report I truly appreciate it. It made it a simple understanding of what you're talking about, but there's so much more that we have to see on this. We really do. I appreciate what you've done and put it on the website, but the remedy about a small increase of congestion or decreasing that congestion is something that is deeply concerning; it really is. I just wanted to put that out there. I don't know how you would include those areas that Mr. Clark talked about, Gordon talked about and Ann talked about with the congestion. I just think it wouldn't be prudent enough to do. I know what the scope says, I get what the Ohio revised Code says...that a piece of this legislation started this process back in June ... I get it. I don't know how we do that, Mayor. I don't know if that's part of something we have to do or it's the job of the two we are talking about in this pamphlet here. It's simply would not be prudent for our folks, and this Council. I just want to put that on for the record.

Mr. Carbone - Thank you Mr. DeMio, I appreciate...

Ms. Roff — Sorry Jim, just one more thing, I know the House Bill includes Strongsville, North Royalton and Brunswick, but I know that I also seen right there in that same area even though it's not necessarily connected, is Hinckley. I don't know if that's part of somewhere that they are going to be reaching out to.

Mr. Piatek – They would be certainly welcomed to comment at any public involvement in Part 1B.

Ms. Roff – Again, you will let us know when Part 1B comes to any kind of....?

Mr. Piatek - I'm not sure if that will be me or....

Mayor Perciak – Let's be clear. We have not heard if there's going to be a Part 1B. Am I missing something there?

Mr. Piatek – No, that is correct.

Mayor Perciak – Okay.

Mr. Clark – Thank you for being here and sharing this information. We are directing some questions that are beyond you so again, I recognize that you don't have the authority on all of that and work is provided to you and directed to you. We appreciate the work that has been done, and you being here to provide this information and answer the questions today; we will probably have more.

Mr. Piatek – I appreciate the city allowing us to do the work, so thank you.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you, and thank you Mayor for updating us. I know there's a lot of questions out there and in due time, I'm sure we will have those answers that we can get out to the community and give them an opportunity to engage, at some point, if Part 1B goes through.

Mayor Perciak - Thank you, you're correct.

Mr. Piatek - Thank you.

Mr. Carbone - Anything else? Mayor, anything else on this topic?

Mayor Perciak - Nothing else, sir.

Mr. Carbone - Okay.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean: Thank you Mr. President, I hereby certify that funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda which require certification of funding, thank you.

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Jamison: Thanks Mr. Chairman, just to let Council know that for the one house on Howe Road, on the east side, will be going to trial in early October down in Common Pleas Court. We just had a recent case management conference; and all parties agreed that we are going to go to trial in early October to move that forward. I'll keep Council posted on that. I know it is of concern to a lot of you, and the people in that area, that we address – not only that home, but the one a little farther north. We're having a meeting at that site next week…the one farter north on the west side. I will keep you posted on those developments.

Ms. Roff – Thank you Neal, thank you for keeping up with that.

Mr. Jamison – No problem, and all ordinances and resolutions are in proper legal form; that concludes my report.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Mr. Carbone – Part of our agenda is audience participation. Again, I just wanted to stress, a lot of times there are questions of why there isn't dialogue. I just wanted to be clear with Codified Ordinance Section 220.05(i). It states, "Any member of the audience who wishes to address the Council during audience participation must stand at the podium, clearly state his or her name and residence address for recording purposes. Audience members must address the Council when speaking. No member of the audience will be allowed to engage in debate with any member of Council, the Administration or any other member of the audience.

Mr. Carbone (cont'd) - The President of Council shall not recognize any member of the audience who attempts to speak from his seat or from any location other than the podium. Comments of members of the audience shall be limited to five minutes." This is an opportunity for our community and anybody who wants to engage, who wants to share something that's on their mind. With that being said, we are always available after meetings...you can email, you can call if you wanted to have further conversations. The purposes of our meeting are business meetings. We have to conduct these as business meetings; but we really and truly want to hear from you. That's why we give everybody an opportunity. We don't want that interrupted. We want everybody to be respectful; and that there will be time right after the meeting, or in the days and weeks ahead, to have those conversations with anybody up here. With that being said, is there anybody on the list for audience participation this evening?

Michael King, 10730 Gate Post Road, Strongsville, OH 44149: First name is Michael, last name is King, 10730 Gate Post Road. Good evening, I appreciate the opportunity to address Council here this evening. My purpose in coming this evening is a deep concern that I have. That is, I have been a resident here in Strongsville for over 50 years. I've seen the changes that have taken place here in Strongsville. Obviously, some are very good. Others, not so good. What I would like to address this evening is one that I feel is not so good. That is, it came to my attention, upon returning from a vacation, that the City of Strongsville now has a gun shop at the corner of Prospect Road and Albion Road. I believe the name of the facility is "The Firearms Trading Company." There's been, I feel, an over-commercialization here in Strongsville. You just have to travel down St. Rt. 82 or down Pearl Road. Strongsville, undoubtedly, has grown over the years; but to now include a gun store here in Strongsville...my feeling is that it shouldn't be there. We shouldn't have a gun store in Strongsville, particularly at that location, because within a quarter of a mile, either way, you have an elementary school...Surrarrer Elementary School. The other direction, I believe...

