

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016.

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, February 16, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Michael J. Daymut, Joseph C. DeMio, Matthew A. Schonhut, Duke Southworth, Gordon C. Short, Kenneth M. Dooner and James E. Carbone. Also Present: Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. Administration: Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Finance Director Joseph Dubovec, Law Director Kenneth A. Kraus, Economic Development Director Brent Painter, Communications and Technology Director John Bedford, Recreation and Senior Services Director Bryan Bogre, Building Commissioner Tony Biondillo, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Human Resource Director Steve Kilo, Service Director Joe Walker, Public Safety Director Charles Goss, Police Chief James Kobak, and Fire Chief Jack Draves.

Council President Southworth called the caucus to order at 7:32 p.m.

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

Public Safety and Health Committee: Chairman DeMio recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance Nos. 2016-022 and 2016-023. These are ordinances authorizing the Mayor to enter into amendments to the agreements for public safety dispatch services between the City of Strongsville and the City of Berea and North Royalton in connection with an adjustment of fees. Mr. Dooner asked if these pieces of legislation just reflected the yearly adjustments. Mayor Perciak advised that is correct and, in addition, the City is still in negotiations with the dispatchers' union. Suspension and adoption was also recommended for Ordinance No. 2016-024. This is authorizing the Mayor to make an application for financial assistance with the Ohio Department of Public Safety for training of EMS personnel and/or the purchase of emergency medical equipment.

Mayor Perciak commented the City is still in negotiations with the jailers' union. As with the dispatchers, the process is moving along.

Planning, Zoning and Engineering Committee: Chairman Daymut advised Ordinance No. 2016-025 is to amend Sections 1240.08(c), 1262.04(a)(1) and 1262.05(a)(1) of Part Twelve of the Planning and Zoning code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Strongsville in order to eliminate self-storage and mini storage facilities from General Industrial Districts. This will be placed on first reading and referred to Planning Commission for their recommendation. Mr. Carbone asked if we are doing this to maximize the land in our industrial park. Mr. Daymut advised that is correct, self-storage units take up a lot of land and we are limited to available land left. Mr. Daymut advised these storage facilities belong more in commercial zoning than industrial zoning. This ordinance will be discussed at the next Economic Development Committee meeting. Mr. Schonhut asked if there will be future discussions about the available residential land left in the City. Mr. Daymut advised there will be a future Planning, Zoning and Engineering committee meeting to go over topics like that. Suspension and adoption was recommended for Ordinance No. 2016-026. This is to amend the Master Sign Program for SouthPark Mall (The Commons at SouthPark). Mr. Schonhut asked if there was a visual of this. Mr. Daymut advised he could provide a copy to him. Mr. Daymut stated that it was determined at Planning Commission that throughout all of SouthPark Center the city does not allow ground signs; therefore, that was eliminated from the proposal. Mr. Biondillo advised this legislation also had to receive approval from the ARB because there is a tower element there. Resolution No. 2016-027 is to confirm Planning Commission approval of the revised site plan for a covered, enclosed patio for The Rail restaurant located at 17887 SouthPark Center.

Suspension and adoption was recommended for that resolution. Suspension and adoption was recommended for Resolution No. 2016-028. This is to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids for the 2016 Pavement Reconstruction Program.

Mr. Schonhut asked Mr. Kraus where we stand in regards to certain business zonings, i.e. tattoo parlors, etc. Mr. Kraus advised there are discussions going on with the City Planner as to what type of zonings would be appropriate for those uses. There was a current case where the Federal Court of Appeals stated tattoo parlors and some other establishments represent "artistic expression"; therefore, protected by the First Amendment.

Finance Committee: Chairman Dooner recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2016-029. This is an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2015-212 which authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract for a comprehensive health benefits plan for city employees for the year 2016. This amendment is because negotiations are still continuing with dispatchers and jailers. Mr. Dubovec advised they are still following the old contract and those benefits. Once their contracts are ratified, they will be on the same page as everyone else. All seven votes of Council are required for this legislation to pass. Suspension and adoption was also recommended for Ordinance No. 2016-030. This is an appropriations ordinance. Mr. Dubovec advised he had to move the senior van purchase from the Capital Fund to the Recreation Fund. Also, there was an ordinance passed at the last meeting to increase the legal fees for the Westwood TIFs and the other TIFs from last year. He had to create the fund and then advance money to that fund to pay this bill. When we start receiving the TIF proceeds, the loan will be paid back to the General Fund. Mr. Dubovec stated there are also some major repairs needed for the wastewater treatment plant facility which will be taken from the Sanitary Sewer Fund. There was also \$90,000.00 – the city's share of the contract with Motorola for radio maintenance. Suspension and adoption was recommended for Resolution No. 2016-031. This is a resolution estimating the aggregate maximum amount of public funds to be awarded and designating depositories for active and interim funds of the City of Strongsville for a five year period (March 15, 2016 to March 14, 2021). Mr. Short asked which bank is the main depository for our operating accounts. Mayor Perciak advised it was Key Bank. Mr. Dubovec also advised it was PNC bank as well.

Recreation and Community Services Committee: Chairman Short recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2016-032. This is an ordinance amending Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2015-024 to increase the appropriated contract amount and amend the contract with Adler Team Sports for the purchase of youth sports wearing apparel for use by the recreation department. This is because more kids participated than was anticipated. All seven votes of Council are required for this ordinance to pass.

