

1ST REGULAR SESSION:

(NOTE: The Oath of Office was given to Council Members & the City Treasurer prior to the start of the meeting.)

Kenton City Council met in their 1st Regular Session on January 10, 2022, at 7 PM in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Anda Tudor, Robin Jones, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, and Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.

Prayer given by President Althausser and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

REORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL PER ORC 731.04:

Althausser: You'll see a little bit of a change in the agenda...I'm trying to get it to work a little bit more for a better flow of a meeting. We do have several items that we're required to carry out at the beginning of a new session and the first item might catch some of you off-guard, but Dave and/or Pegg might remember this, but we need to appoint a Clerk for the years 2022-2023. That is a requirement of Council confirmed by a vote for the next 2 years. We also, as you see per the ORC, need to select a President Pro Tempore. The President Pro Tempore is the Asst. President or Vice President who serves in the absence of the President. The 3rd item is one I added. I do know we've had situations where Brenda could not be here, and I think it would be appropriate for Council to formally select a Council Clerk Pro Tempore for those same years. Obviously if someone were to leave in that time frame Council would again have to approve someone. And finally, we do have a few meeting dates that might be a bit of a conflict & I listed the ones I thought could be & I just wanted Council to take note of those & decide if we want to change any. So, the 1st item is the election of Council Clerk & obviously the suggestion is it would be Brenda Hanna.

Motion by Mr. Beazley & second by Mr. Lawrence to elect Brenda Hanna as Council Clerk for 2022-2023.

Althausser: Is there any discussion? **(Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried)** Congratulations, Brenda. Okay, our 2nd item is the election of a President Pro Tempore. The few times I've been gone, David has been the President Pro Tempore...in fact I think ever since I've been Council President, David has been President Pro Tempore.

Motion by Mrs. Davis & second by Mrs. Wren to elect David Beazley as President Pro Tempore for 2022-2023.

Althausser: Is there any discussion? **(Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried)** Thanks everyone. And finally, as far as elections, Emma Boutwell has been serving as Brenda's stand in when she couldn't be here. I think that's the Administration's intent that she would handle that, so I'd look for a motion to approve Emma as the Clerk Pro Tempore.

Motion by Mr. Lawrence & second by Mr. Beazley to elect Emma Boutwell as the Clerk Pro Tempore for 2022-2023.

Althausser: Is there any discussion? **(Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried)** Okay, so we'll tell Emma it's official. Finally, the 3 dates that came up...the first one is not a legal holiday, but I put that on there if some of you...I can't think of the last time it fell on Valentine's Day, but it probably has...

Beazley: Mr. President, I cannot think of people I love any more than this group so I think it's only appropriate that we should spend that day together.

Althausser: Okay. Columbus Day is not a City holiday but it is federal. Does anyone have an issue with meeting on Columbus Day on October 10th? Okay, in 2022 Christmas falls on Sunday so it is observed on Monday the 26th and City Offices will be closed on the 26th. I would only say that we have sometimes in the past moved that day or similar days like that, like July 4th, because of our staff here not necessarily because of Council. I think that is normally appreciated.

Motion by Mr. Beazley & second by Mr. Lawrence that we move the December 26th scheduled meeting to December 27th at 7:00 PM.

Althausser: Is there any discussion? **(Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried)** Thank you.

MINUTES:

Althausser: You've had a chance to review the minutes from December 27, 2021. Are there any additions or corrections to those minutes as presented? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

Althausser: We have no citizens on the agenda this evening. I'd just remind everyone that if you'd like to be on the agenda you need to speak with the Clerk on the Thursday prior to Monday's meeting. There will be a time for anyone present to speak to Council & the Administration under comments from the public towards the end of the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Althausser: I have none. Does any Councilmember or the Administration have any to share?

PETITIONS:

Althausser: We have no petitions before us at this time.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Althausser: Okay, so this is a new section of the agenda. We will not go through every single person on comments at the end of the meeting...the idea is to get the Administration & all the reports upfront and it gives, like we've been doing with both Chief's and Brian, a chance to introduce new individuals also. You'll see if there are written reports, for example on Law Director, I do have an asterisk there because the annual report for the Law Director is in your packet. So I'll start with the way I have them listed and that's the Police Chief to see if he has anything to present.