Mr. Carbone – Einstein Academy

Mr. King — Thank you, Einstein Academy, both within walking distance of that store. I don't that that is a good situation. Myself, I live within a half mile now of that gun store. It doesn't ensure in me additional safety. Now, I understand that recently there was a program that took place at the high school in the event of a school shooting. I think we've got it turned around. There shouldn't be a need for that type of exercise; and to now add the possibility of it happening here in Strongsville is not right. You only have to look at the nightly news. What's the first item that comes across? It's a shooting. That's the number one lead of a news program. Does it make it any easier to now have a facility here in Strongsville that has the potential...I don't care about all the safety and rules... to add to that? I don't believe we want that. There's just an over proliferation of guns; and Mr. Carbone, you being a police officer, I think, you know better than anyone of the scope of this. If you look at the advertisement, there's a truck in the parking lot in front of that facility now. Included in there, on that truck, are guns, ammo, silencers and weapons. Let me reiterate — guns, ammo, silencers and weapons. When I went up there prior to coming to this meeting here this evening, in the window there is an AR-17. Do we want this to be the face of Strongsville? I don't think we do, thank you.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you sir.

(Applause)

Peggy Costello, 14310 Prospect Road, Strongsville, OH 44149: Good evening, I'm Peggy Costello. I live at 14310 Prospect Road. I'm here about construction on Prospect, which we're all aware of. We know what's going on. What I didn't know is that my driveway would be involved in the construction. Having trucks parked in my driveway. I can't get in and out. You gave us a beautifully paved Prospect Road and they've torn it up already. I remember last year when all of this was going on and was approved, we were promised that there would be no trucks of construction in or out onto Prospect Road; that they would be coming in and out on Royalton Road. Well, I've got pictures; I see it every day. I didn't get a notice from the city saying that my home would be directly involved...maybe some common sense if I would have seen, yeah - they got the water and they are putting in sewer lines and everything; but I didn't know it would affect my driveway. I went out the first day it was there and I talked to the gentleman from...I believe it's Fechko, if I think I'm saying it right. They have been very nice. His name, I believe, was Mike. Why didn't I get a notice? He says, "8:00 a.m. was I thought too early." I said, "You're blocking, how do I get out?" - doctors' appointments, babysitting, grandkids...etc. We got one notice for the next day, stuck on my front door, that the water was going to be off. Nothing the rest of the week. Like I said, they are putting their equipment on the front lawn on my son's side. I'm in one of the duplexes. He's got two piles, one of stone and one of dirt that has been there all week. I don't know what they're going to do...if they're going to be tearing it up again. We still have the metal plates; and that's been...you know, you hear the "thump, thump." All night long you would hear it. They kind of silenced it with some blacktop. My one thought, and this is after the fact, why didn't the city close it down from Royalton Road to Lunn Road for the week? The traffic was a mess. Traffic there anyhow gets to be a mess. I know they've shut it down before. I've been there for 24 years on Prospect Road; and when they worked on it before, they shut it down. You could access through Pearl Road with Lunn Road to continue on, or Foltz Parkway. I think it should have been shut down. My son even went out and the Fechko man's number was on this paper. He gave him a call too. Why aren't they giving us notice? The answer he got was, "Well, I'm new. I'm a new foreman here." Well, didn't your old foreman talk? Three new foremen within a week we've had. When I left to come to the meeting, there was a big loader going on at 7:30 p.m. I don't know what they were doing, but it was a big loader. I did have one of those big, yellow loaders that were putting the metal plate in my drive...you know, back it up to put it that way. I thought they should use it on their property, not on ours. Whose going to be responsible to repair my apron and part of my drive there? Will it be the city? Do I have to go after the contractor? Do I go after Catanzarites that set this all in...? I'm sure they are going to be beautiful homes, but it's just a thought for the future. I don't know what else they are going to be doing. I had a whole thing written down, but I don't want to take everybody's time. I'm just giving you the points, and you know, for future...

Mr. Short – Thank you for bringing it to our attention. Since I represent that ward, I'll talk to...

Ms. Costello – I know, I called you twice and you haven't called back yet.

Mr. Short – I'll talk with the developer there on that and we'll make sure they're not blocking...and we'll talk to them about that.