Communications and Technology Committee: Chairman Schonhut recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2016-033. This is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for the routine general radio and telecommunication needs and requirements of the city. The contract is with Motorola with a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00. Suspension and adoption was also recommended for Ordinance No. 2016-034. This is an ordinance authorizing a contract CDW Government, LLC for the purchase of computer, printer, scanner and technology needs. The contract is not to exceed \$120,000.00. Ordinance No. 2016-035 is a contract for the purchase of services and support for video processing and surveillance, forensic and fraud prevention, data network engineering, and computer hardware and software maintenance for use by various departments of the city. This contract is with Sems and Associates Limited and the cost is not to exceed \$175,000.00. The recommendation was to suspend and adopt that ordinance.

Economic Development Committee: Chairman Daymut advised the next meeting will be Monday, February 22, 2016 at the senior center at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Daymut stated they are also in the process of scheduling some trips for this coming year. Polaris's Career Fair will be March 23rd.

Committee of the Whole: Mr. Southworth advised Ordinance No. 2016-036 is an ordinance enacting new Chapter 882 of Title Four of Part Eight of the Codified Ordinances providing for imposition and regulation of an admissions tax applicable to certain limited entertainment, amusement and recreational business uses within the city. This will be placed on first reading. Suspension and adoption was recommended for Ordinance No. 2016-037. This is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a one year contract with Walter Drane, our publisher, for the city's Codified Ordinances. Mr. Schonhut asked what we spend for this. The Clerk of Council, Ms. Pientka, advised approximately \$5,000. Mr. Kelly from Walter Drane advised we might be paying more this year due to the extensive Municipal Tax Code amendments. Mr. Daymut advised that we have not recodified our Codified Ordinances in a very long time. When we decide to do that, it will cost a lot of money. Mr. Short asked if they do the updating to our online version as well. Mr. Kraus and Ms. Pientka advised they subcontract that and handle it as well.

Mr. Southworth advised he will be nominating Councilman Schonhut (instead of Councilman Daymut as stated on the agenda) tonight as a Trustee of the Strongsville Community Improvement Corporation.

There will also be two conditional objections for the liquor permits: Graeley and Company and Architectural Justice Gallery & Café, LLC.

President Southworth noted the necessity for an executive session for the purpose to discuss legal matters with the Law Director, Staff Attorney Neal Jamison, Public Safety Director Charles Goss and Police Chief James Kobak. It was so moved by Mr. Dooner and seconded by Mr. Schonhut to adjourn from open session into executive session [Article XI, Section 9, City Charter]. All members present voted aye and the motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session at 7:52 p.m. The executive session concluded at 7:58 p.m. and reconvened into open session.

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2016 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Southworth 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: Matthew A. Schonhut, Joseph C. DeMio, Michael J. Daymut, Duke Southworth, Kenneth M. Dooner, Gordon C. Short, and James E. Carbone. Also Present: Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Kenneth A. Kraus, Finance Director Joseph Dubovec, Economic Development Director Brent Painter, Communications and Technology Director John Bedford, Building Commissioner Tony Biondillo, Human Resource Director Steve Kilo, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Service Director Joe Walker, Public Safety Director Charles Goss, Police Chief James Kobak, and Fire Chief Jack Draves.

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 1, 2016 were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

Presentation by Strongsville City Schools Superintendent, Cameron M. Ryba, High School Principal, Mark E. Smithberger, and Director of Athletics/Activities, Andrew Jalwan to provide a community update pertaining to the "Excellence in Athletics" fundraising campaign.

Mr. Southworth – We do have a presentation by the Strongsville City Schools. To present is Cameron Ryba, Principal Mark Smithberger and Director of Athletics, Andrew Jalwan. If you could please step up to the podium we look forward to hearing your presentation.

*****A copy of this presentation is attached to the back of these minutes*****

Mr. Ryba – President Southworth, Mr. Mayor, if there are any questions we'd be more than happy to entertain them at this time.

Mr. DeMio – I do have a question if you don't mind. How do you clean the turf?

Mr. Ryba – As a part of any, and I'll bring Andy up if he wants to add anything, but as a part of any bid for the turf there is a set of equipment that you have to purchase, maintenance equipment, and Mark Donnelly, our Business Director, has met with the gentleman who oversees all of the turf at North Royalton who is kind of an area expert in it. There are machines to keep the synthetic blades where they need to be. These aeration machines keep the base where it needs to be – compression, as well as we talked about any sort of surface where you have to spray it, you have to clean it, there are chemicals that you can utilize to make sure...because what we talked about, what we clean our wrestling rooms, our weight rooms, there is equipment that would be part of the purchase to keep it up to date. Andy, is there anything I missed that you would like to add?

Mr. DeMio – So that's part of the budget that you showed us.

Mr. Ryba – That's part of the bid package, so when we bid this out to the turf companies, all of that is a part of the bid package to get the necessary equipment and upkeep because, Mr. DeMio, what we're hoping for is...they say right now the average lifespan for synthetic turf field is ten years. What we've seen in the North Royalton's of the world, the Brecksville's of the world that really follow the regiment to the letter of the law, they're seeing twelve-fourteen year lifespan on the turf. We've spent a lot of time with those folks to make sure that if we're fortunate enough to bring this to Strongsville that we'll be doing the upkeep in terms of what is recommended to expand the lifespan.

Mr. DeMio – Thank you.

Mr. Short – Mr. Ryba if I may. Thank you for your presentation and thanks for the support from your staff and school board here as well. A couple of quick questions...there have been a lot of soccer players up there. I actually went to some soccer games last year because my neighbor played varsity soccer. He played off of Lunn Road. I noticed you mentioned football and lacrosse in your presentation. Does the varsity soccer currently play at Pat Catans stadium at all? If not, will they play there in the future if there is a synthetic turf at the high school?

