

18th REGULAR SESSION:

Kenton City Council met in their 18th regular session on September 27, 2021, at 7PM in Chambers. President Joel Althaus, John McEntee, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Robin Jones, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, & Safety Service Director Cindy Murray. Absent: Patti Risner.

Prayer given by Pegg Wren and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

MINUTES:

Althaus: Hopefully everyone had a chance to review the minutes, the record of proceedings for the previous meeting that was September 13th. Are there any additions of corrections to those minutes? Alright, hearing none then I'll mark this down as approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

Althaus: We do not have anyone on the agenda this evening. We will have time in comments for public commentary, and we just ask that when I call for public comments that you come forward and please state your name, and then just give us a short explanation of what you would like to talk about.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS/UPDATES:

Althaus: We're going to start out with Brian in the Auditor's Department. There's a couple of things that he's going to call your attention to that were at your stations.

Hattery: First things first, I did send out an email, but I am informing (inaudible) Doris Lowe has left the employment of the City of Kenton after 26 years, I believe, years of service. We thank her for her service and we wish her well as she moves on to her next opportunities of employment and hopefully good times with grandkids. We are conducting interviews now. We hope to have something, an offer made by then end of this week. We are trying to, as things never are dull or slow down in the Auditor's office, we are trying to make this quick. Other have been stepping up to help with some of the work, as best they can, and I want to express my appreciation to everybody. It's a great sense of...I don't know community, or team, or just knowing that others are proactively stepping up to help out in areas they don't normally have to cover, and I appreciate that, and I thank you...I also want to mention that the audit, the State Audit, is finally nearing completion. It's essentially done. There's a couple of corrections, better yet changes, that need to be made. That were requested to be made. Nothing serious. Then, we will have an exit interview. Typically, that is roughly an hour long. I would ask council's discretion on when. It is a closed-door session. Like I said, this one could last roughly an hour. It really depends upon the about of questions you might have. This year will be interesting because it will actually be the State Auditor instead of an accounting firm that's been subcontracted so, it could take longer if you have further questions, but I would say roughly, no more than an hour so, I don't know what your pleasure would be or, Mr. President, as far as during a meeting, or before, prior to a meeting...However you would like to handle that.

Althaus: Have you had any...any ideas from the auditor's staff, I mean are they open to an evening?

Hattery: Yes, yes. I had a discussion with them today...we talked about some different options, and I do believe they would be open to that.

Althaus: I'm not real excited about breaking up...a Tuesday, or a Monday Night meeting with an hour closed session in the middle of it, to be honest. Any other thoughts? You know one thought would be to do it right before the meeting.

Beazley: Understood Mr. President but if the budget is not ready to ship and zip by the second meeting in November...

Althaus: Exactly.

Beazley: So, if it's the second meeting of November or later that we schedule that then that should be fine.

Althaus: They're not going to want to wait that long.

Beazley: Understand but...

Althaus: So, my thought was, we've had a couple where we did it, and I realize that not everyone can make this, so I'll throw that out there, we've had a couple, once or twice, where we did it at like 3 or four o'clock in the afternoon.

Davis: No, I'm fine with that.

Althaus: Would it be best to get a few time dates from them?

Hattery: Yea...if that's what you're looking towards then as it gets completely, and we finally start talking about dates we can talk about dates that are with the times in the middle of the afternoon.

Althaus: I mean Councilman Beazley's point is well taken...I hate to really plan for an hour in the next couple meetings because...#1, finance would probably be still meeting prior to it, and secondly, we may have pretty lengthy discussion in meetings. So...

Hattery: I will use that...if that's all, I will use that general guidance as we move forward-

Althaus: Yeah, I didn't hear any...issues with a 3 or 4...I think 3 o'clock or later, Ray, works for you?

Lawrence: Yeah, it'll be fine yeah.

Althaus: I know David, it's pretty tough for you.

Beazley: I can make it up.

Althaus: Okay.