Ms. Costello – You know, the one thing when I got out, I said, "I'm going to be gone till 3:00 p.m.; but when I get home, I want to be able to get into my drive." So they had the little sign there, "Slow/Stop." I'm going north on Prospect Road and I'm waiting in the little...young man with his sign. I'm stopped because I can't get into my drive and he's pointing at the sign...you know, go slow go slow. I said, "I want to go in there." Not thinking, but they finally realized as I eased up. We should have some notice, you know, either from the city or...

Mr. Carbone – Well, thank you for sharing that. Moving forward, if there's any issues, please call Mr. Short.

Ms. Costello – Please call me back if I call again.

Mr. Short – Let's talk after, I'll give you something.

Mr. Carbone - Yes, if you could stick around after the meeting.

Ms. Costello – I will...past my bedtime though.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you very much, you did a great job, thank you.

Kim Wirtz, 16865 Rabbit Run Drive, Strongsville, OH 44136: Kim Wirtz, I'm at 16865 Rabbit Run Drive. I'm here to talk about the windchime ordinance and the City of Strongsville...or actually, the lack thereof. I have an issue with a neighbor who is very close in proximity to her house and my bedroom window. She has very high-pitched windchimes that she put on the corner of her house. I've asked her to move them which she did initially; but every year, they come back out. They just get closer and closer to my bedroom; and so, that's our issue. She will not take them down. I mentioned to Ms. Roff that I was having this issue, and her response was, "Well, as long as it's not above a certain decibel, there's really nothing we can do about that." I have an issue with that. The noise is constant, repetitive, 6 months out of the year. I can hear it through my bedroom windows when they are closed. I just think there has to be some solution. I guess there are some people who love windchimes. I am not one of them. I think they are really, really annoying. People have sensory perception issues. The high-pitched, the repetitive...it's just nonstop. It's not even on windy days; it's just the slightest breeze that goes by. Now, she hangs more. I'd like to propose... I know there are some who like windchimes. If you find them relaxing, great. Maybe you can keep them a certain distance from another resident's house. I'd like to say a 7 iron maybe...or a little more, right? A hundred and forty-five yards...get away from my bedroom window. Maybe we could say there's a certain number of windchimes that you can be limited to in a residential city. I mean, we're a residential city. We're not in the country. Our houses are pretty much on top of each other. I'd just would like to bring that to your attention and ask for your help because there's nothing that I am able to accomplish with this woman; and it's driving me mad. Can you help?

Mr. Carbone – Thank you for coming up here. Ms. Roff is...

Ms. Roff – Were you able though...if you could have, especially after quiet time, the police will come out and measure the amount of sound that is coming through and whether it's constant or not and make note of it, which could help.

Ms. Wirtz – I guess it could.

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### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):**

Ms. Roff – Relay stuff back to us.

Ms. Wirtz – But it's just still, you know, if I sat outside your bedroom window from here to here, and I just played the xylophone all night long, that might not be above the decibel level.

Ms. Roff – I definitely understand, yes.

Ms. Wirtz - But it's going to be absolutely...

Ms. Roff – But also, there is coding though too past a certain time as far as noise.

Ms. Wirtz – Well, it's all the time; it's 24/7. She can go on vacation for 3 weeks and her windchimes are still out there, so...

Ms. Roff – So if it's past that time, you can call them out, definitely...as a nuisance.

Ms. Wirtz – Okay, well I guess maybe that's a start, but I feel like I'd be a little bit better armed if we could say, you know, those windchimes are only 10 feet from your neighbor's property line; maybe they should be 150 yards or something like that. My neighbors across the street have them all over there front yard. They don't bother me, they don't bother anybody in the front windows of the house. We can all sleep. We can open the windows when it's nice. Today, it's not nice, tomorrow...next day it's going to be fabulous. I want to open my windows. I want to enjoy that fresh air and I just can't. I just can't.

Ms. Roff – Then also, if you wouldn't mind leaving your phone number with our law department and maybe he could look at what a nuisance is and what is in that coding. That's Neal there, and that could help you a little bit.

Ms. Wirtz – That would be my absolute pleasure, thank you, that's it.

Ms. Roff - Thank you.

Sue Mazzola, 3440 Boston Road, Brunswick, OH 44212: Hi, my name is Sue Mazzola, I live at 3440 Boston Road. I hope you all enjoyed your little break, maybe got to spend time with family, go on vacation, because you robbed us of that. Since March, we go to bed worrying about our homes; wake up worrying if they take it, where are we going? This is what you've done to us that you're all enjoying your life here. I did look and, seeing September 6, 2022, you had discussed the budget on the transportation study. You (Ms. Kosek) had asked the Mayor, "This is a lot of money. How do you feel this is going to go?" The Mayor's reply was, "If I get my way, if Patton gets his way, and ODOT gets his way. NOACA is a problem." Ironically, the way this provision was put into the bill kind of overrode NOACA. You all knew this was coming. Not one of you are honest. Not one of you have transparency. None of you have integrity. Obviously, you cannot even handle your own constituents. You give a silly answer. You...she said she called you twice; you don't call back. You delete comments on Facebook. I questioned you; instead of being honest, you deleted it; so I put it back on. None of you have integrity. You should all be ashamed of yourselves. Not one of you deserves to be up there. You all knew how this was going to go down. You knew it was going to go in sneaky a year ago and said nothing.

