

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 1, 2020**

The first monthly meeting of Mansfield City Council met on
Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 8:17 PM in the
Council Chambers of the City Building.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the audience.

Councilman Falquette led the audience in prayer.

ROLL CALL: The following answered present at roll call: Burns, Meier, Van Harlingen, Davenport, Moton, Scott, Falquette, and Mears. Mr. Lawrence was excused. (A motion was made by Mr. Scott to excuse Mr. Lawrence and was seconded by Mr. Falquette.)

COMMENTS:

DAVID FALQUETTE: Point of order.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Do we need to take a vote? Just more than a motion and a second on the “excuse Mr. Lawrence this evening”?

PHIL SCOTT: Yes, we do.

CLERK AMY: No.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Oh, well, let’s do then.

DIRECTOR SPON: That’s correct. You need to take a vote.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay, thank you Law Director. Let’s do...

CLERK AMY: We’ve never done that before.

PRESIDENT MEARS: ...That again. Would anyone like to make a motion on Mr. Lawrence’s absence?

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. Scott already did and I’ve already seconded it.

PRESIDENT MEARS: All in favor...

CLERK AMY: Just a voice vote I believe, yeah.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Right, we’ll take a voice vote. All in favor? Thank you. Mr. Lawrence is excused. Thank you very much Mr. Falquette.

All of Council present voted Aye: 7, Nays: 0. Measure passed 7-0

END OF DISCUSSION

There being no objections, the reading of the Journal and Correspondence was dispensed with.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

PRESIDENT MEARS: At this point we have any public comments which are welcome on our Zoom meeting. Have any Council members... would like to have any feedback or comments from residents? I see one here.

CHERYL MEIER: Yes, Mr. President. This came from one of my constituents, Mr. Rob Meyers who lives at 118 Ohio Street and Mr. Meyers writes: "For public comment: A couple observations concerning the West End Plan; one is between Mulberry and Arthur Avenue on the North side of Glessner. That no driveway curb-cuts should be permitted so as to prevent residents from parking multiple vehicles in front yards and making a muddy mess. This part of Glessner has Spruce Street running behind all properties that could permit parking as well as garbage pick-up. Second observation a few properties also have gravel driveways, which during any heavy rain, wash the gravel out onto Glessner Avenue and into the storm sewer. A better preference would be to require hard-surface driveways. Thank you in advance for your consideration of my concerns."

PRESIDENT MEARS: Would anyone like to comment or make a response to the public comment?

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mr. Falquette.

PRESIDENT MEARS: I also received a phone call, not a formal email, but just a phone call from Mr. Meyer. He did send some photographs and considering the development plan that we're putting together, I think these are some good suggestions that either our Codes and Permit group can get together on and possibly discuss purposing some changes or updates and in some cases some of the photographs are clear violations of our current situation and I'll send those out to everybody. But, I do think that part of the community development, in this area is going to require and engagement from our Codes and Permits folks who are already busy, but have to spend a little bit of time driving in the area and sending out some notices.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Mr. Falquette. Any other comments on this, or any others?

DAVID FALQUETTE: Very quickly, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mr. Falquette.

DAVID FALQUETTE: A good friend of mine from Ontario, Mr. Stewart, was absolutely, just couldn't say enough about how nice the square looked in downtown Mansfield.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Well, I sure agree with him. Any other public comments we'd like to make, at this time?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: I would just...real quick, Mr. President, all the members of Council should have received, in the mailbox today, it was submitted a little late in the day, from the President of Schmidt security, Brian Schmidt and he is expressing his concerns with our bill in regard to the Alarm Ordinance that we are now debating. It's rather lengthy. It's well written, but I do not...okay, I think members of Council can read this upon their own, since it was addressed to Council.

PRESIDENT MEARS: I agree. Thank you, Mr. Van Harlingen. I did see this in advance and I was able to read it through it myself. I understand his concerns and I for one had a conversation with Mr. Gregory about these same kinds of things. Are there any comments on this response by Schmidt security? And I'm sure we...

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Sir. Mr. Falquette.