Police - Chief Musser: No, but I'll have year-end reports at the next Council meeting so we can discuss them then if you guys want to.

Fire - Althausser: Bruce (Chief Donnelly) did email myself, Lynn & Cindy saying he couldn't be here as I think it's Meredith's birthday tonight and they're having a big celebration, but he did say the ambulance is done and back. No news/update on the ladder truck at this time. Other than that, everything is going well & he's working on year-end reports & was planning to have them at the next meeting.

Parks & Rec Director – Althausser: We don't have anything right now.

Income Tax – Althausser: You had a report in your packet and maybe David could clarify this or the Administration, but the first page is the regular report, and then she has the month by month & how we performed, and then finally the review of the entire year where you can see what we projected and what we actually brought in. Are there any questions on that report?

Auditor – Brian Hattery: Thank you, Mr. President. I have someone to introduce, and her name is Elena Bean. Her official title is Account Clerk, and she is part-time with the Auditor's Office for the year of 2022. She is helping do some things & get some things in order, and she's going to be a great asset especially when it comes to the new software we're going to be incorporating this year, and helping us get some other things done we've had on our to do list for a while. So, I'll let her introduce herself.

Elena Bean: Good evening, everyone. I'm Elena Bean & I'm the new Account Clerk. I'm currently a junior at Tiffin University pursuing my Bachelors in accounting. I graduated from North Central State College with my Associates in Business Administration when I graduated from high school so I'm just here to learn as much as I can about accounting before I graduate and go into Forensic Accounting. Thank you.

Hattery: Thank you, Elena. The other thing is I try to do this every couple of years, especially with new Councilmembers...we have one here and perhaps one in the future hopefully, but it's just a reminder that when Council receives reports it's because Council is liable for what's on those reports to some degree. We can get audited & if there is a problem Council does bear some responsibility...we don't just print the reports to waste paper. When you see the reports, if you don't have any questions, it's kind of taken as your approval of those reports. So it's a reminder and it's not just financial reports from my office...it's the police reports, waterworks, fire reports, etc. If you have questions, please ask. If there is a problem the State or whomever can go back to investigate and they can come & ask Council. It's not like you're going to get...I can't see a scenario where you're going to get sued and your house taken. I'm not saying that, but there is a responsibility amongst the Council people that the reports you receive you are looking at and you are approving. I've said before that 2021 was a bit of a tumultuous year for the Auditor's Office, but we're going to get better and try to get you more consistent reports and timely reports from our office as we used to do in previous years. But like I said, even the minutes of the Council & your approval can get pulled in audits and they have gotten pulled in audits before. Just for an example, the Treasurer & I decided to close an account with a financial institution because we thought the money would be better somewhere else to better serve the City. We had questions from the Auditors on why that didn't go through Council and have an official vote...they wanted us to show where Council approved that. So you'll notice with the account we opened at the previous meeting for insurance purposes, we had you guys vote to approve it because we had to make changes. So they do look, they can look, and please

anytime you have any questions please feel free to ask. Especially finance with my department, anything we put forth and you don't understand please feel free to stop in and ask, you can email me at any time or give me a call. I'm sure Pam will be more than happy to spend some time answering your questions. Does anyone have questions for me before I sit down? Okay, thank you. Pam?