Ms. Mazzola (cont'd) - I'm not going to lose my home; and you're still going to have your congestion according to the (unintelligible) said that. You're still going to have congestion and that you're going to take peoples' homes? How do you people live with yourself?

(Applause)

Buckley Wilford, 18583 Benbow Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136: My name is Buckley Wilford at 18583 Benbow Road here in Strongsville. I'm once again opposing this interchange. We had a nice, little rally outside - maybe 40-50 people...l don't know, some news crews and things. People walking around with signs everywhere. It doesn't look good for our city, all that kind of trouble, in my opinion. A lot of people getting upset. A lot of door-to-doors happen, thousands of door-to-doors. I know on the Mayor's own street, everybody is against it as well too, that he lives on. Many people are against this. We're having a hard time finding someone who is for it who will talk to us in the area. I listened to this guy that we spent \$325,000.00 for; and it seems like he can't give an answer. When anybody asks him a straight answer, I didn't hear any straight answers. I heard a whole lot of talk around is what I heard. I heard, "Maybe increase congestion...maybe a little less congestion." I want to hear numbers...\$325,000.00...I didn't hear...I heard compliments to his 700-page report was good. I wonder if anybody here could break it down and make it simple for anybody to understand. I wonder if any of you could understand this 700-page report that we spent \$325,000.00 for. I know that we will be doing everything in our power to talk to the transportation people, to everyone else, and tell them how unsatisfied we are. There are thousands now who are speaking up, behind us, with paperwork, with petitions, with different things, to stop this madness. From the only thing that I'm getting, from what I am hearing, is that you guys are all for — will do everything you can...now I'm hearing from your comments that we got to look what's the congestion going to be in Columbia Station or somewhere else because how are we going to make sure that this somehow goes through to try to make sure that we have a need for it. I hear 4-5-6 lanes on Boston Road; and I'm thinking all the people that live there and how devastating that is to them. I know the City of Brunswick, the City of Brunswick Hills and the City of Hinkley have all signed opposition letters against this interchange. Originally, I was hearing 5 cities. Now tonight, I'm only hearing 3 cities – Brunswick, North Royalton, Strongsville. (Unintelligible) here to make instead of a 3-2, we have a 1-2 for opposition; but I tell you, this is a bad thing on the website. I looked, and I saw that we had the Foltz Parkway going all the way to the Boston Road. I'm thankful that tonight it's been clarified that it will never go through to Boston Road is what I'm hearing; and that's a good thing. I'm wondering why is that still on the website? Why do I click on the corporate section and it's right there on the Strongsville website? We're a pretty uppity property city. We should be updating our website and keeping things straight, not have some kind of misleading stuff like this going on our website. I know I've heard the issues with truck drivers and things that I have spoken to; that some of them have troubles getting up the Boston Hill Road to Pearl Road already at this time. I'm glad Foltz Parkway is not going to go through because no truck is going to be able to get up that way anyway. It would be a heck of a hard time for people. I think there are a whole lot of people who have been misled trying to hear the thing of a little congestion, being led away. They just made it...some people in our city think, "Oh, it's not big deal." Or the comment that it's like Wallings Road and I-77 where's there's a massive open area where houses are all being destroyed and things, and more country-like right there than what it looks like at Boston Road, right at the end of Benbow Road right here where I live. I'm just very displeased. I want to let vou know I'm going to continue the fight. I'm a 100% against this. I would appreciate it if you guys would be against it. I do not feel supported whatsoever, still, from my own city. I love this city, born and raised here, always going to be here.

Mr. Wilford (cont'd) - I feel like I have no representation here whatsoever. I tell you, I cannot believe the kind of stuff that I see. I see how you guys treat other people when they come up; and it's nice, I like that the way you treat some of these people and help them right there. I wish that we would get some of the same respect and somebody would help us with the situation we are facing. You're looking at these ladies right in the face and you're going to take their home away from them as if it's nothing. That's a big deal. My own block is not going to be taken away, at least at this point that I know; but it sure is going to get affected. I care about my neighbors, it's not just me. It's about my neighbors as well too; and it's about Brunswick. I'm upset about what's going on. Those are my comments for tonight.