DAVID FALQUETTE: You know I feel for our business community and especially my concern over chapter 755 changes putting undue strain on the business relationship with the city and the businesses that are trying to do work in the city, but at the same time I see these gentleman and ladies are professionals. When they go out on these calls they are supposed to be the experts in the alarm field. I'm not sure zero tolerance is the right answer, but I'm not sure his suggestion of no tolerance is the right answer either. Maybe this week or at the next meeting or sometime in-between should have a discussion about a balance to work this out. I don't ...again, I hate to see extreme punitive measure taken, but these folks are professionals. They should know what they're doing. And if the police make it all the way out to the job site...I just don't understand how that happens with the professional right at the job site, and he triggers an alarm and isn't able to stop that alarm...I don't think Mr. Gregory is talking about alarms that are set and called off. He's talking about alarms; their set, dispatch gets the call, dispatch sends an officer, officer shows up... he says, "hey, Joe, what are you doing?" He says, "well, I'm working on the alarm." He says, "you know it's going off?" That's the problem. I think that's the way I understand it. So, I just...anybody else? Help me out here.

PRESIDENT MEARS: I understand your concerns, Councilman Falquette, but what I think might be most appropriate is if we save this discussion for the actual legislation, which is the first one that we're going to discuss. So, maybe we can cover it all...

PHIL SCOTT: I was thinking the same thing, Mr. President. If we can hold off for a minute, until we get into the bill.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yeah. Right. So, we'll be into that right away. Any other public comments on any other subjects from ant residents?

END OF DISCUSSION

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

JON VAN HARLINGEN: I would just like to add one thing here, real quick here, Mr. President, about the Finance Committee. The Finance Director gave a very, very good presentation here not too long ago; referring to the Temporary Budget. And this year there's quite a few challenges, just simply because we've had the virus thing going on and you know, she has made comments in the past; there's a concern about our operating cost are exceeding revenue and on top of all that, all these other things going on. I want to make sure, and this is kind of hard to do the budget is complicated, if my colleagues do feel and I do feel it wouldn't hurt, but we need a little input here, need to schedule another Finance Committee meeting on an off-night, other than Council, we will do it. There's nothing much going to change. Look at the revenue again. Keep an eye on different things. We got the virus fund set up to reimburse, some things like that. There's no drastic changes that happened between the Finance Director's presentation and the end of the year. We're really...I'm waiting to see where we're going to end up with unappropriated cash at the end of the year. You can tell that the administration has done everything it could to cut costs. And you can see, in the documentation that the Finance Director gave us, with the cooperation of the administration, there's a

lot of operating cost that stayed the same this year; the same as the year prior. So, once again, the invitation's open. I could spend an hour talking about it myself. There's nothing really exciting new, that's going to change anything. But I'm just hoping that my colleagues have an understanding on what's happening here.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Councilman. Do any Council members want to respond to the need for an additional off-night meeting for Finance or Councilman Van Harlingen are you considering sending out a notice or proposed notice of a time?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: That would be very easy to do. I've already mentioned it to Mr. Weiner. We could very, very easy set up a Finance Committee meeting even the Monday night before Council. Before we have a final reading on the budget. If we need to have another reading and prolong it...we just have to have the budget passed by the end of the year. That's the law.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Right.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Otherwise, the city shuts down and I'm not going to support that. So, we have plenty of time, at any time, to have another Finance Committee meeting or two. Wherever my colleagues feel comfortable. It's just, it's not a good year. I mean it's that simple and it's just not Mansfield. All over the Country's having challenges.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yeah, this is a year like no other.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Exactly.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Well I will leave it up...Councilman, if you wanted to, at some point, schedule one...is there any comment or observation about an additional finance meeting from other Council members?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: It would be very helpful if your concerns and questions might be submitted first.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Sir.

DAVID FALQUETTE: I'm not sure, listening to Mr. Van Harlingen's comments, that there's anything new. And I'm not sure that there's any reason that my vote would be changes or swayed by additional meetings. And I think what Mr. Van Harlingen's trying to ask is, if you've got a problem, speak up. So, I'm saying, no problem here. I'm okay if he goes ahead at the next meeting without additional meetings. I'll certainly support any meetings he has and be there.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Thank you, Sir.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Thank you.

END OF DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS:

DIRECTOR REMY: This is building off Chief Strickling's report on Covid. And we all know the rise in Richland County on Covid. And we all know the rise in Covid in Richland County is high, is really high,

it's spiking like it is everywhere else. So, the city's trying to be proactive and has decided to close down the city building to the public. From now to January the 18th. And why we chose January the 18th, is that we all know that during in the past during the holiday's there have been waves and spikes and there's a presumption now that a lot of the spike in November is because of Halloween. There is...positive numbers are going to...positive numbers are going to come out of Thanksgiving and then they're going to come out again post-Christmas and post-New Years. And so, January 18th is two weeks after New Year's Eve and New Year's Day and that's the reason why we chose that, because of the incubation period is normally 10-14 days. So, we're mirroring what some other communities in the city, or in the State have done and closed the building down to the general public. That notice went out yesterday, late. Court system will remain open and if I remember right, the hours are 8:00-2:00pm and then they're leaving and the part that causes us to not have a way to get in the building.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Director Remy. Is that it?