Hattery: Well, we'll try to get as much advanced notice to everybody as possible...The final thing then, is the legislation that's in front of you. I think two, zero...I'm sorry 21-023. There's an explanation, or cheat sheet, and just the finance paper. It is this sheet that has like... (inaudible) and then front and back of written explanation. (inaudible)

Pam Romanko: We are receiving a little over \$400,000 from the American Rescue Plan. I know we've discussed that before. The ordinance in front of you, the ordinance that was sent out in the packet...appropriates that out of, the general part of that, out of the general fund. The updated ordinance takes that out of the Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which is the ARPA money. The explanation with that; if you look and start with the front page of the AOS Bulletin 2021-004, it explains that local governments and other recipients of these funds consult with their legal council as they plan to utilize these funds and the auditor of state also recommends that each government entity accepting these funds clearly document their rationale for each expenditure of these funds; ideally through legislation passed by the entity's legislative body; explaining how the expenditure meets the legal requirements, which is why I am doing this now...of course each expenditure will be (inaudible) and documented and...we will use these fund to build these balances up as the programs that require long term service. Then, out of the preference of the auditor of states' frequently asked questions it lists these 4 allowable costs, category costs that you can spend funds on, and we are talking about item C. for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency. So, Brian and I have sat down and did the calculations together for the lost revenue from, between the last 3 years this indicated 4.2 growth rate. This left us with a substantial loss in revenue. If you look at the next page, you will see that, you will see the revenue from 2016, 17, 18, 19 and you can see how we...2019 was a really exceptional year in our revenue and so if you apply the 4.2 growth rate to that, which you will see on the front page of the revenue replacement calculator that our revenue reduction was \$1,037,866.00-of which we only have \$437,000 to spend. That means that revenue reduction distributions from the ARPA grant for 2021 total \$428,431.00. So, we can use all these grant proceeds under that broad use of government services under item C. On the back page the reduction revenue calculations is a way to calculate that in words. They also provided a nice spreadsheet with automatic calculations, which is what we use to come up with our loss revenue. And then the final paragraph is Department of the Treasury, this came from their interim final rule. It provides, it gives the broad definition of what government services that you can include in the modernization of cybersecurity, including hardware, software, protection of critical infrastructure; and goes on and on, and it is the Auditor's Office opinion that this does fall under the software prices-do fall underneath this (inaudible) government services and because we are following the Auditor of State's recommendation, that is why we are adding this to the back of our legislation for the local recovery fund for the software. When we calculated the revenue for the local recovery; well, when you calculated the revenue, or the loss of revenue we are not allowed to include utilities. So, at that point utilities stand on their own and they pay their share of those costs out of their prospective enterprise funds. Clear as mud? (joking)

Althaus: Just a quick question, and it's more with what you presented here; we'll have plenty of time to discuss when the legislation is presented. In their spreadsheet under taxes; the spreadsheet labels it Property Taxes. Is that just a label or did we pick the wrong block?

Romanko: It's because I did not itemize it. This was a long spreadsheet

Althaus: Ok.

Romanko: And it took out the things that I'm not allowed to include grants, loans, and those items (inaudible). I didn't go through the trouble of filling out the...

Althaus: And it labeled it as Property Tax?

Romanko: It's the, it was the first item in the spreadsheet.

Althaus: Okay, okay. Alright, anything else now? Obviously, this is a piece of legislation we will have in new business. So, I think finance is pretty much up to speed on this. If anyone was not in finance and has any questions, let it marinate the next few minutes here and we can get into it in new business. Thank you, Pam, for those explanations. Brian, anything else, Brian?

Hattery: No, thank you.

Althaus: And just to clarify; make certain the piece of legislation that you have now, the one in your packets that we're talk about 21-023; if the first group of items that starts with \$18,376, the title above that should be Local Fiscal Recovery Fund 222. If you, the one that says general, fold that up and get rid of it. Okay, I check with both Police and Fire they have nothing extravagant to talk about so we will get to comments and let both the chiefs go. We do have an item in new business that we may want to consider though to suspend the reading on the time for some things that the Police Department has going on.

COMMUNICATIONS/PETITIONS:

Althaus: I have no communications, as none appear-anyone else have communications, petitions I know of nothing that is outstanding, and I don't think that we have anything in front of us right now.