### (Applause)

Nancy Frognowski, 465 Pembroke Cove, Brunswick, OH 44212: Nancy Frognowski, I live on 465 Pembroke Cove in Brunswick, I'm here to talk about the interchange. I have to say first that it sort of hit me wrong when you talked about losing golf courses because of those developments...and you know, you're a golfer. I bring it back to these people that are going to lose their houses. If you felt bad about losing a golf course that you like to play on, think about these people that are going to be losing houses. I think that's something maybe you shouldn't say among all these people. The gentleman that spoke tonight talked about the study and how Boston Road would have to be widened and all the utilities. Of course, we all know about the jet fuel line that I shudder when I think what could happen there. Again, him saying that it would only be a moderate decrease in traffic on St. Rt. 82. I guess I don't understand. I don't want anyone to lose their house no matter where they live. If Foltz Industrial Parkway is not going to be connected to Boston Road, why is Boston Road the focused area right now? There are other interchanges. There's Drake Road in Strongsville. You heard us say before that Strongsville has developed so much; but we're feeling that this is being pushed on Brunswick, and that doesn't seem right. I guess I just want to say that I'm so ashamed of Tom Patton putting this into a law, into the transportation bill. I think that anybody that worked with him on doing this, sneaking it in this way, should also be ashamed of themselves, thank you.

### (Applause)

Matthew Mellis, 19875 Nob Hill, Strongsville, OH 44136: My name is Matthew Mellis, I live at 19875 Nob Hill in Strongsville. Some of you may remember me from the late 90's where I built an Avery Dennison plant on the industrial parkway. We built that plant to 450 employees. I have some concerns that I want to share with you. I want to thank you for allowing me the time, in front of the Council and the Mayor, to communicate those concerns. First, this interstate on Boston Road is a real complex issue. The complexity is all on the administrative side, council side and the State side. It's pretty clear from the residents where they stand. It seems to me that you should consider why there are no interstate exchanges in residential areas in the entire State of Ohio. There must be a reason for that; and I would encourage you to do some research to develop an understanding of why that is the case. Widening the road, and putting the interstate exchange in, increases traffic in that area. Certainly, I live at the corner of Boston Road and Nob Hill. That would not be my preference. I heard tonight, that could be up to 5-6 lanes. I can't imagine 5-6 lanes going up to my property or anybody else's property that live on Boston Road. astonishing to me that you would consider a project that is in the hundred-million dollar range before it's all said and done, with a "modest," I believe that's what he said - the consultant said, a "modest" improvement in traffic patterns...unbelievable. I'm also very concerned that I don't see a lot of engineered costs associated with this project. What's a project going to cost?

Mr. Mellis (cont'd) - What is the impact to the residents of Strongsville and their property taxes and so on? What is the impact to noise and safety levels on Boston Road? I know as a Vice President for my division, I managed a number of divisions for Avery Denison, if I were to propose to my management a project of this magnitude, without understanding the full range of cost and the associated impacts to my businesses and to my employees, I would not have a job. You should think about that. I want you to know that your lack of understanding of the details of this project is a concern to me; and quite frankly, I would be concerned if I were you about how you go forward as a Councilman in the City of Strongsville; because there's a lot of people that have concerns about your ability to manage. The ability to manage is what we're talking about here. Word to the wise.

### (Applause)

Sherri Hamm, 15728 Boston Road, Strongsville, OH 44136; Sherri Hamm, 15728 Boston Road. I'm coming up here because I question something you said. I know when you said that the slip ramp and the circle on Howe Road, to try and help the traffic up on Howe Road, was considered not safe - or deemed not safe, it was a safety issue. That's why it was gotten rid of. How is it safe for you to take the 3 houses next to my house and put a ramp right next door to my house? I already have a hard time getting out of my driveway as it is on Boston Road. So, I'm going to have a ramp right next door to my house where people are going to be coming off and going right...I'll never get out of my driveway. I'll be lucky if I don't get run into the side of my car. I guess our safety down there doesn't mean as much as the safety up on Howe Road. I just don't understand it. How about the safety of ... you've got a ramp right there? My kids are in the backyard, or my future grandchildren are in the backyard, or anybody is in that area; and you have people that don't belong in our neighborhood, coming to our neighborhood, possibly robbing us, whatever. But even more importantly, taking these kids. I have a 27 year-old daughter. She's tiny. They could take her if she's in the backyard. I'm not going to watch over my kids when they're 13 and 14; I mean, that's beyond a helicopter parent. How is it any safer to put those ramps in a residential area? That's why they don't put ramps in residential areas, or one of the reasons. It's not safe. I just don't understand why it is that the people up on Howe Road...safety is a matter to them; but the people down here, it's not an issue. I mean, you wouldn't want it in your residence. Why would you put it on somebody else? I'm not even talking about the possibility of losing my house; because even when I get kicked out of the house after the thousands of free hours that I put into the Strongsville school district, with the schools and everything, those people that are left behind are the ones that are really going to get it because they had to deal with that. I just have to deal with increased interest rates on my new mortgage after getting kicked out of the house that I've been in for 24 years. I don't understand how you people sleep at night with yourselves thinking...well, obviously you don't think about us because I don't know how you could sleep knowing what you're doing to a residential area to multiple families. I don't understand how you could sit there, as a human being. I mean, do any of you go to church? You do unto others as you would want done unto you. Do you guys want this for your neighbors, for yourself, for your kids, for your family? I know I want grandchildren; but I want them to be safe and they're not going to be safe there; not to mention all the vehicles and everything. I just don't understand why you don't widen Howe Road? Ninety percent of that traffic that comes down Howe Road is gone when you get over Drake Road...ninety percent. That means it's the Strongsville people that are taking Howe Road. They're not going to go all the way down to Boston Road and backtrack. They're still going to get off at St. Rt. 82. You're just inviting more traffic.