Chief Dep. Auditor, Pam Romanko: I just wanted to give Council an update on where we are in the Auditor's Office. 2021 is nearly balanced, which in the next couple of days we'll have 2021 done & balanced. I'm pretty excited about that and we're moving onto 2022. Lynn and I this evening made sure that all of the financial reports through November are on our website. You have the ability at any time, any of the public has the ability at any time to go to the Auditor's section of the City website and see the financial reports. Brian was speaking about your responsibility to check & know what's going on. We've talked more about doing more detailed reports and different things because electronic files are a lot easier and less expensive than all the paper. So we'll be working on that this year too. Part of that will be implemented with the new software that we're getting. The status on that is we have a new server that was installed today and it works pretty good & is pretty fast, and tomorrow is a phone call with the CMI Software for our kickoff to make a general plan of when, how & where and the order of how all of our software will be installed. So that's where we're at...Tina is getting all of the purchase orders around for the year and that's been a great fit, and Elena is helping me balance and doing different things that have been helpful in getting the Auditor's Office to where it is a very functional department, which is my goal. Do you guys have any questions? Thank you, and thanks Brian.

Althaus: Treasurer...Terri since you're here tonight, do you want to introduce yourself because there may be some people that don't know you.

Treasurer – Terri Downey: I'm Terri Downey, the City Treasurer. I don't have anything to add anymore than what Pam & Brian said to you all. I welcome this nice young lady (Elena) and she'll be a nice asset. That's all I have and it's good to see everybody. I think I know most everybody here on Council.

Althaus: John, your Law Director report is in here. Do you want to add to that?

Law Director – John Schwemer: Some of you should've received an email about 1-2 weeks ago as just a reminder...I don't know if there was anything brought up at the last meeting, I can't remember, but everyone has to do an annual ethics filing. So you'll want to make sure you do that before the deadline and if you don't have a link or know where that it is, Brenda or I can get you that link. But all elected officials have to do that every year. You have plenty of time to get it done, but this is just a reminder that you do need to do that. I also wanted to...whether we do this for Council right now is kind of your decision, but another component is every elected official is required to complete, once a term, open records open meetings training through the Ohio Attorney General's Office. I historically have done that for all elected officials where you're basically nominating me to do that on your behalf. In the past that has worked fine, but the last time the Auditors inquired to see if we had actually approved that at a meeting. So this I would like, if you guys are going to designate me, I'd like to do it of record at a Council meeting. We don't need to make this decision tonight, but I wanted to bring it up. Terri, I think if maybe you could come on the record because I don't know if you'll be here the next several meetings...do you want me to do your records training?

Downey: Yes, please.

Schwemer: Okay, let it be known on the record that Terri Downey is designating me to do the open records open meeting.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Davis to designate John Schwemer to continue in that capacity on behalf of the City Elected Officials.

Althaus: Is there any discussion? Does everyone understand what John is talking about? **(Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried)**

Schwemer: Okay, then Brian and Mayor same thing...do you want me to do that on your behalf?

Mayor: Yes.

Hattery: Yes.

Althaus: Will you send the link for that? (yes)

Schwemer: Keep in mind, you can do it on your own even if you do nominate me. It is free, you go to the site, you have to get a user name & login and it's about a painful 3 hours. But you can do it in little segments and hardly any segment is more than ½ hour so I just kind of do it in the evening or on the weekend. It is informative and I'd encourage everyone to do it even if you're nominating me because it does give you more insight on that.

Althaus: And to back up...you can do your ethics filing...I've done it already & I did it on my phone. It's very easy now.

Schwemer: Yes, it's much easier than it used to be. The first time you do it, it's a little more cumbersome for the ethics filing because you have to enter individual investments, individual conflicts... But after you do it the first year, they carry things through so you're only updating things if you no longer have an investment or certain conflicts or monetary contributions over the threshold. That's all I have.

Althausen: Questions for John? I see included the Clerk of Council provided her annual report for 2021. Any questions for Brenda?

Safety Service Director-Cindy Murray: Do I get a chance at the end too or is this it?

Althausen: This is your report.