Mr. Ryba – Sure, I will let Andy take that one and all the details of what is going on at the state level and locally in terms of soccer.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION (cont'd):

Mr. Jalwan – Thank you Mr. Short for that question. One of the first concerns our soccer coaches both had when we started this project was are we going to force them to play at Pat Catans Stadium? The answer is no. They do appreciate the opportunity to play at Foltz Parkway where they have the championship size field, but what we're finding in Northeast Ohio with the recent changes at the local and state level-when it comes to playoff time, the Ohio High School Athletic Association, which is our governing body, is requiring that anything above a district final level game must be played on turf. If you don't have turf, you are required to either rent a neutral site, or go to the opponent's site. We ran into that this past fall when our boy' team was playing in a district final game and we were the lower seated team; so it was away but we ended up renting a turf field so that they could practice on that. The game this year, in mid-October, we were playing Olmsted Falls and it was a 1-1 game at halftime. It was actually called due to weather. The officials would not allow them to continue playing on the grass field. So the soccer team would still like the option to play at Foltz Parkway, but on a game like that when we certainly could have anticipated the weather forecast that night, they would have the option to come to the high school stadium and play there. The field as it is being designed now will certainly be aligned for soccer. Our soccer teams will definitely have the option to be playing games at Pat Catans Stadium.

Mr. Short – Thank you, there is a follow up question. This deals more with finances. If turf life is like between ten to fourteen years-obviously with inflation it's \$1.8 million today for two fields. Inflation, who knows, probably over a couple of million in ten to fifteen years from now if we are lucky. Is there a plan to create reserves under finance because obviously we are going to have to replace these? I know we are saving \$24,000.00-\$25,000.00 a year on maintenance of natural grass, but on the flip side, what is the plan to replace these fields ten to fifteen years from now when their useful life has been expended?

Mr. Ryba – The major expense for putting in the synthetic turf fields now is the underground work-the drainage, the ground work, the site work. When you replace the turf in ten to fifteen years, today's price is about \$400,000.00 per field, so it's not the \$1.8 million price tag for all of the site work. That price is becoming a very competitive market. That price is continuing to go down, but what we're looking at is two-fold. What we're looking at is the revenue of the expenditures we are going to save from, as I talked about in that one slide, the \$250,000.00 over a ten year period and keeping that as a line item to help defer the cost. What we're doing with our sponsorship opportunities that I shared on that slide-all of those sponsorship opportunities are ten year commitments; so upon initiation of the field, ten years after that date the commitment is done. What we've seen so far as we've done our fundraising efforts is people are very interested in communities and businesses are very interested in the high school in terms of naming rights, in terms of sponsorship opportunities; so we're looking at how we can sustain it in terms of the savings that we're seeing as well as how we'll have the opportunity to fill that through its sponsorship opportunities as we go forward in that future year.

Mr. Short – Thank you, glad to see you have a plan for that.

Mr. Ryba – Absolutely

Mr. Schonhut – Mayor, if you would, I'd like to ask Mr. Bogre a couple of questions while everybody is in the room here. Bryan, what programs do we have here at the city that we offer, or potentially what new programs could we offer with the use of these fields?

Mr. Bogre – We could do track and field. There has been some interest in that. We've had a youth track and field event in the past, but that was only a one day thing but we could do that as an ongoing program.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION (cont'd):

Mr. Bogre (cont'd) – We could put our day camps there in the summertime-expand our day camp program to just a sports type day camp as well. Any other types of camps that we could put on the field that can utilize it at any time.

Mr. Schonhut – Are there any of our programs that we offer on any of our fields that our fields are so unplayable, with the exception of baseball, which wouldn't be playing there, is there anything that is so unplayable because of muddy conditions?

Mr. Bogre – Right now, all you have is the SFL that has games at the field there on Lunn Road. From my understanding, I don't think they've ever cancelled any games there due to muddy field conditions. Then we have the youth lacrosse that uses that football field as well in the springtime, but we have never had an issue with that. Thankfully, Joe Walker and his service guys get that field in tip-top shape all the time so we never have an issue with that.

Mr. Southworth – Are there any other questions? I just want take this opportunity to thank you guys for coming in here and giving a great presentation.

Mayor Perciak – Mr. President, if I may? Ladies and gentlemen, this administration realizes and appreciates, and I want everybody to understand the excellent working relationship that we have with the Strongsville City Schools. I outlined for the members of council in the caucus earlier this evening, when we were having the recreation meeting, about the help and the assistance that the Strongsville City Schools provide for many of our athletic programs. Without your help and your assistance we could not provide a lot of those programs. I just want to say that this administration and everybody in this administration appreciates all you do to help make our recreation programs at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center the success they are; so we understand it, we note it, and at the same time I think our council needs time to digest all of this. I think that we'll put together a plan within the limits of the law so that we can cooperate in one way or another with the schools so that we can continue this ongoing working relationships with the schools because it is important to our recreation facility. The city has spent tens of millions of dollars in building that facility, so without your cooperation...thank you.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mayor, and this is a total tangent, the communication from you in particular has been outstanding as far as the email blasts. This is not relating to the presentation, but I told some of the school board members that I've been very impressed with how you guys have been getting out your message. It's a big difference from the Mustang Pride email blast. You guys are doing a much better job and should be commended for it.

Mr. Ryba – Thank you

Mr. Southworth - I want to thank you guys for your time and there will be future discussions on this.