Ms. Hamm (cont'd) - You're moving part of your problem down to our neighborhood. Widen Howe Road, get a center lane so people can go around FedEx and the mailman or the garbage truck, and you'll alleviate those problems...more so than the study says that you're going to alleviate the traffic up there; because we don't have that much traffic down at Boston Road. We really don't, because I would have complained in the 24 years here...not that I complain a lot. I've never had an issue. I may have had to sit through one light; but we're fine down there. That's all, I'm done, thank you.

### (Applause)

Amber Aviles, 18489 Benbow Road, Strongsville, OH 44136: Hi, my name is Amber Aviles, I'm at 18489 Benbow Road. This is not something I normally do, come to these. I'm kind of in the background on Facebook; but I do have a sign in my yard. I'd hate to see it...but I want to show a little bit of a different perspective. I did what you're supposed to do. I went to college, I lived on my own in my apartment in Westlake and had fun with friends, I met my husband- he was in the military, and then we got our first house; and now, we live in Strongsville and I love it. He could live wherever he wants. He was in the Navy and now he's a cop. He's like, "I don't care, as long as I have a roof over my head, I'm happy." He knew that I loved this house, so we got it and I could live here the rest of my life. He's hoping not, but I want to. I walk my dogs every day going down Benbow Road, going down Boston Road, going in the developments, and there's already a good amount of people that could be down Benbow Road; but you know, I know how to jump out of the way. Seeing an exit at the end of my street would break my heart. I moved a lot as a kid and this is the home I want to spend the rest of my life in. I will do that - I'll fight tooth and nail. Again, like I said, I did this in the background; but I will do what I can to prove that this is somewhere I want to ... we're not having kids, but somewhere where I want to have friends and family over and have my dog safe. It would break my heart to see one of my dogs get hit by a car so I put a big fence in. I work on my home all the time. I'm always out there doing yard work. If you go down Benbow Road on a nice, sunny day, I'm outside; and I would hate to see more traffic down my street. There's so many good points, in my opinion for opposing it, of people losing their homes, and this traffic study and different things. Just from my personal, I did what you're supposed to do and got the home and this is what I want to do with my life – is to live there and work out of home and wherever I work, and not have to worry about an exit going off at the end my street. Even if our street turns into a cul-de-sac, I mean it would still stink. I'm one of the people who luckily...I get to hunt right across the street; and I get to hunt in my backyard too. It's amazing, nobody believes me that I live in Strongsville and I get to hunt; but I would hate to see those deer also losing some of their home or not being able to do that anymore. Anyway, that was just my side of this, thank you.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you.

(Applause)

Shrea Kellums, 3450 Boston Road, Brunswick, OH 44212: I'm Shrea Kellums, 3450 Boston Road. I just have a couple of things to say. The safety – you guys keep saying it's safety, just like what Sherri was saying; but how can it be safer to be in a residential area? I see the crime coming up. I see child trafficking happening. I even see drug trafficking happening. I understand that these are the plans now; but if you get Boston Road, it is going to go all the way through. That's just my concerns; and for a minimal amount, you want to take our homes...at least 14 homes...at least.

Ms. Kellums (cont'd) - Then, to hear to the devastation that it's going to go 5-6 lanes? My house is gone. We've got the jet fuel line that has to be 50 feet from a home. There's going to be many homes gone, not just 14. I don't know how you guys sleep at night.