Murray: This is now or never. Okay, so I don't have any reports, but I have some things I want to talk about. I just want to remind the citizens that the electric aggregation right now through the City of Kenton is at just a little over 4 cents per kilowatt hour, which is a heck of a deal. That is good through the end of May. You can still sign up to get that until the end of May and we have information here on how to log in and get that. Starting in May the rate will go up .05610 per kilowatt hour, so just a little over 5 ½ cents per kilowatt hour and that will be through Energy Harbor. So it's an estimated \$9.00 increase per residence per month. That's still a great rate going forward. When we roll over to the new rate if you want to opt out you can opt out at any time. You just have to go on there and opt out of the City's aggregate program. I just want to caution people when you opt into a new program there are hidden fees on a lot of them so make sure you know. Like there could be a monthly fee associated with it even though the rate is low or maybe there is an opt out cost associated with it once you get into one, so just be careful when you get into a new one. Trash, basically recycling, right now we understand it is a mess. I'm going to make it as simple as I can... this week is yellow so follow that. I think the Mayor is going to each week post what color to follow on our Facebook page. So again, this week is yellow and next week is blue. (static) Fire negotiations are going along and hopefully at our next meeting Clemans Nelson will be here to review the contract.

Mayor Lynn Webb: I just want to let you know Emma has updated the income tax website & has the new forms on there. I also want to touch base on 2 new jobs...(static)...Angelica Johnson will be starting next Monday for the Utilities Billing Analyst position in the water office. We had over 50 applications... The Community Improvement Director position we have scheduled 3 for the 1st round of interviews so far. In the first round it will be me, Cindy, Stephanie (Personnel) and maybe Pam asking questions and then in the 2nd round we'd like to have a member of the Rec Board and another person sit in on the interviews too to help select a qualified candidate. Moving forward I hope we can have this person seated as soon as we can. So we're being very transparent on how we do the hiring process. Also, I have like a super special guest tonight. I met him at the Fair...this is Wyatt Linke and he came up to us at the Republican tent and he's so into politics and he's very well versed in history so he's my Asst. Mayor tonight. Then we're going to have him & his brother Wesley come and tour the City hopefully Monday. So it's just a real pleasure to see youth be really caring and wanting to understand how a city government works and he kind of already tells us how things are. Ha. So thanks Wyatt for being here and being my sidekick.

Wyatt Linke: You're welcome.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althausen: We'll get to the handout on new committees under new business so right now is there a report from Finance?

Finance-Beazley: No Sir, we have not met.

MOP – Wren: Nothing.

Safety/Nuisance-Davis: Nothing, but we're getting ready to plan our first meeting and that's going to be the commercial nuisances.

Regional Planning-Beazley: Regional Planning did meet this past week and it sounds disappointing for the City...our Administration went to bat for some Dept. of Development grant money and it seems like that has passed over despite our best efforts. That's the highlight, if you will, or I guess the lowlight.

Parks & Rec Board – Nothing.

Grove Cemetery-Davis: Grove Cemetery met last week and our new president, Joe Sherman, has stepped up into that role. The final numbers were given, and I believe we were at 123 burials and 33 cremations, which is fairly high for our little area. We're also talking about adding some concrete around the committal building so it's not so muddy and it's easier for people to have access in inclement weather.

BKP-Althausen: BKP Ambulance District Board met...well, it's almost a month ago now as they meet on the 3rd Monday. You have in your packet minutes that I had from the November meeting. The Board will meet this coming Monday and should have minutes from December...

OLD BUSINESS:

Althaus: Does anyone have any old business to be presented?

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Discussion of Open Council Seat (1st Ward)

Althaus: I think you can tell by the agenda that we do have an open seat on the 1st Ward. I have the resignation that I received on 12/31/21 and I think that information as far as the opening has gone to the news media. (Yes) Is it on our website?

Mayor: I'll post it tomorrow.

Althaus: The communication that Brenda sent out was we'd ask for resumés to be in by the next Council meeting and she can update us at Council in 2 weeks of where we are. A little background, Ms. Burkett did resign mostly because of several personal issues that came up medical in nature, and she very much regretted that she had to do so. She was elected as an Independent and that is why it falls under Council to replace. Obviously, it has to be someone from the 1st Ward, and I think this is the gray area...to be elected you have to have lived in that ward for one year but I'm not certain you have too to be appointed. The best-case scenario is they would've lived there for a year. If anyone has interest, please contact the office up here or any Councilmember. I'd ask you folks if you know of anyone reach out to them and see if you can get them to turn in an application. As such, that was part of my reason for being a little cautious on the committee assignments...