MONTHLY/ANNUAL REPORTS:

Althaus: Report that were in your packet, you did have the report from the Auditor and Treasurer to the Mayor. Any question for Brian or Pam on that? Okay, monthly water loss report, City of Kenton, any questions for Cindy? Any comments from Cindy or Lynn or? Year to date revenue Water Department-any questions on that report? Alright, as always, if you do think of things later, I know Cindy can answer them; or she'll find the person that can.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nothing from Nuisance, Safety, MOP, Cemetery meets next week

Althaus: Finance has a written report in your packet. So, since they are actively meeting about every other week we will just start with finance.

Beazley: In addition to the written report, we met again tonight. With Doris's departure we have obviously slowed a little bit in some of our budget computations. We're trying to get caught back up to speed on that; and we had to deal with these two pieces of financial legislation that have come up so, we received full explanations on those and are ready to move forward.

Althaus: Questions for David? Anyone else have any other reports for anything they're assigned to?

OLD BUSINESS

Althaus: We do have one item one our agenda and that's for a second reading. Emma if you would read that for us, please.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-006, 2ND READING, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNT AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: So, the nice things about this is there's obviously nothing new that has happened because this simply comes from the Auditor. We have until November 1st to have it there so it's up to council's wishes. You want to let it, want to read it again the first meeting in October, we sure can do that. Alright, I'll take that as a yes, so we will have a 3rd reading on that in 2 weeks. Is there other old business that anyone has to present this evening?

NEW BUSINESS

Althaus: Emma, if you would; we have two items, and item A please.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-002, 1ST READING, TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2021, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: So, this one, and Chief if you want to talk about this; or maybe Pam already has the information. This is one that we would like council, I'm just warning you now, to consider tonight, if you so desire.

Musser: We discussed this in finance.

Beazley: I'd be happy to review if you'd like Mr. Chairman.

Althaus: Go right ahead, David.

Beazley: If we go down line by line, the first two items under the general fund deal with the separation and severance pay for our Assistant Deputy Auditor when she left her position. Those are amounts to be owed. We need to get that taken care of relatively soon. Police Incidentals is down to a balance of around \$20, and this is one of those late year adjustments that we know we're going to have some additional expenditures, so we're just replenishing that account. Under Fire-New Equipment, we received a donation from Mike Styer in remembrance of his uncle Daryl and this came out of his charity, so this is an appropriation too, but it came in the form of a donation. Rec Gas is one of the gas lines that needs immediate attention we'll be looking forward to seeing several of the other departments because of the increased fuel prices and will be making adjustments to gasoline. Law Enforcement Incidentals-this is where Chief came into play. We have a bid from Kiesler Police Supply to replace all of our service weapons and associated hardware; that would include holsters, etc. Because of the difficulty of our current stock, we are operating with 40 cal. ammunition, which is incredibly hard to find on the market. This puts us into 9mm, which is an easier item for us to supply. So, we don't want our officers, "Barney Fife", one bullet in the pocket kind of operation (joke). So, we very much would like to get these dollars in place. The Law Enforcement Trust Fund for those of you who do not know-it exists and has the dollars in excess of this amount. So, this is just taking dollars out of a fund and appropriating them for this purchase. There will be probably resale of the current service weapons and it appears to be more lucrative through a vendor to do so. So, there may be a small replenishment to this account based on that resale of those used firearms as well. Grove Cemetery, this is an oversight from the last piece where we got the additional tax information, and this was the rollback dollars that were not calculated into that piece, so this is finalizing that. And finally, under Waste Water System Engineering-we had authorized and done something for the south 68 corridor to look at pressurization as the water lines extends out that way and this is an additional amount of engineering that we're looking at for the potential to place a new water treatment facility out closer to our wells replacing the structure here in town that sits in a flood plain and is in aging condition. It's, we think late 1960's when it was put into service. So, we're approaching 50+ years already on this so-and we've seen by the maintenance that we've had to do that this might be something that we will be considering for future years. (inaudible)

Althaus: Any Questions? So....

Motion by Mr. Beazley & second by Mr. Lawrence that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Wren & second by Mrs. Jones to approve Ordinance 21-002.

Althaus: Is there any discussion on that ordinance?

Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-023, 2ND READING, TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2021, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: So, this is the ordinance to which Brian and Pam referred to; and again, it's the one that we did have a change, and that was on your desk. I would just ask the general question. I know finance is well aware. Are all council number aware, comfortable understanding what the expenditures involved here have to do with-the software...what are we buying?