DIRECTOR REMY: Yeah, that's it. I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT MEARS: I assume so. Okay, Law Director...

(Feedback online)

PRESIDENT MEARS: I'm sorry?

DIRECTOR REMY: Can you hear me?

PRESIDENT MEARS: I can. It sounded like you dropped off. I didn't know if...

DIRECTOR REMY: No, I was just saying that...we're mirroring what other communities in the State have done in trying to close down for the safety of the citizens and the safety of staff and staff will be encouraged to work from home, as much as possible; out of the building. And numbers for the departments; we're encouraging people to go to the city's website and if they need to call a department such as Codes and Permits or some other department to utilize the number on the webpage to call in and make arrangements to get into the building or to meet with someone to discuss their needs. That's all.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Director. Thank you for the clarification on that directive. I had read it and I appreciate the clarification for the public to hear.

DIRECTOR SPON: I want to reemphasize what Director Remy stated. The bottom line is, we're expecting another spike from Thanksgiving and then a pike upon the spike for the Christmas season. And the bottom line is that since this pandemic started, this is the very most dangerous time we've ever experienced and I think it's important for the public to fully appreciate the danger. I have nothing else.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Director.

END OF DISCUSSION

MONDAY DEADLINE

COUNCILWOMAN BURNS: I move with respect to Bill 20-276, that the rule requiring legislation be submitted by Monday at 4:00 pm be suspended and that Bill 20-276 be allowed on the floor this evening. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 6, Nays: 1 (David Falquette).

SUSPEND RULES

COUNCILWOMAN BURNS: I move with respect that the rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended and that each bill be read one time by title only, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 755: EMERGENCY ALARMS

BY: MR. SCOTT

BILL# 20-238 **Amended *Second Read

ORDINANCE # 20- 240

Amending Chapter 755 of the Mansfield Codified Ordinances concerning emergency alarms, specifically amending Sections 755.01, 755.03, 755.04, 755.05, 755.06, and 755.99 and creating and adopting Sections 755.13 and 755.14 as part of Chapter 755 of the Mansfield Codified Ordinances.

Upon motion by Mr. Scott, that Bill 20-238 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette.

(Note: A brief technical glitch occurred.)

DISCUSSION:

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you. Now, I know we left off a discussion during public comment section of this bill. I think it's appropriate that we pick up on that again. Perhaps, Schmidt security's comment and email to us and any further comments on this bill. Mr. Scott, I think you were first.

PHIL SCOTT: Go... I mean...who else came in there?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Your box lit-up first for me.

PHIL SCOTT: Okay. I guess I would just like to somewhat echo some of the comments from Mr. Falquette, that you know, I've pondered with this, whether we should give the alarm companies maybe one freebie or not, but I kept going back and forth in my head. You know, it comes down to this the alarm companies are trained professionals that are out there to do a job. You know, in our other section of it with the citizens, you know...in our other section of it with our citizens, you know the person that at four o'clock in the morning goes to let their dog out and forget to shut of their alarm off, I'm more apt to have some sympathy. But, you know our alarm companies are trained professionals. Whether it's the Police or Fire they're going out there hot. They're going out on calls that, possibly, they couldn't respond to a regular call, a real need call, when they're out on these false alarm calls. And, plus the cost... I've heard that with the Fire, for a half hour that could be a cost of a hundred and fifty dollars of manpower and equipment usage. You also have possible injury to other vehicle... citizens while they are out on these calls. So, myself personally, I'm for possibly thinking about no forgiveness and the first one they get the charge for. So, with

that, I also believe that we've got Mr. Gregory with us tonight and if he would like to put in any input, that would be greatly appreciated.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Mr. Gregory, anything?

ADMINISTRATOR DAN GREGORY: Yes, thank you. Mr. Scott pretty much summed up my feelings in that Mansfield citizens are the ones that are the ones paying for these inexcusable false alarms. Also, like he said, the safety-services forces, the safety forces, I'm sorry, would be better served to be available for true emergencies. I have attempted to work with these alarms companies about this issue for many years, without success and the only solution that I have come up with now is for charging them with these mistakes.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Gregory.