2) Introduction and Discussion of Standing Committees

Althaus: You have a handout in front of you and you don't have to decide everything tonight, but I'll just explain the pages and give you a couple of days to kind of look at it. The 1st page would be my proposed committees. MOP is a Kenton committee...that is something that most other cities or villages don't have, although they may have something similar. But MOP (Management, Organization, Personnel) is the only committee defined in the codified's. None of the others are. A lot of cities do layout all of their committees in their codified ordinances, but we do not other than MOP. Even Finance is not a requirement of either the codifieds or the ORC, but MOP is a requirement of our codified ordinances. Basically, MOP's description is kind of laid out and essentially if you read it, that committee was established simply to help administer chapter 249 in the codified ordinances. 249, for the most part, deals with non-bargaining employees. So that one is a must. Finance Committee is also a must simply because of the bulk of work. Again, that's just a description and it would not be a new committee. Nothing would change there. Public Utilities Committee is a proposed new committee. You can see the explanation there, but the general idea behind that is to be an arm to help out the Safety Service Director in the area of all of our enterprise funds and even to help...one of the things I've seen that can really bog us down is the enormous amount of load that is put on Finance. The idea here is the Public Utilities Committee would also review & then recommend to Finance the water & sewer budgets. Finance is still going to recommend the whole budget, but they can do a lot of that legwork and help Finance out there & spread it around. This committee was one I know I had talked about with Lynn & Cindy when it comes to rate increases and things like that and the research behind those rate increases to make certain the Administration & Council are all on the same page, and to help answer the public's concerns when it comes to our utilities. Streets, Alleys, & Sidewalks...this is the Streets, Alleys & Sidewalks part of Safety really for any ordinances, resolutions, or matters that pertain to Streets, Alleys & Sidewalks. What I tried to do was think of things that come before Council and one of the things I want us to start doing a better job of, and this falls on me, but a lot of councils when they have legislation behind the heading of that legislation will be in parenthesis where it originated from. Typically, legislation originates from the Mayor, Law Director, or Council Committee and that will help us to know where to assign these issues as they come up. Then finally, Legislation, Codes and Regulations would be the nuisance part of Safety and/or nuisance. Again, this is not set in stone by any means. Also, there have been times where there have been new state regulations or sometimes, but not typically, federal regulations that impact our local. If that involves a potential change to the codifieds it'd be referred to that committee. So those would be the 5 that would be my initial recommendation. The 2nd page are just other possibilities and again this isn't something where we expect everyone to be meeting all the time. You'll notice I did add an area to the agenda that will remain there called Scheduling of Committee Meetings where any committee meetings through the course of our meeting if we figure out we need one, that's why it's in there. We'll schedule those at that time. The other possibilities are from cities around us and some of the ones they had. Now the reason I didn't put them on the front page...Information Systems I don't think we're quite ready for it to be honest. We need one but I think we