Romanko: We are buying...

Althaus: All of council-are you reasonably comfortable knowing what we're buying?

Beazley: I think that Antwillia is the only one that was not actively at the finance meeting. So, this is the software that we are looking to replace and get everybody all...

Althaus: And we've talked about it back and forth quite a while so, Pam that gives you a little bit of a baseline so you can use your commentary.

Romanko: It includes all the Auditor's office software that we use. We've included income tax, and e-filing, with that income tax, and a new HR module which will tie in with the payroll and because this HR module is a new module in the US; CMI/Civica is from Australia I believe, but they are just bringing this HR module into the US. So basically, they're giving it to us as a beta test so our implementation fees, they're giving us a credit for. So, it's a really good deal. Total cost of all the software is \$280,505.00 and they are giving us a bundle discount as well as the discount for being a beta tester, totaling \$72,850.00. I will say that the cost of the server has gone up \$1,000 every month since we started this so I would like this quote is good until the end...middle of October-ish and they will have to reprice the server again. So, we are asking for...

Beazley: Go two reads?

Romanko: We could yeah.

Althauser: Pam let me ask this, this company deals with governmental entities all the time; they should be very up to speed on the requirements of readings...I'm just saying, I'm kind of surprised....

Beazley: The point is the hardware piece is the one that we're dealing with.

Althauser: I understand that.

Beazley: So that can change within the confines of the quote.

Althauser: I understand that; I also understand that...

Beazley: Particularly in this environment.

Romanko: Right

Althauser: You might want to give the break down of the hardware; within reason, unless no one wants to hear that. Because I don't think we have that. I've seen it outside of here, but I don't think that we have that here.

Romanko: Would you like me to make copies-that would probably be easier than reading it. I can read it.

Althauser: I didn't know if you just had a rough summary, I mean I guess you can kind of piece it out of the legislation a little bit.

Romanko: The server, the actual server will be used by the entire city as the city server with partition off for Civica. We have been talking about getting a sever so we would reduce us needing one server and that's \$26,301. And then we have finance is roughly \$30,000. BIS which is helpful with budgeting and keeping the council informed, it's like \$13,500. Fixed assets is roughly \$14,000. Payroll is roughly \$29,000. Income tax is the big one at \$50,000 and e-file is at \$20,000. Crystal Reports, VPN, HR module we do have to pay the license fee for \$23,000. Which adds up to the \$207,659.

Althauser: So, council you've heard all that. So, its up to you how you want to proceed, if at all tonight.

Beazley: Could we read at the...(inaudible) it would be the 11th.

Althauser: Yes.

Beazley: That would still keep us within the confines of the date of the...so if we give a time for everyone to review and ponder the issue and then come back next meeting, with any questions, be prepared to take action, then they can use the cost of the server (inaudible).

Romanko: I would also like to add that we received news from CMI that their software will no longer be supported after 2022, stops being supported in 2023 so...

Althauser: And that's our existing software, just to make certain that everybody knows that...

Romanko: Right. And the HR module on the beta testing, they won't give that discount to us if we wait a year so, I don't think that...I think you guys know and understand that this is a need for the auditor's office, for the city...

Althauser: Yea we were going to have some kind of expense no matter what...

Davis: And we're sure the contract goes into...well the quote they gave us goes until the 15th

Romanko: I will absolutely...

Davis: Because if it's the 11th then we've made a big boo-boo.

Beazley: Correct, at least \$1,000 boo-boo.

Beazley: I don't disagree with you.

(Inaudible as Romanko retrieves quote)

Romanko: This is valid until October 19th, 2021.

(Inaudible)

McEntee: You said that this will have (inaudible) income tax on-line; will it effect the ease that you pay the water bill on-line or anything like that?

Romanko: This does not include any of the utility stuff. We just bought that software, 2019...

Beazley: In the last 15 months

McEntee: But that's compatible with the server?

Romanko: It is not...but their software will be run for another 2 years I believe and then we will be looking to get all of it together.

McEntee: At that time can you get that software that is compatible...

Romanko: Yes.