PHIL SCOTT: Can I add. I believe, Mr. Gregory, I read in one of your notes that you and Safety Director Cope and possibly the Law department worked in conjunction with a national organization with standards for what we're passing tonight. And is this, in national standards, with working with these people, what we're passing...what we're attempting to pass?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Yes, Sir. There's a couple of things that we chose not to go along with on theirs. It involves more requirements of the alarm company. It requires the alarm users, our citizens, to actually pay more. So, we have not gone with everything that they've stated, but we've adopted quite a few.

PHIL SCOTT: Okay. Thank you, for that input.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Councilman Scott. Good point. Any further comments?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes Sir, Councilman Van Harlingen?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Schedule b, false alarm fees, What were they before, prior to this legislation?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Sir, we did not have anything schedule b. That's charging the alarm companies for their mistakes on causing false alarms. We currently...my only option right now is to charge their customer, the alarm user, for the alarm companies mistake. I have no other option. I would like to pull the alarm user out of the equation. He or she or the company would not...the alarm user would not even see a bill or a charge. It would go directly to the alarm company. That's what schedule b, is all about.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Okay. I see Chief Strickling is still on the line out there. Chief Strickling, how many false alarms do you have, roughly, I'm not asking for you to pull any data. It was said in past meetings, there was a number thrown out. I'm just kinda wondering if it's roughly the same?

CHIEF STRICKLING: Yeah, I can't give you a direct answer as to how many false alarms we have, but I can tell you as a responder and somebody that does respond on these calls. It's pretty disconcerting when you arrive on the scene of an alarm off and you see and you see a vehicle there from an alarm company that you know automatically is probably working on the system and they didn't get that alarm shut off. So, it is a disconcerting thing and I agree, they're supposed to be professionals. They hold certificates through the state to work on those alarm systems and part of that should be making sure they have the alarm shut off so

it doesn't cause a false alarm. And we run on a fair number of those on our automatic alarms and it is as problem and I think Mr. Gregory has a good policy in place and I'm in favor of his policy.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay, thank you Chief. Thank you, Councilman. If I could interject here, Mr. Gregory, I think you see the reports. You might be able to answer Mr. Van Harlingen's question about how many false alarms we get typically?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Are you questioning the number of false alarms caused by alarm companies, what we're discussing now?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Correct.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Correct.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: that number is approximately one a month.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Okay.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: On the average.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Roughly about twelve a year and how many alarm companies do we have in Mansfield?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: That are physically located in Mansfield, five.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Five? Okay.

CHERYL MEIER: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Councilwoman, Meier.

CHERYL MEIER: Mr. Gregory, you and I had spoken earlier this week too. So, it's my understanding, just so I understand, when the fire, excuse me, when the alarms companies go out, and are servicing these systems, they can out...there should be...the first order of business is to out the alarm system in a test-mode. Is that correct? In an off mode so it doesn't trip an alarm. Is that correct?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Yes, ma'am. As soon as they get on site, or prior, unusually when they get on site, they have a mechanism that they can put the system on test, with their own company. That way they can test the alarm. They can activate the alarm. Their own company then will not notify Mansfield Police or Fire.

CHERYL MEIER: Thank you.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Yes, Ma'am.

LAURA BURNS: If I may. I think this really, as we've already stated, comes down to professional responsibility. But, at the same time, if the city makes a mistake, we cover it. And I feel that if another

company makes a mistake that puts a draw on our rescues that are paid for by tax-payers money, that they then should own up to it and at the very least reimburse the financial cost of a half-hour long, if that's how long it takes, you know, to go out on a false alarm call; to reimburse that.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Councilwoman.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. President?

DIRECTOR SPON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Councilman...I'm sorry...Director Spon?