have a lot of work to do in general on that, but it would be one to think about. Jobs & Economic Development; Lands & Buildings; Municipal Services, Parks & Recreation...we do have a Parks & Rec Board. Council did back in 1950 initiate it and technically it's called the Recreation Board. I'm not so certain we'd need a Council Committee to do that also. Then there is Regional Planning, Zoning & Annexation. So those are just other ideas, but the 1st page would be the preference. Then on the 3rd page is individual assignments. The first 3 we are required to have because of our agreements with these groups (Grove Cemetery Assoc., Hardin County Regional Planning Commission, & BKP Ambulance District). We do need a representative on all of those. Something that I hadn't caught & I just mentioned it to the Mayor...per our codifieds, the Mayor appoints one member of Council as a non-voting representative to the Tree Commission, or technically the Shade Tree Commission. The Citizens Advisory Committee has been inactive, but if the Mayor were to reactivate it the Mayor could appoint up to 3 Councilmembers. And then finally the last two have been mostly traditional. Right now, in practice Lynn has really been our School Board representative because she's been attending the majority of them. It doesn't mean it has to be that way...we could also have a Councilmember. The Recreation Board, now this is one I do think is commonly known as the Parks & Rec Board...do you think we should keep a liaison because there is nothing in the codifieds that requires it, but the Rec Board has full authority to go to Council for funding and to run the recreation department of the City. They have full authority. I think it's important that we have a liaison because of the fiscal side of that to get back with Council and/or Finance in regards to the fiscal needs especially of that board. The last page is a printout that Brenda had from quite a while ago and there is nothing on here other than the codified for MOP...it also describes our 4 committees and the Safety Service Committee you'll notice I think over time we've gotten away from what that committee was intended and we lean more towards the nuisance/safety side of it. It really was the Safety Service Director's committee. So if you go back to the front page there is part of that that is really covered by MOP...the strength ordinances is clearly part of MOP and there is part of it that would fall under Public Utilities, and part of that would fall under Streets, Alleys & Sidewalks and finally Codes & Regulations. That was the idea...we can chat on it a little bit tonight or you can have more time to digest it. I could send everyone out an email here in a couple of days to see what your thoughts are. I gave you that 4th page for you to see what our interpretation has been for years of committees and that is a Kenton piece of work. Thoughts? Anybody want to share anything now? Okay, I may reach out to each of you on an individual basis...

Davis: Do you want us to carry forth with the commercial nuisances or do you want us to wait until the new committees are assigned?

Althausen: I want to find out first what each of you thinks of this. The commercial nuisance would really fall under...

Davis: Legislation, Codes & Regulations.

Althausen: And again, those names aren't in stone either, if someone has better ideas or better descriptions. But the idea is so we know where to send stuff & there's not a doubt of does it go to Safety or do we need to form a special committee etc., so for the most part this hits everything.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Althausen: This is the way I intend to do the agendas from now on...the idea is old business and new business that gives all of the Council, Administration and staff, along with other matters which is down below on the agenda, the time to bring up other issues that might need to be addressed by Council. My hope is that comments from Councilmembers & Administration are as they have been most of this past year, more informal in nature...ie: hey I thought the downtown Christmas decorations looked great and I want to put a shoutout to whomever...those kinds of things, which is what we've mostly been doing. So I'm not trying to get away from something I've seen happening. That isn't my point at all, I actually like what has been happening and I'd like to keep the comments along those lines. If it's city business let's bring it up under old business as appropriate, or new business as appropriate, or other matters. Let's have the comments be positive and accolades, etc. So I will go around to all of Council afterwards and Cindy and the Auditor to see if there are any last personal comments they want to make. That's how I intend to do that. Any questions on that? Speak free or speak free afterwards to me on any concerns you have. This is a work in progress. So under 1st reading we have 3 items.

1ST READING:

- 1) RESOLUTION NO. 22-001, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND/OR SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO APPLY TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) FUNDING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: Is there anything the Administration wants to talk about on this?

Murray: This Transportation Alternatives is for sidewalks for the N. Detroit Street Project that we've got the Small Cities Grant funding for. This will cover all new sidewalks & make everything ADA accessible on the 1st Phase of N. Detroit Street. So this will allow us to apply for that funding.

Beazley: The emergency language, is there a submittal time deadline?

Murray: Yes, I have to have it by the 31st.

Althaus: That means you'd really need it approved, at the latest, at the next meeting.

Murray: Yes.