(inaudible)

Murray: Through the same company we emailed them today to ask that question.

(inaudible)

Althauser: And we did check; there's nothing about that software that is a no go for us?

Murray: No, we e-mailed them today and asked if we could switch over to this company, if they do utility billing and she said yes, we work with Neptune equipment and...

Althaus: And that's specifically what I was talking about equipment we have; whether it's even compatible.

Romanko: So, we'll be back in a couple of years for that.

Althaus: Okay so we will read that at least a second time in 2 weeks. Um, so and obviously with the dollar amounts there please if you have questions...find the right person to ask and I guess we'll start with Pam...and Brian, or Brian and Pam. If there any further new business to be considered? Okay well, comments we always begin with the best so Cindy Murray.

COMMENTS

Murray-I am here to share good news. At the end of July, the mayor and I presented to ODOT for a small cities grant. For the north, for...we're going to end up replacing water lines and we are doing N. Detroit St., the foundation and everything. The grant is for 2025 and we were awarded; they will cover 95% of eligible costs, we have to do 5% and we were awarded up to a maximum of two million dollars.

Althaus: Excellent.

Beazley: Can our match be in kind?

Murray: Only if it comes from you. (joking)

Beazley: No, I meant can we do the digging or the work or the things of that nature, as our portion of the match?

Murray: Ah, uh, well we'll probably end up going for additional sources for funding.

Beazley: Wonderful.

Murray: That's all I have.

Althaus: Okay, city employees, would-Brian, anything else? Chief Donnelly?

Donnelly: First off, I just want to invite all of the council members and administration to the fire station on Saturday morning we're doing our agility test that way if any of you are interested to see just what they, our candidates go through and everything to become part of our fire department and stuff, more than welcome to and if you want to try it yourself, you're more than welcome to do that also. (inaudible)

McEntee: What Time?

Donnelly: 9 o'clock on Saturday morning, October 2nd. We do have 4 candidates to take the test so we will be doing those, they all passed at this point in time, that we're aware of so, they'll hopefully all 4 will be there and give their best so...The other thing I kind of want to mention is this past week and weekend we've had unfortunately both of our squads have gone down due to mechanical issues. So, I just wanted to take the time to thank Chad Smith and his part of the BKP board that he reached out to for allowing us to borrow one of their squads here in the meantime while we're getting them fixed. I just check with the guys...unfortunately, the one with alternator issues didn't make it back, hasn't gotten finished yet so we should have it done tomorrow. So, then the other one's got a fuel leak on it so, that's a pretty substantial fuel leak. That one goes in after we get the first one back. So, with that we've been kind of trying to dodge some bullets there a little bit. I just want to, I guess kind of, thank all the guys too for all the work that they're done here in this last couple weeks. All the time that we've put in out at Heritage with their incident and helping them out with that grain bin fire. That's all I've got at this point.

Althaus: Alright, thank you Chief. Chief Musser?

Musser: Uh no, I have nothing.

Althaus: Okay, and Emma's told me she has nothing. So, news media? Nothing? Public Participation? Come right up to the podium then please.

Bart Steele: My name is Bart Steele. Just put it up for consideration. Beautification of the city could possibly start with the repainting the houses that need it. That would add quite a bit to the beautification of the city and upkeep on the lawns. The shrubs, and the sidewalks which you all know about. Also, the curbs, and basic re-beautification (inaudible). But it's got to start somewhere. With that I just, I just brought that up for uh, for your consideration. Thank you.

Althaus: Alright, thank you. Pam, I apologize I got your boss, and I thought that that was the department so, maybe (ha ha), just...you guys coordinate in the future.

Romanko: Mine is more on a personal (inaudible)...I just really want to thank the, my co-workers, administration. These guys have all been great as I'm trying to catch up and kind of got things done; they're jumping in and pitch in when they can and they're always offering, and it's just so appreciated. There's so much team work here in the city building and the administration and all of us. And it's just really nice to

work here and it's really nice to come back to work here and also the city council members, same thing, except maybe Dave (joke), but it is, it's a pleasure to be appreciated and to be helped. It's nice. Thanks.

Althausen: Pam, thank you and you being here makes this building a different place; it's a better place...when you're here.