DIRECTOR SPON: Yes, I just want to say, to reemphasize, that when we respond to an emergency, it's an extraordinary situation; the danger to our fire department, our employees and to the public I heightened and all that we're asking is that companies responsibly go into a test-mode when they go to work on a system. They're receiving a benefit, a monetary benefit from that customer. So, we're not asking them to pay anything out of their pocket, we're asking them to reimburse the city if they cause a heightened danger and an emergency response and a cost to the city. So, we're not charging them, by giving them a charge, we're holding them responsible to do their part in protecting the safety of citizens and of our Fire Department.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Director. Back to you, Councilman Falquette.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Thank you, Mr. President. Two things; my understanding was there's...and not just these false alarms, but all false alarms. There's so many false alarms that the police just casually just drive out to all alarms right now. That only the fire department's running hot, lights and sirens...that's my understanding. And I guess, jeez, the whole point of having an alarm is to have a fast response. So, there's so many false alarms, we're kind of losing that fast response and Mr. Gregory's whole mission here is to reduce the false alarms so that when that alarm goes off, people have a high confidence that this is a real-deal. Somebody's breaking into somebody's house. Somebody's house is on fire, somebody's business is on fire; we should get there right away and that's what the real goal is, and when the alarms not only caused by businesses, but all alarms are so high that the police department says oh, it's another burglar alarm...nothing against them, but it's disconcerting, I'm sure, for them to roll up and nothing's going on. I, with that, my only question to my fellow Councilmen's, because these are new punitive penalties here; is everybody comfortable with the increasing scale here? Is there any discussion anybody wants to have? Or is everybody happy with one hundred to eight hundred dollar increasing penalties on this? Is that okay?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: May I speak please?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Please do, Councilman Van Harlingen.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: I think from going from zero to what's being proposed right now is very aggressive and I do think it's a little quicker than it could be or needs to be. In understand and I appreciate the concern about the false alarms and I share the concern of our safety services running hot; there's no doubt about it. I just feel when it comes to schedule b, it's very aggressive and very fast.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Excuse me, may I respond to that?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Please do, Mr. Gregory.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Absolutely.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Councilman.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Thank you. Designed to be aggressive. I have worked with these companies for the past ten years, in this position with the city. With no results. We currently do not hold the alarm company responsible, so there's no reason for them to change their practices. This is aggressive, because the goal is to get them to stop doing what they're doing and train their personnel properly.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Mr. Gregory.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: If they do train their personnel properly, they do not have to worry about this schedule b.

PRESIDENT MEARS: And if I can just clarify, and I think you've done that already, but just to...one more time: schedule a, is really the fee that would be charged to the user for the users imposed false alarm...letting the dog out, that kind of thing, and schedule b is the company itself. The Company who has personnel on site at the time the false alarm goes off. Is that correct?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Correct. Yes, Sir.

PRESIDENT MEARS: I wanted to make sure that distinction was clear.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: And there's approximately one a month that happens or twelve a year, between all of the companies servicing Mansfield?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Yes, Sir. And I pulled the statistics out of my software. Schmidt security, that provided the letter tonight, they are responsible for approximately thirty-seven percent of those type of false alarms. I have worked with that particular company, extensively. I've even gone to their office to meet with their personnel on two different occasions over the years; discuss the issue with them several times on the phone and unfortunately, it's an ongoing problem for all alarm companies and it's a problem for the City of Mansfield and our tax payers.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay, thank you, Mr. Gregory. Any other comments?

MAYOR THEAKER: Mr. President, if I can please?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mayor Theaker.

MAYOR THEAKER: The question I have is, and I think I heard Mr. Gregory talk, is that I think we have about five local companies and I think one of the questions I have is; the national companies that are out there, how many false alarms are being generated by the national companies and if those are significant in any part, are we penalizing just the local companies? Because, I really don't know how the national companies like Ring or Simply Safe or I know there's a lot more of them out there, because I remember hearing Mr. Gregory say that there's about a hundred and fifty security companies out there, but only about four or five of them are local. That's just a concern on my part.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Mr. Gregory, did you want to respond to that?

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Yes, thank you. There's more and more companies similar to Ring and Simply Safe that do not have personnel in the field. These companies are now selling the systems over the internet and shipping the product to you directly, for you to self-install and service. So, again, those type of companies are becoming more popular. As far as other national companies, you have your ADT's...those

type. Yes, we are experiencing these alarm company-caused false alarms from all alarm companies. We do have five that are located in Mansfield. I honestly do not believe that we are targeting or are going to be more...or I guess, charge our local companies any more than any other company, with the one exception that I mentioned prior. That represents about thirty percent of those false alarms.

MAYOR THEAKER: That's my question, is...

DIRECTOR SPON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mr. Spon.

DIRECTOR SPON: And under Ohio law if a company sells these units, in the State of Ohio, then they're doing business in Ohio. So, we have the legal authority to sue those out-of-state companies through what we call the long arm statute in Ohio. So, holding them legally responsible, for out of State, would be no different than holding them in our city.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Director. Did you have something else, Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR THEAKER: That's the only thing that I was trying to emphasize is that we hold...if we do this, we hold everyone at the same responsibility at the same level and if there is a need for the law department or a lawsuit for those national companies that we peruse that and we don't just peruse those local companies.

PHIL SCOTT: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mr. Scott.