Mr. Ryba – Thank you for the opportunity.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Carbone: ...Andy, the Athletic Director, also talked about another initiative, and that's dealing with the weight room at the high school. It's a great project that they are also working on. Also, Dave Harbart and Ken Evans gave the thirty year plan for the school district. It was exciting being a part of that. The main focus with the plan was seeing that the high school renovations and the new middle school-the focus was really where do we put building in the future and the focus was on the elementary buildings. The school board also approved a fiber plan for telephone and internet. It's a three year plan at \$78,000.00 where the internet was waived. That saved the district \$50,000.00, and that was with Time Warner. The board did not approve Time Warner to move the connections from the old board office to the new middle school; so basically what's going to happen as of right now is WOW (Wide Open West) cable and U-verse will be the providers for airing the board meetings live. If anybody does have Time Warner and this upsets you for whatever reason, please call Time Warner and let them know that you're not happy and that they should work with the district on this. That ends my report.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Carbone, are there any questions for Mr. Carbone?

(No Comments)

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Southworth: I have not had a board meeting yet, but I do have one coming up on March 1st, so I will be able to give a full report at our first meeting in March. If there are any questions, I'd be more than happy to answer them.

Mayor Perciak – Just a comment, as you are probably aware Mr. President, the Southwest facility is now open at the Ehrnfelt Recreation and Senior Center, not only to all of our employees and their families, but to members of the community. I want to thank Terry Brlas from The Strongsville Post for a wonderful article, not only on behalf of Southwest General, but on behalf of the city's ongoing cooperation with Southwest General in trying to provide a better wellness program, not only for our employees and their families, but for people within this community. It's up and running and quite busy. We have Southwest to thank for that.

Mr. Southworth – Actually, as far as communities go, the relationship between Strongsville and Southwest is incredibly strong. I don't want to say that it was strongest, but we are...let's call it for what it is. We have a great relationship with that hospital and it is a good back and forth with both parties benefiting.

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Mr. Schonhut: Thank you Mr. Daymut...

Mr. Southworth – Come on, it's not that late. I've been called far worse.

(Laughter)

Mr. Schonhut – That is pure routine for the previous four years. I just want to do a quick update on the temporary signs. I have talked to a few more business owners. I am planning on getting a small quorum of people together to discuss those signs and figure out what our best way of moving forward is. Again, I would ask that any business owner that would like to be incorporated in those discussion to please feel free to reach out to me. That's all I have for Building and Utilities Mr. President.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Schonhut: Ordinance No. 2016-033 is with Motorola. This is for routine general radio and telecommunication needs, not to exceed \$20,000.00. Ordinance No. 2016-034 is to CDW. This is for various computers, printers, scanners, networking hardware, etc., not to exceed \$120,000.00. Ordinance No. 2016-035 is to Sems and Associates for video processing and surveillance, forensic and computer fraud prevention, data networking, engineering, etc., not to exceed \$175,000.00. We're going to suspend and adopt all three of those tonight. That's all I have unless anybody has any questions.

Mr. Southworth – Are any other questions for Mr. Schonhut?

(None)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Daymut: Thank you Mr. Southworth, we have no ordinances or resolutions on this evening's agenda. I will announce our next meeting will be next Monday, February 22nd at 7:00p.m. at the senior center. That's all I have, thank you very much Mr. Southworth.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Daymut, are there any questions for Mr. Daymut?

(None)

FINANCE – Mr. Dooner: Thank you Mr. Southworth, we have Ordinance No. 2016-029. This is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for a comprehensive health benefits plan for city employees for the year 2016. The recommendation is suspension and adoption. We have Ordinance No. 2016-030. This is making appropriations for annual expenses and other expenditures for the City of Strongsville. The recommendation is suspension and adoption on that as well. Ordinance No. 2016-031 is estimating the aggregate maximum amount of public funds to be awarded and designating depositories for active and interim funds for the City of Strongsville for a five year period. The recommendation is suspension and adoption.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Dooner, are there any questions for Mr. Dooner?

(None)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Daymut: Thank you Mr. Southworth, Planning Zoning and Engineering has Ordinance No. 2016-025 on this evening's agenda. This eliminates all storage from General Industrial. The recommendation is to place that on first reading and refer to Planning Commission. Also, Ordinance No. 2016-026 received a favorable recommendation. It is amending the master sign program for SouthPark Mall. Resolution No. 2016-027 received a favorable recommendation. That is confirming the Planning Commission's approval for a covered enclosed patio for the new Rail restaurant at SouthPark Center. Also, Resolution No. 2016-028 received a favorable recommendation. That's to advertise for bids for our pavement reconstruction program for 2016. That is all that I have this evening Mr. Southworth, thank you very much.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Daymut, are there any questions for Mr. Daymut?

(None)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH – Mr. DeMio: Thank you, we have three ordinances tonight. Ordinance Nos. 2016-022, 2016-023 and 2016-024. Ordinance Nos. 2016-022 and 2016-023 are agreements that the administration worked for the dispatch. Once again, I thank you for all the hard work because every year we get more and more detailed and more and more efficient in the dispatch center. I thank you Mayor for that and your staff. Also, we're looking to do a grant for EMS training and personnel. That is to go out to bid, but again, more money coming our way-another rollup that council will hopefully approve. It's awesome because Mayor, I know you had a tally last year for me, but where do you think we're at this year for all the rollups, all the grants, all the fun stuff you've been able to accomplish?

Mayor Perciak – I'm going to withhold an answer at this point because I have a couple of other things working. Give me another two months and I can update you more accurately with everything and I think that will be good.

Mr. DeMio – Mayor, I have to tell you, your safety forces stood up a little bit when you...you're almost ready to announce something, I can feel it. I don't know what it is, I've said this for 2 1/2-3 months now. I've known you a long time, you were one of my original supporters when I first started. You hold a pretty darn good poker face. I will leave it at that. It's funny, I looked at the crowd tonight, I saw the Superintendent, I saw the Principal, both of which put my children through school. I say a prayer for both of you for helping us do that; and our school board who does an excellent job. My neighbor, I always have to do this with Jane (Ludwig) because she is my neighbor. I may be her number one fan, but Carl (Naso), George (Grozan), you guys really do an outstanding job. I know the calls I get; I can only imagine what as a school board member what I would get. I congratulate you all. Mr. Superintendent, I want to share with you that I just had the great experience of talking to your new Athletic Director. Last week, he was helping me with the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip and I'm very proud that it was very easy to work through the motions to get those dates for our meeting. I want to thank you publicly-outstanding appointment for...