Romanko: Thank you

Althausen: And I know all of them that are here everyday would agree with that. I just hope you're not doing it too fast. Okay, did I miss anyone else? Alright, then we'll go on to council members.

Mayor: First of all, I want to give my appreciation out at Frances Lake to the lake trustees; Tom Purcell, Jason Howe, Barney Gammon, they wrapped up Thursday night with their big fishing tournament, bass tournaments, and it's just a neat way of community that they volunteer. They do a lot of work out there. That they do 50/50 drawings, but you know here's a community action that they're putting money back in to try to get new docks, understanding that where our hands are tied, as far as funding, it's not always easily accessible. So, you know, they brought in some solutions. They just did a great job and they're very passionate about our lake and it's just a neat set of guys and Tom Purcell's leadership is much appreciated. Also, speaking out at Frances Lake, I think most of you in the paper, Chuck Moore, we've collaborated with the HS, he has a conservation class that has come on-line in this first semester, or nine-weeks is fishing and boating, and he secured grants for 12 kayaks and a couple canoes and we store them out there for him and the class will be out there doing kayaking and then Cabela's have donated a lot of fishing equipment so he's teaching that. So, they'll be using the quarry. It's just a neat collaborative effort again of community and those of you who know Chuck Moore, he is a passionate man about our youth, and he can, he has the ability to make changes, I think they're wondering how many they were going to get in the class. They thought 10-15 and they got 50. So, it's just a neat thing and I think going into next semester, winter semester, they go into hunting and processing, so he'll be teaching them hunting skills and then how to process what they've killed. So, a neat thing and a neat form of collaboration. I talked to Ray today, but I really want to say that when we've come in here, we've all talked about beautification, Bart talked about it, what our properties are looking like...I think this summer we have seen definite improvement in mowing, people doing better with mowing their properties. But I really want to give Ray and the 4th ward a shout out. You know, we do, we're out there a lot and it's very noticeable. So, if you're over at Wharton Park and you head south; they are doing a tremendous job. We still have some places that need some attention but overall, the 4th ward is kicking it on taking care of their properties. So, I challenge our council members too to step out, check your wards, see what needs to be done. How maybe, you know what do they need some help? Do they need mowers? Do they need someone to haul trash? But, well done 4th ward and well-done Ray. So, appreciate it. Trick of Treat, just want to reiterate, so what we talked to Tim Thomas about, that will be October 30th, Saturday, we went with the afternoon again, 3-5. Think it was popular. We had a lot of good feedback last time because 2nd shift people can now go with their kids. We all know our sidewalk condition and it helps with the police and it just, we feel that it is safer so, we have a lot of good feedback on that. Last Monday we met with ODOT. Chris Hughes, that was the big safety study that they are going to give us \$25,000 for a safety study on truck routes and traffic routes. And it was kind of a concept to see, you know how, what's our thought...Joel was there...about redirecting traffic, what's the...what's our ideas. You know we really pressed them to think outside the box. We've talked from all different kinds of concepts. You think it, we talked about it. What it comes down to and I think the statement that I heard that really resonated, is like ODOT looks at traffic flow. Traffic, how the flow of traffic-we don't have a traffic flow here. When seen through ODOT's eyes. Truck move through here, cars move through our city just fine. It's a local problem because we don't like it. So that's kind of, you know that really resonated. It's not that we have all these backups with trucks and...they look at it from that standpoint. Where-their traffic is getting through. We look at it, it's a pain and it tears up our roads. So, it is really going to have to be that local collaboration on how we really tackle this. Especially with what this downtown and the amount of money, and how do we best preserve our streets and be able to maintain them with truck traffic. So, it was an interesting one. I wish we could've came back and they said oh we're going to put some really neat thing in for you for free. But they didn't but I appreciate their effort and coming and talking with us, but it makes sense what they say. So, we're going to keep pressing on that. We came up with some ideas. They showed some ideas, and you know everybody's million-dollar ideas are worth hearing. So, think outside the box. So, the other thing I was going to really want to hit home on; this is probably the piece, I don't know if we need to talk with the nuisance committee and get that started back up but it's probably my biggest burr that when we drive in our city, we have to be making an impression and we've talked about our homes are doing better. You know the city did a nice job. Mark Doll got us a great grant money we got McKitrick down; what an eyesore. But it can't stop there. So, my big push is we have to get not only residential, which I think are