PHIL SCOTT: I would just like to echo what the Mayor just said. I think all business should all be held to the same accountability. Not just the ones in Mansfield or Richland County or surrounding areas. I don't care where they're at in the country, they need...we don't just want to be singling out the five local ones. So, I just wanted to add that, I agree with the Mayor on that statement.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: I have another comment, please.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Oh, yeah. Go ahead, Mr. Gregory.

ADMINISTRATOR GREGORY: Thank you. After the last council meeting, the first reading, I did contact the five alarm companies that are in Mansfield. The one that submitted the letter this evening is the only one that has expressed any concerns.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Gregory. Are there any last comments? I know we've had extensive discussion on this. We're not voting tonight. Any further comments on this bill? Okay, then we will move on.

END OF DISCUSSION

AMENDING APPEALS CONCERNING DEMOLITION ORDER APPEALS

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-239 * Needs Amended **Second Read

ORDINANCE # 20-241

Amending Section 1335.07 "Appeals", concerning demolition order appeals, to change the cost of appeals, require additional information to submit an appeal, and to increase the cost of residential cash bonds for appeals.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-239 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette.

DISCUSSION: NONE

ORDINANCE MAKING TEMPORARY ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS: CURRENT EXPENSES: 2021

BY: VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-242 **2nd Read

ORDINANCE # 20-244

An Ordinance making temporary annual appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Mansfield, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-242 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette.

DISCUSSION:

PRESIDENT MEARS: Of course, this is our budget, is there any discussion?

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Councilman Falquette.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Real quick. Our previous discussion I saw the Fire chief wanted to discuss capital and I guess that should have been directed to Mr. Van Harlingen. I'm not sure he saw that in the chat box. That may weigh on his discussion on whether or not we need an additional meeting, but nothing else, at this time, thank you.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Thank you, Councilman. Any further comments or discussion?

END OF DISCUSSION

ESTABLISHING STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL: 2021

BY: MR. SCOTT

BILL # 20-255

ORDINANCE # 20-256

Establishing Standing Committees of Council, designating membership thereon for the term commencing January 1, 2021, and expiring December 31, 2021, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Scott, that Bill 20-255 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

CLAIM: TIMBER VALLEY RANCH

BY: MR. FALQUETTE

BILL # 20-256

ORDINANCE# 20-257

Authorizing partial payment of the claim of Timber Valley Ranch of P.O. Box 820895 North Ranch TX., 76182 and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Falquette, that Bill 20-256 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Scott. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Scott. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 142 WEST SIXTH STREET AND 142 WEST SIXTH STREET-REAR

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-257

ORDINANCE #20-258

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (142 West Sixth Street and 142 West Sixth Street-rear) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-257 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 177 SOUTH DIAMOND STREET

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL# 20-258

ORDINANCE# 20-259

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (177 South Diamond Street) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-258 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 222 SIXTH AVENUE

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-259

ORDINANCE# 20-260

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (222 Sixth Avenue) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-259 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 291 WEST SIXTH STREET

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-260

ORDINANCE # 20-261

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (291 West Sixth Street) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-260 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 332-334 WEST THIRD STREET

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-261

ORDINANCE # 20-262

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (332–334 West Third Street) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-261 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 417 TREMONT STREET

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-262

ORDINANCE # 20-263

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (417 Tremont Street) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-262 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 429 BURNS STREET

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL# 20-263

ORDINANCE# 20-264

Authorizing the Public Works Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for the hauling and disposal of water treatment plant sludge, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Vanharlingen, that Bill 20-263 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 1094 SEMINOLE AVENUE

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL#20-264

ORDINANCE #20-265

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling with severe fire damage (1094 Seminole Avenue) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-264 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

DEMOLITION: 559 NORTH MULBERRY STREET

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-265

ORDINANCE #20-266

Declaring the remains of a designated dwelling (559 North Mulberry Street) to be insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and dangerous to life and other property; directing the demolition thereof by City forces or contract labor, materials and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-265 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mrs. Burns. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

CONSENT LEGISLATION: BRIDGE REHABILITATION ON US ROUTE 0030

BY: LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-266

ORDINANCE # 20-267

The following Ordinance Resolution enacted by the City of Mansfield of Richland County, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the City, in the matter of the stated described project. Whereas, the State has identified the need for the described project: To perform bridge rehabilitation on US Route 0030 at SLM 08.73 under Home Road in the City of Mansfield in Richland County.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-266 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: *Bill was read by Councilman Van Harlingen in Councilman Lawrence’s absence.