Althaus: On that note, something we're going to try to start doing a little bit smarter, and this is a perfect example...obviously we want things to be read as many times as possible. If we know that something can wait for another meeting but needs to be approved then, we can suspend the rules tonight and say we suspend the rules with regards to the 3-reading rule and we move that the resolution be allowed to be approved after 2 readings. Then if that passes, then it can be read at the next meeting and approved. The reason you do that is we know we have 6 people here tonight, but we don't know if we'll have 6 people here at the next meeting. So always keep that in mind if you want something to be read as many times as possible so the public has the opportunity, you can suspend the rules and shorten 1 reading by suspending the rules tonight. Does that make sense to everyone? And just to clarify, and this will be mostly for you Anda, any resolution or ordinance requirement by law we have to read 3 times. We are able to suspend the rules and shorten that time frame by a vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the elected Councilmembers, which would include the vacant seat. So in other words, we would need 6 people to affirm a suspension of the rules. The emergency language is added so that if, whether by suspension of the rules and passing, or read 3 times and passing, if a resolution or ordinance passes it can immediately into effect upon signature by the Mayor. But, in order to do that, it must pass by $\frac{2}{3}$ vote which is 5 people. If the emergency language is not present, or it does not pass by $\frac{2}{3}$, then it goes into effect 30 days after the Mayor signs it. So I can get into the civics and I know that's boring to everybody else here, but it is a new session.

Beazley: Mr. President, we're aware that we may be down at least 1 Councilmember at the next meeting and because of that, and the urgency of this, and the need for us to continue with this project, I would move...

Motion by Mr. Beazley & second by Mrs. Wren that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days be suspended to allow for passage on the 2nd reading of Resolution 22-001. Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried.

2) RESOLUTION NO. 22-002, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION FINALIZING ACTIONS UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 21-017 TO PERMIT THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: I see Cindy is up at the podium...

Murray: Okay, this is for the paving of SR 67 W from the corporation limit down to Espy Street and SR 31 S, and from Espy Street to SR 292. This would be our share of the funds from ODOT.

Davis: What's the date on this?

Murray: It will be this summer. But this legislation has to be approved by the 31st. (has to be executed and returned to ODOT by 2/11/22)

Mayor: Same thing...

Althaus: And just to back up...don't take me wrong, you don't have to do it that way. It's just something we've never thought of before.

Beazley: We know we'll not have 6 members at the next meeting, Mr. President, so in order for this to be considered at our next meeting we have to take this action tonight. As a result, I would move...

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mr. Lawrence that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days be suspended to allow for passage on the 2nd reading of Resolution 22-002. Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried.

3) ORDINANCE NO. 22-001, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2022 FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Althaus: I think Pam is going to explain this...

Romanko: This Ordinance goes with the Resolution 22-002 for the highway so I can sign the sheet that says we have the money that we can pay this. The original estimate was approximately \$230,000, which is in the budget, but the additional \$78,000 is their estimate as far as how much they think the bids will come in. Those bids will come in in March so then we'll know how much we need.

Beazley: So this increases the \$230,000 to the \$304,000...

Romanko: Right and there is a transfer because we don't have the money in the Street Fund so it's a transfer from General for that expense and then actually paying for that. So this along with the other also needs to be able to be by Jan. 31st.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Ms. Jones that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days be suspended to allow for passage on the 2nd reading of Ordinance 22-001. Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried.

Althauser: Okay, we'll have those on the agenda as a 2nd reading and we'll note behind each of them the rules have been suspended as far as 3 reads.

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althauser: So right now, the way we stand to answer your question Antwill, if there is something you guys are already working on, what we can do is if we go with that, we can pass it on. If you want to go ahead and meet that's fine.

Davis: The goal is to get a meeting in before the 24th. That was the goal once we had the committees... we assumed we were getting them tonight. The original nuisance committee is Robin, me, and Ray and the goal was to get that in to get it started since it's such a long process to change anything with nuisances.

Althauser: Well Safety has just kind of taken up nuisances.

Davis: Right. Safety we've just been working on the lights, so that one kind of gets put at the end of the nuisance meeting.

Althauser: I'll be sending out an email tonight and I'm going to try to talk to each of you afterwards just a little bit because I think there are things you guys might want to say in private, but I'll send out that email with those committees and I'm going to ask each Councilmember to list any preference & secondary preference of any committee you'd like to be on, and to note if you'd mind being a Chair. So my hope is to get all of that taken care of yet this week.

Davis: Okay. We'll wait to schedule until those go out in case it's altered at all.