improving, our businesses. And I can go from Born Tire. I can go to Large's. I can go from every entryway into this city. How do we get it done? So, I think we are kind of stuck right now on how we do that, but we have to look at other cities, how they do it. What's this going to take so it looks...it's operation first impression. When you're looking at other things to attract places we have to make; and if we're spending 20 million dollars to get to downtown and we don't look nice coming in. I would really like to see if we could get that nuisance committee back to see if we could really start; what does that look like? Maybe we can't. But I would really want to explore what other communities are looking at and how they get these businesses to tidy up some. That's my big ask for right now.

Althaus: Any questions for the mayor? So, before I comment I'd ask council real quick to...I don't really have an update on Patti, I don't know if anyone else has an update. I would ask council to excuse her. **(Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried)** Real quick I'd just comment a little bit on the ODOT meeting as well. Very high level. Real just initial ideas and more of it was, I think the administration did a very good job of, they're trying to get, stretch that \$25,000 as far as they can stretch it. So, where a lot of this conversation came out of was questioning ODOT as to okay can we narrow some things down so then we know what to have you test for using that \$25,000. Appreciated especially Lynn's comment and that acceptance of that fact is something that we've had trouble in the community and that fact being that, and I've been quoted several times, I said okay we're not going to have a bypass. We're not going to have a bypass because of exactly what Lynn said. We don't have a traffic problem in the eyes of what ODOT is trying to fix across the state. Fair road for example and 309. We have nothing compared to that. There have been no deaths in Kenton in the last several years. Traffic gets through town. It's just a pain for our local...for everybody here. And for some of those in traffic going through as well. So, but to follow up on that the other question, and I'm going to share that was asked, wasn't the best answer, but I think we needed to hear it. We all know that ODOT funding takes a while. I mean it's...to time a project like we're talking about in these 9 blocks, with ODOT funds, so to time all those funding sources is a tall order. So, the question was asked how many communities have you had that have worked through you (ODOT) to do the planning but went ahead and funded it on their own or found their own funding sources? And for those 4 people in the room; their answer was none that we know of. None. So, I know in the back of my head I always thought fine if we can't get it through ODOT we'll go elsewhere but I think the reality of that probably set in. To me that's probably not real. So, this is going to be a step my step process. We're going to have to figure out how to put all the pieces of the puzzle together. When we do what, dollars, everything, and it's what's been happening so far, and it'll just continue. So, it's a very initial meeting; they had some interesting ideas. Nothing earth shattering. I also recognize it was engineers and sometimes I don't think common sense always prevails (joking) but they were intriguing ideas. Just a reminder, just somethings coming up; if, I'm going to repeat what Chief Donnelly mentioned, the fire agility test Saturday morning, on October 2nd, at 9am; depending on the weather. I mean that so I would expect cross trainer shoes, maybe running shoes, if it's cool enough-sweats, otherwise shorts (joking). So, I don't know who else is going to...

Murray: You may want to watch first, before you try to take it (joking).

Beazley: There's a reason there's an age limit on there. (joking)

Murray: That's right.

Althaus: So after...

Mayor: After your engineer comment, Murray's not (inaudible)...

Althaus: It was for her benefit. And I didn't look (inaudible)...

Mayor: Brian's going to get you too. (joking)

Althaus: I didn't look at Brian either. (joking)

Schwemer: I enjoy engineering comments. I get attorney comments all the time. (joking)

Althaus: I know you do. I usually am picking on you-the attorney. (joking) So, if you can get down there; get down there for that. And then, again next meeting October 11th, finance meeting before a 6 o'clock. And you're not meeting next week, or anything are you?

Beazley: No Sit, not at this point.

Althaus: And then we have our meeting next, the second meeting in October will be the 25th; remember we have a public hearing at the beginning of that meeting. Now, Brenda will have comments at the top of your agenda, so I know you'll be reminded. But just, the beginning of that meeting will be a public hearing. So, that would be it for me. Anything else for the good of the order? Alright then, we're adjourned.