CONSENT LEGISLATION: CULVERT REHABILITATION US ROUTE 0039/ SLM 11.14 S.E. OF LEPPA

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-267

ORDINANCE # 20-267

The following Ordinance Resolution enacted by the City of Mansfield of Richland County, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the City, in the matter of the stated described project. Whereas, the State has identified the need for the described project: To perform a culvert rehabilitation on US Route 0039 at SLM 11.14 which is southeast of Leppo Road within the City of Mansfield in Richland County.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-267 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: *Bill was read by Councilman Van Harlingen in Councilman Lawrence’s absence.

PRELIMINARY LEGISLATION: RESURFACING/ PAVING RIC 309-8 TO 9.30 END AT US 30

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-268

ORDINANCE# 20-269

The following Ordinance Resolution enacted by the City of Mansfield of Richland County, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the City, in the matter of the stated described project. Whereas, the State has identified the need for the described project: Resurfacing Urban Paving City of Mansfield: RIC 309-8 (Mansfield Corp) to 9.30 (end at US 30).

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, Bill 20-268 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: *Bill was read by Councilman Van Harlingen in Councilman Lawrence's absence.

PRELIMINARY LEGISLATION: RESURFACING PAVING RIC US 42 11.66 TO 13.13

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-269

ORDINANCE #20-270

The following Ordinance Resolution enacted by the City of Mansfield of Richland County, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the City, in the matter of the stated described project. Whereas, the State has identified the need for the described project: Resurfacing Urban Paving City of Mansfield: RIC US 42 11.66 (Park Ave (Pavement Jnt.)) to 13.13 (Mansfield Corp.).

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-269 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: *Bill was read by Councilman Van Harlingen in Councilman Lawrence's absence.

DECLARING INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN IMPROVEMENT OF HOME ROAD WITH ONTARIO

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-271

ORDINANCE# 20-271

Declaring the intent to participate in the improvement of a portion of Home Road in cooperation with the City of Ontario.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-271 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TRACTOR EQUIPMENT FOR WATER REPAIR DEPARTMENT

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-272

ORDINANCE # 20-272

Authorizing the Public Works Director to purchase one (1) New Holland B95C tractor, loader, backhoe from Akron Tractor & Equipment Co., through the State Term Schedule and without competitive bidding, for the Water Repair Department, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-272 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO UTILITY PICKUP TRUCKS: WATER REPAIR DEPT

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-273

ORDINANCE # 20-273

Authorizing the Public Works Director to purchase two (2) 2021 Ford F-250 utility pickup trucks for the Water Repair Department from Middletown Ford, through the state bidding schedule and without competitive bidding, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-273 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF THREE UTILITY 2021 FORD F-250 TRUCKS: SEWER REPAIR DEPT

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-274

ORDINANCE # 20-274

Authorizing the Public Works Director to purchase three (3) 2021 Ford F-250 utility pickup trucks for the Sewer Repair Department from Middletown Ford, through the state bidding schedule and without competitive bidding, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-274 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TWO 2021 FORD F-150 UTILITY TRUCKS: SEWER REPAIR DEPT

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL# 20-275

ORDINANCE# 20-275

Authorizing the Public Works Director to purchase two (2) 2021 Ford F-250 utility pickup trucks for the Sewer Repair Department from Valley Ford Truck Company, through the State Term Schedule and without competitive bidding, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Vanharlingen, that Bill 20-275 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 12 TASERS FRO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL#20-276 **Amended *First Read

ORDINANCE #20-276

Authorizing the Safety-Service Director to purchase twelve (12) tasers and accessories and trading-in twelve (12) old tasers to offset the cost, all without competitive bidding, for the Police Department, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-276 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette.

DISCUSSION:

PRESIDENT MEARS: This is one that was scheduled for a vote, but will now be a first reading only.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Okay, so we would consider this, Mr. President, as having gone through Caucus and then it'll have a final reading then passage date of the fifteenth?

PRESIDENT MEARS: That's correct.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Or are you wanting me to read it again?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, I think we'll read it as a first reading, in addition to Caucus.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Okay.

PRESIDENT MEARS: So, this will be revised and up for a vote on the fifteenth.