Mayor Perciak – Joey, I just wonder if the Athletic Director, Andy (Jalwan) knew when Cameron and the board hired him that his first headache was going to be raising money for a new turf field. Andy, what do you think, was that part of the deal?

Mr. DeMio – He has a lot of headaches in the athletic department.

Mr. Carbone – I think I was his first headache.

Mr. DeMio – And then right above them Mayor, and I know you know where I'm going with this and I know our meeting is longer than normal, but I've got to look at Mr. Bedford because Mr. Bedford's family is one of the original educators in our town. It's such a small world here in our very fine city, so I thank everybody that has helped. Jane (Ludwig), I know you've grown up here. I've seen a lot of different changes in our town. Bless everybody and I just want to close it at that, if you don't mind Mr. President.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. DeMio, I do have one thing to add. I'd like to thank the police department for arranging a Cub Scout walk-through. It was fantastic. The kids learned a lot and our K-9 officer was wonderful with the kids. We didn't break anything. They tried, but they didn't break anything and they had the riot shields so they were giving it a go. I just really want to thank you for making that accessible. Are there any questions for Mr. DeMio?

(None)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Mr. Carbone: I have no resolutions or ordinances.

Mr. Southworth – Are there any questions for Mr. Carbone?

(None)

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Mr. Short: Thank you Mr. Southworth, we have one ordinance on the agenda tonight. Ordinance No. 2016-032 is to amend Ordinance No. 2015-024 for the amount appropriated last year for sportswear equipment. We had more kids participate in the youth basketball program which is a good thing; so that caused an increase for uniforms obviously for the rest of the quarter. An approval of this for an additional \$1,759.94 to be paid for the apparel that was used by the children. Prior to tonight's meeting we did have a committee meeting. I want to thank Director Bogre for his...he put together a great presentation on the numerous services that we provide to both the youth and the seniors of Strongsville and the community as a whole. I look forward to meeting more this year to continue to improve on the great asset that the Mayor says we have in the recreation center that is not only used by Strongsville, but by surrounding communities. We look forward to public input on that as well, but we want to continue to make that a very viable, useful asset for the community and for our schools as well. That ends my report.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Short, are there any questions for Mr. Short?

(None)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Southworth: We have two ordinances on this evening's agenda. The first one is Ordinance No. 2016-036. This deals with an admissions tax. We are placing this of first reading and sending it to committee. The second is Ordinance No. 2016-037. This is a one year contract with Walter Drane to update our Codified Ordinance Book. They do this twice a year. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. That is all that I have.

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

Mayor Perciak: Thank you again Mr. President, good evening everyone. Really, I want to speak about our 200th Bicentennial Celebration which we are going to observe on Thursday, February 25th. It's going to be a great celebration here in our community for all of our community. All of our public facilities will be open for tours. The times and the listings are provided in The Strongsville Post. We've been running ads there so that everyone who wants to participate in some way is welcome to come over to the recreation center for cake, coffee, punch and all the other things that are going to be served there. We're also going to be hosting a lunch there and this will be invitation only. We've invited some of our-so many members of the community who have played an active role in making Strongsville what it is today. The Strongsville Historical Society will also be providing a slide presentation of Strongsville many years ago and Strongsville today. Many of our former elected officials have been invited and have accepted our invitation- many officials from the state and the county have also been invited and have accepted our invitation. Bill Wills, the radio talk show host on WTAM and a resident in the City of Strongsville, has agreed to act as Master of Ceremonies for that event. I look forward as do our members of the council to welcoming throughout that day and celebrating our bicentennial here in our community and taking us on into the next century as to the success and the growth of Strongsville. Yes Cameron, we expect to see you there and all your principals and everybody too because schools are a very important part of our community. It will be Thursday starting first thing in the morning. Bryan Bogre and his staff-they keep wondering if I ordered enough anniversary cake. The answer is yes, so we'll be moving along.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS
AND OTHER OFFICERS (cont'd):**

Mayor Perciak (cont'd): Lastly, I'd like to take this time to thank our Law Director, Ken Kraus, for his fourteen plus years of service to our community. He has opted to move on come March 1st and pretty much told me he is not going to retire, but he just doesn't want to be tied down on a day to day basis the way he used to be. I can't say I blame you. I want to thank you for your many, many years of support, first of all, to this community and to the letter of the law and your integrity in interpreting that law and always making certain...always making certain that everything that we have done here, whether it be of council or within my administration, was within the guidelines of the law. Without your council, without your help, I'm sure my transition from the private sector to the public sector would have been far more difficult. You made that transition workable, even though the first year I didn't really believe that it was possible. I used to say to myself: "Running a corporate board in a publicly traded company sometimes is far easier than dealing with all the laws that we have here in the City of Strongsville and running a public entity". Ken, all the best to you. I thank you, I thank you personally for all what you have done and for all you have given up in order to work here, coming from the private sector to here. So to you, to your wife, to your kids...and I know one of you are going to be happy about one thing, you're not going to have that travel every day. Thank you so much for all that you have done.

(Applause)

Mr. Kraus – Mr. President, can I say a few things in front of my report?