(Applause)

Sam Mazzola, 3440 Boston Road, Brunswick, OH 44212: Hi, Sam Mazzola, 3440 Boston Road in Brunswick, OH. I talked to a bunch of you outside and you seemed like really nice guys. My concern is the lies I'm hearing because...first Mayor, I remember you saying at one time that when this started, there was never going to be 4 lanes. You said, "No 4 lanes." I heard you. As a matter of fact, one of you, I'm not sure which - it's all on YouTube, said, "I would not be for it if it's 4 lanes..." right? It's all on YouTube, it's for facts. They say one thing and do something else, just like you're talking about here - not going to do it. Well, if it's not going through, there's no reason for Boston Road in the first place because your own guys, who you spent \$300,000.00 some dollars on it, said it's moderate - 2%; but yet, you guys are trying to push it - trying to tell, "Well, it doesn't fix everything." He kept telling you, in his own nice way, it's moderate to nothing; but you want to push him to say it's a lot more. What part of that is true? The 5-6 lanes...it's ridiculous. I just don't get it. Life is short, everybody knows that. There are things that everybody should be doing like spending that time with my grandkids, not doing this stuff. You guys are pushing something you have no right to push. Your own study shows...you shouldn't have spent all that money and put the cops in there, you know, Strongsville Mall. Protect the mall and the people that want to go there. Kids are getting beaten up. Geez, you got \$300,000.00 to do that stuff. The only good thing that has come out of this though is we met a lot of good people and friends and neighbors that we wouldn't have met before; but that's it, thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Carbone – Would anybody else want to come up this evening?

(No comments)

Mr. Jamison – Mr. Chairman, before...I just want to respond to the first gentleman that spoke about the gun shop and explain that we are well aware of it. I spoke to several members of Council when that was coming in. Just to explain, the Ohio Legislature, over the course of time, has developed a series of bills or laws that are called "Pre-emption Laws," that restrict the ability of cities to prevent the sale, or restrict the sale, of weapons or firearms in their communities. We, because of what Ohio has developed in the Ohio Legislature, don't have the ability to do that. It is in a proper zoning designation for what they are doing – we reviewed it. One thing I was going to talk to the building department about was the truck that he is parking there. We will look into that. We sort of tied because of what the State of Ohio has done. Particularly, a lot of the larger communities...I know Cincinnati challenged, Cleveland challenged at one point, the restriction on their ability to do different things with different kinds of guns. The Ohio Legislature has taken that away and the courts have upheld that. I just want you to know that it's not like we're ignoring it or that we weren't aware of it, we clearly were; and we're going to keep an eye on it. The building department made sure that they are in compliance - that they received an occupancy permit and passed all their inspections; and we will look into that truck. I just wanted to let you know that, thank you sir.

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Ordinance No. 2022-152 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ADOPTED BY SECTION 1250.03 OF TITLE SIX, PART TWELVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF STRONGSVILLE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 21930 ROYALTON ROAD, IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FROM GI (GENERAL INDUSTRIAL) CLASSIFICATION TO R1-75 (ONE FAMILY 75) CLASSIFICATION (PPN 392-14-006), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. First reading and referred to the Planning Commission 10-17-22. Unfavorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 11-17-22. Second reading 11-21-22. Public hearing set for 1-3-23.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All nays. Motion fails.

Ordinance No. 2022-152 DEFEATED.

Ordinance No. 2023-071 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ADOPTED BY SECTION 1250.03 OF TITLE SIX, PART TWELVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF STRONGSVILLE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN VACANT PROPERTY LOCATED ON MARKS ROAD, IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, FROM GI-A (GENERAL INDUSTRIAL-A) CLASSIFICATION TO RT-C (TOWNHOUSE-CLUSTER) CLASSIFICATION (PORTION OF PPN 394-07-001), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. First reading and referred to Planning Commission 05-15-23. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 05-25-23. Second reading 6-05-23. Public Hearing 7-17-23.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: ayes: Clark, Short, Kaminski, DeMio, Kosek.

nays: Carbone, Roff. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2023-071 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2023-099 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ADOPTED BY SECTION 1250.03 OF TITLE SIX, PART TWELVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF STRONGSVILLE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 11654 PEARL ROAD (PPN 392-26-002) IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FROM GB (GENERAL BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION TO R-RS (RESTAURANT-RECREATIONAL SERVICES) CLASSIFICATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. First reading and referred to Planning Commission 07-03-23. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 07-06-23. Second reading 07-17-23. Public hearing 09-05-23.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2023-099 ADOPTED.

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### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2023-116 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A GRANT OF EASEMENT FOR STORM SEWER SYSTEM PURPOSES FROM JOSEPH Z PROPERTIES LLC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2023-116 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2023-117 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO AS THE BORROWER TO REIMBURSE ITS SANITARY SEWER FUND FOR THE ALBION ROAD AND WEBSTER ROAD SANITARY SEWER PROJECT (OPWC PROJECT NO. CA16Z) WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAX-EXEMPT DEBT OF THE STATE OF OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All aves. Motion carries.