END OF DISCUSSION

**ACCEPTING FUNDING TO SUPPORT SERVICES WITH MENTAL HEALTH DOCKETS:
ODMHAS**

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-279

ORDINANCE #20-279

Authorizing the acceptance of funding from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services in the amount of ten thousand three hundred forty-five dollars (\$10,345.00) to be used for support services to clients that are involved with selected Mental Health dockets, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-279 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mrs. Burns. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION:

****SEE CLOSING COMMENTS****

ANNUAL RENEWAL OF SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: SUPERION LLC

BY: MR. SCOTT

BILL # 20-281

ORDINANCE #20-278

Authorizing the Safety-Service Director to enter into an annual renewal of the software maintenance agreement with Superior LLC, a CentralSquare Company, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Scott, that Bill 20-281 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mrs. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

**AUTHORIZING PWD TO ENTER INTO HANGER LEASE WITH BRAD POCOCK: LAHM
AIRPORT**

BY: MR. SCOTT

BILL # 20-282

ORDINANCE #20-279

Authorizing the Public Works Director to enter into a Lease with Brad Poccock, for real estate known as Hangar 512 at the Mansfield Lahm Airport, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Scott, that Bill 20-282 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mrs. Burns. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

CLOSING COMMENTS:

PRESIDENT MEARS: Our legislation is complete for the evening.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Mr. President, if I could please?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Please, do.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Did I not make a motion for Bill 20-279 to move forward tonight? For final consideration? That was the mental health addiction services? Would you? I don't know that it has to be tonight, but...

PRESIDENT MEARS: No, we did take a vote. I'm Sorry. I am remiss. I did set that motion aside. So....

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Okay.

PRESIDENT MEARS: You're right. Thank you, for catching that, Councilman Van Harlingen. So, we did move to move up the vote on Bill 20-279 for tonight. I will leave it to you to ask for putting in on the floor for discussion, Councilman Van Harlingen.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Alright. Thank you, Mr. President. I move that Bill 20-279 be placed on the floor for discussion.

END OF LEGISLATION DISCUSSION

JAMES WEINER: Mr. President, may I have a moment?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mr. Weiner.

JAMES WEINER: Just wanted to thank everybody for their patience as we continue to develop the app. A couple of the changes that I have requested, did not appear tonight as well as the glitch we obviously had earlier. So, I will be working with the developer. If anyone has any suggestion, feel free to email me on anything they would like to change or see happen. It did seem like everyone adjusted a little better this evening and did a great job using it. So, thank you for your patience and your ability to adapt.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, James.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes, Mr. Falquette.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Just back to James. The interface for the voting Council people, I thought worked much smoother this week. So, from our...my perspective as a Councilor who votes, I thought it was much better.

JAMES WEINER: Thank you, Sir. And one other thing, I have been told to let you guys know, this app does work from mobile devices also. So, I'm not suggesting you start playing with that until we get all the kinks worked out, but at some point, if you wanted to use your laptop for Zoom and wanted to use your cell phone there and logged into the website, you could, theoretically, vote from your phone. So, we're trying to make this as easy to use as possible. But, I think that should probably be tested another time.

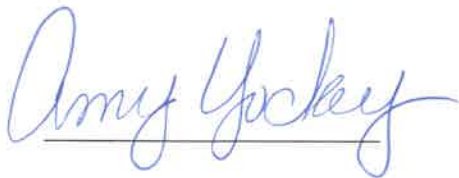
PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, James. Anything else to come before Council? Yes, Councilman Van Harlingen.

JON VAN HARLINGEN: If I could just have one quick comment, Mr. President. Thank you, Mr. Falquette. No, I did not see Chief Strickling's chat. I was looking elsewhere, obviously, with the legislation. To be perfectly honest, without turning this into a long-drawn-out process, I don't know that it would do any good to be discussing capital out-lay at this time. The Finance Director, on 11-09, I believe it was, "we are down one point seven million dollars in income tax revenue and safety services and the general fund" and we are looking at the possibility of having to tap one point three million from the budget stabilization fund, just to balance the budget. These projections are early. We don't know exactly where we're going to be yet. We haven't closed the books for the year. One thing's for certain, we're down. I don't think this is a time that we need to be looking at increasing our expenditures, we need to be watching what we're spending. So, for discussing of capital out-lay. That always comes after the budget. The books have been closed, after the first of the year and any remaining, unappropriated funds, that's where we start talking about capital out-lay. I don't see it serving any purpose at this time. The budget's not that good.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you, Councilman. Anything further to come before Council this evening? Okay, again, from my perspective, hats off to Amy and James again for handling all the difficult and challenging technological issues hat we dealt with, but I think we made a lot of progress from our last meeting. So, again, thank you all very much. Could I have a motion for adjournment?

END OF DISCUSSION

ADJOURN: Upon motion by Mr. Falquette, seconded by Mr. Scott, and passed by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.



Amy Yockey
Clerk of Council



Cliff Mears
President