Mr. Southworth – Absolutely

Mr. Kraus – First of all, I want to thank this Mayor and this council for the opportunity to serve here during the past fourteen plus years. It has been an honor and a privilege. I do want to say that...you know, it's dangerous to give a lawyer a microphone here but...really the residents of this community are blessed to have had the Mayoral leadership, to have had a diligent and responsive council; a council that truly responds to and cares about the concerns of its residents; to have the caliber of directors who I see here, really throughout all the departments of the city, have really been terrific people to work with. They are people who I respect for their integrity and for the type of job that they have done during the years that I have observed them here as Law Director. I also would be remiss if I didn't thank the other members of our law department: Dan Kolick, who has been here really far longer than I have as Assistant Law Director Civil, our two day-to-day Prosecutors/Assistant Law Directors George Lonjak and John Castele, and our Administrative Assistant, Nancy Sikorski, who I've often said I could not have done this job without her participation on a daily basis. I'm also very pleased now after working with our next Law Director, Neal Jamison whose in the audience, as a Staff Attorney, for the past six or seven weeks. I have no doubt that Neal will more than adequately fill my shoes. You know, we are all expendable no matter what position that we are in-from the President of the United States all the way down. Neal is going to do a terrific job as your Law Director. You have accomplished much over the years and I have no doubt that this community will continue to be well served by this council and the Mayor. So again, thank you very much for the opportunity to contribute to this government and to the community. I appreciate it.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Kraus. Finance Department.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS
AND OTHER OFFICERS (cont'd):**

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dubovec: Thank you Mr. President. I will merely state that funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on this evening's agenda requiring certification of funding. That ends my report, thank you.

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Kraus:

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Mr. Dubovec. Law Department...

Mr. Kraus – Well all I need to say now...

Mayor Perciak – Before we do that, Mr. Walker, don't you have nothing to say?

(Laughter)

Mr. Kraus – I think Mr. Walker said enough this morning, Mayor, at the staff meeting.

(Laughter)

Mr. Kraus - All ordinances and resolutions before the City Council are in proper legal form.

Mr. Southworth – I will say, I'm disappointed we don't have a Mark Roth type last meeting for you. With costume and audio/visual. We had John Bedford here, setting up audio/visual. We could have done your favorite movie. I'm disappointed. Thank you Mr. Kraus.

(None)

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Southworth – We've reached the portion of our agenda for audience participation. Comments from members the members of the audience shall be limited to five minutes. We do have a sign-in sheet. There is a Debbie Ogle, if you'd like to come to the podium and state your name and address and you've got five minutes.

Debbie Ogle, 19137 Lunn Road, Strongsville, OH. 44149: My name is Debbie Ogle and I live at 19137 Lunn Road. And I am, I called Gordon Short concerning the feral cats in the neighborhood. A lot of these feral cats, they keep on producing. I get a lot of babies at my house and stuff. I've trapped them and neutered them. I have found farms to keep them. I do have a couple feral cats of my own that I've had a couple years. They stay in the back. But it seems like there's just too many cats and I think...it's a small complaint...I was wondering if there could be trap, neuter and return program or to let people know, that there are trap, neuter and return programs. Animal Protective League will neuter for \$10.00 and vaccinate them. I'm just trying to stop them from multiplying. I have talked to the Animal Warden, you know concerning this. He says that he will decide what to do. I know that's a lot. Maybe if we let the city know about all these programs, then we can eliminate a lot of these cats. I have seen a lot of cats get hit by cars on Lunn Road. I do have house cats of my own and they do stay in. It could be where some other cats do come around, I'm aware of that, but I just want to bring that to attention. It's just a concern and there's a lot people in Strongsville that do love animals that are not aware of these programs. I'd be more than glad to try and help anybody to know more about this program, trap these cats and find them homes and whatever needs to be done. Thank you.

Mr. Southworth – Thank you Ms. Ogle. Do you have more?

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Ms. Ogle – No.

Mr. Southworth – No. Okay, thank you very much. That is the end of our sign in sheet. If there are any other people, members of the audience that wish to come to the podium, you're more than welcome.

(No Comments)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2016-022 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. DeMio. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE AND THE CITY OF BEREA, IN CONNECTION WITH AN ADJUSTMENT OF FEES COMMENCING MARCH 1, 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-022 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-023 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. DeMio. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE AND THE CITY OF NORTH ROYALTON, IN CONNECTION WITH AN ADJUSTMENT OF FEES COMMENCING MARCH 1, 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-023 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-024 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. DeMio. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UNDER THE OHIO EMS GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE TRAINING OF PERSONNEL AND/OR THE PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-024 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2016-025 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. Daymut. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1240.08(c) BY ADDING SUBSECTION (22), AND AMENDING SUBSECTIONS 1262.04(a)(1) AND 1262.05(a)(1) OF TITLE SIX OF PART TWELVE OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE SELF-STORAGE AND MINI STORAGE FACILITIES FROM GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Placed on first reading and referred back to the committee.