Resolution No. 2023-117 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2023-118 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1601 FIRE CODE, OF PART SIXTEEN OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE TO ENACT A NEW SECTION 1601.28 CONCERNING OPEN BURNING; AMENDING EXISTING SECTIONS 1601.11, 1601.15, 1601.20, 1601.25 AND 1601.99(a), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted age and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2023-118 ADOPTED.

### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2023-119 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING AND APPROVING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 RELATING TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC; AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2023-119 ADOPTED.

<u>Ordinance No. 2023-120</u> by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF VARIOUS ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE UTILIZED BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted age and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2023-120 ADOPTED.

<u>Ordinance No. 2023-121</u> by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 1476 OF TITLE SIX OF PART FOURTEEN OF THE BUILDING AND HOUSING CODE OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES CONCERNING SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Placed on first reading and referred to the Planning Commission for their recommendation.

Ordinance No. 2023-122 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR STATE OF OHIO ISSUE 1 FUNDING FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS B & C REHABILITATION PROJECT IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2023-122 ADOPTED.

### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Resolution No. 2023-123 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF THE CITY TO CERTIFY TO THE FISCAL OFFICER OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY UNPAID PROPERTY MAINTENANCE NUISANCE ABATEMENTS FOR LEVY AND COLLECTION ACCORDING TO LAW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2023-123 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2023-124 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted age and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2023-124 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2023-125 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM CITY OF STRONGSVILLE COUNCILMAN, JOSEPH C. DeMIO, AND HIS WIFE, MARIE DEMIO, TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2023-125 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2023-126 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM THE KIWANIS CLUB OF STRONGSVILLE TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2023-126 ADOPTED.

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### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution No. 2023-127 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM R.A. KALFAS CONSTRUCTION, INC., TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Resolution No. 2023-127 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2023-128 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM GORDON GLISSMAN OF COUNTRYSIDE, INC. LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS, TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Resolution No. 2023-128 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2023-129 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED ON ROYALTON ROAD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted age and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2023-129 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2023-130 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PROSPECT ROAD STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FROM ALBION ROAD TO FAIR ROAD, IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2023-130 ADOPTED.

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### **COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:**

(None)

### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

(None)

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Carbone adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Marialena Beach Council Secretary <u>09-18-23</u> Date

### Boston Road & I-71 Interchange CUY/MED Traffic Study

The City of Strongsville Update to Council September 5, 2023





**EUTHENICS** 

TRANSYSTEMS

### How did we get here?

corporations. (June 2021) safety and convenience of the traveling public through those municipal highways in those municipal corporations. The traffic safety study shall of the municipal corporations of Strongsville, North Royalton, and consultation with the chief executive officers and legislative authorities House Bill 110 SECTION 755.20. (A) The Director of Transportation, in examine how to improve those highways in ways that increase the Brunswick, shall conduct a traffic safety study for the roads and





- Feasibility/Traffic Study Scope was defined by NOACA & ODOT and is divided into two parts, Part 1A and Part 1B. This Study is Part 1A
- Part 1A includes a draft Purpose & Need Statement, evaluation of including the No-Build, and Traffic Forecast for future conditions. multiple interchange configurations at Boston Road and I-71
- Part 1B will include Environmental Field Studies, Public to identify a Preferred Alternative, and Interchange Justification Involvement Plan, Public Meetings, Alternative Evaluations Report



### TRANSYSTEMS

## Included in this Phase 1A Study:

- SR 82 from Howe Road to West 130th Street, Boston Road from US 42 to West 130th Street, SR 303 from North Carpenter Road to West 130th Street Operational analysis of the existing conditions for key intersections along
- 82, Boston Road, and SR 303 corridors Boston Road and I-71 and impacts a new interchange would have on the SR Analysis of traffic operations for multiple interchange configurations at





### Part 1A Preliminary Findings:

- SR 303 for each interchange build alternative analyzed A Boston Road interchange would modestly reduce congestion along SR 82 and
- A Boston Road Interchange-only solution does not fully remedy congestion within the study area
- significant Right-of-Way impacts for each Build Alternative vary from moderate to
- Identified improvements to Boston Road within the interchange area





### Part 1A Preliminary Findings:

- existing conditions Higher concentrations of crashes are found around the SR 82 & I-71 interchange compared to the rest of the network when analyzed for
- Utility Impacts –
- Widening Boston Road will require relocation of aerial power and telecommunication utilities
- Buckeye Pipeline that owns two active 12" petroleum pipelines All alternatives studied will require relocation coordination with





### **Next Steps**

 Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) officials will reach out to the communities to discuss next steps; Part 1B and Ohio House Bill 23 Section 5501.60 (A) that was passed June 2023

The Study is available on the Strongsville's website:

www.Strongsville.org

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