Ordinance No. 2016-026 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. Daymut. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MASTER SIGN PROGRAM FOR SOUTHPARK MALL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. [The Commons at SouthPark]

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-026 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2016-027 by Mr. Daymut. A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE REVISED FINAL SITE PLAN FOR A COVERED, ENCLOSED PATIO FOR THE RAIL RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 17887 SOUTHPARK CENTER, IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2016-027 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2016-028 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. Daymut. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PAVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM FOR 2016 IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2016-028 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2016-029 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2015-212, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN FOR CITY EMPLOYEES FOR THE YEAR 2016, WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLIC BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-029 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-030 by Mayor Perciak. AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO FOR THE YEAR 2016 AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2016-013.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-030 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2016-031 by Mayor Perciak and Mr. Dooner. A RESOLUTION ESTIMATING THE AGGREGATE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO BE AWARDED AND DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES FOR ACTIVE AND INTERIM FUNDS OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING MARCH 15, 2016 TO MARCH 14, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2016-031 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-032 by Mr. Short. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-024 TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATED CONTRACT AMOUNT AND AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH ADLER TEAM SPORTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF YOUTH SPORTS WEARING APPAREL FOR USE BY THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY, WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLIC BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-032 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2016-033 by Mr. Schonhut. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO STATE OF OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR THE ROUTINE GENERAL RADIO AND TELECOMUNICATION NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY, INCLUDING THE REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-033 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-034 by Mr. Schonhut. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF COMPUTER, PRINTER, SCANNER, NETWORKING HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND SUPPLIES, IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S TECHNOLOGY NEEDS, BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY THROUGH CDW GOVERNMENT, LLC; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-034 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-035 by Mr. Schonhut. AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING AND AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN UNITED STATES GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR VIDEO PROCESSING AND SURVEILLANCE, FORENSIC AND FRAUD PREVENTION, DATA NETWORK ENGINEERING, AND COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE FOR USE BY VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-035 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2016-036 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CHAPTER 882 OF TITLE FOUR OF PART EIGHT OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES PROVIDING FOR IMPOSITION AND REGULATION OF AN ADMISSIONS TAX APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN LIMITED ENTERTAINMENT, AMUSEMENT AND RECREATIONAL BUSINESS USES WITHIN THE CITY, BUT SUBJECT TO CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS, FOR TAX YEARS COMMENCING JULY 1, 2016.

Placed on first reading and referred back to the committee.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2016-037 by All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE-YEAR AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO BI-ANNUALLY UPDATE, REVISE, INTEGRATE AND PUBLISH NEW AND/OR REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE BOOK OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Dooner 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 Mr. Dooner, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2016-035 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

*Application for Permit: **NEW-C1-C2**: To: Forever Grateful LLC; DBA: Graeley and Company, 14397 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136 (Responses must be postmarked no later than 3/7/2016).*

****Motion by Mr. Dooner, seconded by Mr. DeMio for a conditional objection to the application for permit based upon the applicant's lack of compliance with the City's Building, Health and/or Safety Codes; provided that when and if compliance is confirmed by the Building Department, the Clerk will withdraw the objection in Columbus. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.****

*Application for Permit: **NEW-D5**: To: Architectural Justice Gallery & Café, LLC; 13593 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136 (Responses must be postmarked no later than 3/7/2016).*

****Motion by Mr. Dooner, seconded by Mr. DeMio for a conditional objection to the application for permit based upon the applicant's lack of compliance with the City's Building, Health and/or Safety Codes; provided that when and if compliance is confirmed by the Building Department, the Clerk will withdraw the objection in Columbus. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.****

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Motion to appoint Councilman Matthew A. Schonhut as a Trustee of the Strongsville Community Improvement Corporation.

Mr. Southworth – We are in need of a motion to appoint Matt Schonhut as Trustee of the Strongsville Community Improvement Corporation. Can I please get a motion?

****Motion by Mr. DeMio, seconded by Mr. Dooner. All members presented voted aye and the motion carried.****

Mr. Southworth – Is there any other miscellaneous business?

Mr. Schonhut – Mr. Southworth?

Mr. Southworth – Yes.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mr. Schonhut – Since we have so many members of our school board and administration here and just to see Mr. Kraus cringe one last time; and the way they do business, I would merely encourage our incoming Law Director to consider a consent agenda for upcoming meetings.

(Laughter)

Mr. Southworth – So moved.

Mr. DeMio – Second.

(Laughter)

Mr. Southworth – You know what, that would have been the best way to send Ken out. But, we appreciate that.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Southworth adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Signature on File
Aimee Pientka, CMC
Clerk of Council

March 7, 2016
Date of Approval



#SCStrongTogether

State of the Schools

Vision for the Future



**STRONGSVILLE CITY
SCHOOLS
2020**

Strongsville City Schools

- As a district, we are committed to excellence in academics, arts, and athletics.
- The \$81 million bond issue included a new middle school, renovations to the high school, preschool and transportation complex, as well as technology and systems upgrades to elementary schools.
- The bond project did not specifically include upgrades to Pat Catan Stadium, nor did it include synthetic turf at the middle school.
- Current fields and athletic facilities need upgrades to stay competitive with area schools, as well as allowing for greater access for school and community events.



Striving for Greatness

The Need for Synthetic Turf



STRONGSVILLE

CITY SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS

Strongsville Middle School Field and Pat Catan Stadium

- Pat Catan Stadium has a natural grass field and Strongsville Middle School is scheduled to have a natural grass field.
- Grass fields have limits to how often they can be used and there is limited practice field space at the middle school site.
- Synthetic turf is more durable, costs less to maintain, and will provide more opportunities to compete on a safer surface.
- With synthetic turf, our athletic fields at Strongsville Middle School and Pat Catan Stadium can be used nearly year round, providing greater access for school and community events.



Area Synthetic Turf Fields

Neighboring Districts with Synthetic Turf:

- Berea
- Brunswick
- Medina
- North Royalton

In 2015, Strongsville Opponents with Synthetic Turf:

- Avon
- Hudson
- Brush
- Shaker Heights
- Medina
- Solon
- Mentor
- Brunswick



Health and Safety of Synthetic Turf

- Our first priority is the health, safety and well-being of all of our students.
- The available research, which currently consists of approximately 50 peer-reviewed studies, shows no definitive link to any increased risk of a health or safety hazard for student-athletes playing on an artificial surface.
- The only study conducted by the NCAA shows that the actual injury rate for athletes that participate on an artificial surface is lessened due to factors such as traction, consistency of the playing surface, level field conditions, stability, and surface abrasion.
- With the recent report by NBC Nightly News, which investigated the theory of an increased risk of cancer for athletes that participated on an artificial surface, NBC did state in their report that no definitive link could be concluded between playing on artificial grass and an increased risk of cancer.



The Importance of Synthetic Turf to our Students

Excellence in Athletics



Our Vision for Strongsville's Future



"Excellence in Athletics"

**A Campaign for the
Entire Community**

"Excellence in Athletics" Campaign

- The "Excellence in Athletics" campaign is a locally-driven fundraising effort, actively soliciting local businesses, institutions, and partners for one-time or multiyear, tax-deductible donations.
- Sponsors will reach an estimated 150,000 – 200,000 residents and visitors each year.
 - ✓ Football Games
 - ✓ Soccer Matches
 - ✓ Lacrosse
 - ✓ Marching Band Competitions
 - ✓ Youth Sports Events
 - ✓ Community Events

Sponsorship Opportunities

\$400,000 Title Sponsor
Field ~~Sold~~ Rights

\$100,000 Hall of Fame
Scoreboard ~~Sold~~ Sponsor
End Zone Sponsor (two available)

\$75,000 All-American
Varsity Team Room Sponsor

\$50,000 All-State
Concession ~~Sold~~ Sponsor #1
Concession Stand Sponsor #2
Visitors' Locker Room Sponsor
Bleacher Section Sponsor

\$25,000 Mustang Club
*Field Signage; One Large or Two
Medium Signs*

\$10,000 Varsity
Field Signage

\$5,000 First Team
*Recognition and Game Day
Announcements*

\$1,000 Quarterback Club
Recognition



Estimated Project Costs and Timeline

	Middle School	Pat Catan Stadium
Estimated Project Completion	Fall 2016	August 2016
Estimated Project Cost	\$750,000	\$1,000,000
Design/Soft Costs	\$28,500	\$38,000
Synthetic Turf Savings	(\$150,000)	\$0
Fundraising Efforts	\$0	(\$420,000)
Estimated Remaining Costs	\$628,500	\$618,000



"Excellence in Athletics" Campaign

- Based on the fundraising efforts of the campaign, the Board of Education will vote in March 2016 to either install synthetic turf at Pat Catan Stadium for Fall 2016 or Fall 2017. They will also determine whether the middle school field will remain natural grass or become a synthetic turf field.
- **The Committee has already secured over \$500,000 in donations.**

School-Community Project

An Opportunity for Partnership

A Strong Partnership between City and District

- With synthetic turf at both fields, these athletic venues can be utilized with greater frequency.
- Strongsville City Schools will be able to allow greater access to outside groups, specifically our Recreation Department and other City sponsored programs.
- The City of Strongsville can provide resident access to athletics, exercise, and events in a cost-effective manner.



A Strong Partnership between City and District



Synthetic Turf Saves Tax Dollars

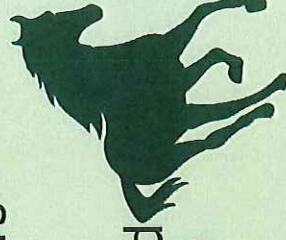
- Analysis of expenses at Pat Catan Stadium shows that converting a grass field to a synthetic surface will save our district \$24,223 dollars annually on the net difference in maintenance costs. That is almost \$250,000 in savings over (10) years.
- These cost savings come from dirt, seed, fertilizer, water to irrigate, paint & supplies, fuel, aeration, and maintenance on lawn care equipment.
- If the City of Strongsville is able to use just one less community grass field due to this new project, similar savings may be realized.



Synthetic Turf Increases Revenue Opportunities

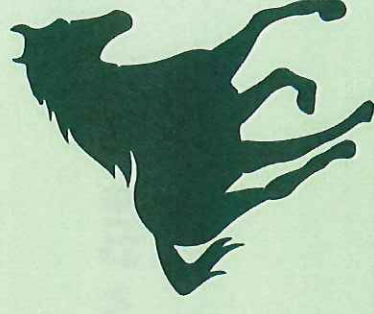
Does having two synthetic turf fields in Strongsville allow the recreation department to generate new revenues?

- A 2011 study from the American Camp Association (stratified random sample of accredited camps):
 - Average Revenue (per camper, per day) \$81.90; Median Revenue \$51.80
 - Average Expense (per camper, per day) \$71.20; Median Expense \$47.20
 - Assuming even the median gross profit of \$4.60, @ 50 campers \$230 gross profit per day = \$1150 per week
- Assumes community demand for new/additional programming and the recreation department's interest in creating new programming



A Strong Partnership between City and District

We are asking the City to become a financial partner in this community enhancement project by pledging \$200,000 over the next five (5) years to our "*Excellence in Athletics*" campaign.



A Strong Partnership between City and District

This partnership would allow for...

- Community programming to have first opportunity for field usage after school district events for use by the recreation department, youth leagues, city events, new programming, the list goes on.
- Increased access for community members as a walking track.
- Strong school system and community programming keeps the City vibrant and desirable.



"Excellence in Athletics"

Vision for the Future

Conclusion

- This partnership between the City of Strongsville and the District is mutually beneficial.
- With the support of the City, the District gets closer to its fundraising goal and making turf a reality for the students and families in our community.
- The City provides residents greater access to excellent athletic facilities in a cost-effective manner.
- Residents benefit from greater access from both the City and the District without paying more taxes.
- **Projected Cost Savings + Additional/New Revenue = Great Investment of City Funds**



Learn more about the project at www.strongnet.org/excellence. Email questions to ajalwan@scsmustangs.org

Questions?