Althauser: Also, I'd comment on the individual appointments...my thought, I don't really think we want to change Grove Cemetery because Antwill is the President.

Davis: No, I was President last year & Joe Sherman is President now, but that doesn't mean mess with the Cemetery...that's my baby.

Althauser: I don't necessarily want to change Regional Planning, unless David doesn't want to serve, mostly because of the continuity with Mark (Doll).

Beazley: I'm fine.

Althauser: And, at least for the next year, I'd rather not change BKP for the same reason, unless someone really has the desire to get on there and learn that. If you do, we can change BKP toward the end of this year going into next year. There is nothing that says we can't, and I could start having someone come with me to the meetings. So keep that in mind. But my thought on those 3 is not to change them. Okay?

Davis: I'm fine with that.

Althauser: Does Finance have any intention to meet?

Beazley: We do not. I don't know of anything other than the obvious last minute items that came before Council tonight on the changes of contracts and what have you.

Althauser: Does MOP have any?

Wren: No, not that I know of.

Beazley: Mr. President, may we digress back to old business? I presume this should've happened there, but Mr. Law Director have you had an opportunity to peruse the recommendation?

Schwemer: No but I did read that in the minutes regarding the park, correct?

Beazley: Yes sir. It should have appeared under old business, my fault.

Althauser: And that...we're trying to get a lot more organized on keeping track of those little details. It's hard to do but we're working at it.

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Representative Jon Cross: Thank you very much. I just wanted to announce that Monday January 24th, we're going to be holding community office hours at the Library for Capital Budget. From 11:30AM-1:30PM at the Hardin County District Library we're going to hold community officer hours for anyone that

wants to come in to work through State issues. But also, we want to let the City, as well as the County and all of our community members and councils, to know about Capital Budget. So we'll be having another Capital Budget and my office is preparing for that. We'd like to have you come in and talk through what kind of projects you're thinking about. To kind of roll back time, the City of Kenton submitted...was it one project Mayor?

Mayor: Yes.

Cross: For the pool? Was it just that one or any other projects?

Mayor: Just that one.

Cross: Okay, so you submitted the pool project and it did get approved for \$20,000. We'd like to see if you have any other community projects that will qualify. There will be a website where it's posted, but traditionally they're not building projects like if we wanted to fix up the Courthouse or City Building or something like that. Those dollars are traditionally reserved for enhancing community projects and trying to fill the gap. So if you were short on some money trying to fill the gap on certain projects, a good example was the Golf Course community room. We were able to get \$200,000 on a million (+) dollar project so we helped to fill that gap by 20%, plus or minus, whatever the final total was. I haven't heard officially but they're probably due in March...we'll submit these projects and go through the process. I serve on Finance Committee again, so we'll be able to leverage that. So I just wanted to make that announcement, Mr. President. Also, don't be discouraged...I know we chase money and we're chasing money for project dollars for our downtown redevelopment project, so don't be discouraged that you haven't heard anything yet. We keep asking and they haven't said no...what we understood was each county had 2 projects funded. Here in Hardin County, it was Ada and Dunkirk, and Forest got another grant. There is a billion dollars worth of requests of the \$250 million we appropriated. I'd like to go back & see if we can't get another \$750 million appropriated through federal funding that's coming our way because we have a lot of projects that need to get funded. Obviously, the projects here in Kenton are a big priority for Hardin County, so every time I see Director Mihalik in the hallways we always ask about Kenton and keep on poking & prodding. So we haven't given up hope...sometimes those things work fast and sometimes they work slow, but we're still trying to get those dollars. And of course any projects you guys look to for State funding...when I got on the phone with the OEPA to talk about principal forgiveness they said that if the federal infrastructure project passed, which it did, I'm kind of getting it confused with the other one that didn't pass, but the one did pass & I'm hopeful it will allow some more flexibility with the EPA to do some stuff for you all. So anytime you all apply for state funding through the ODOT, EPA, ODOT, or any other agency, we certainly try to chime in with all the Directors down there and help advocate on your behalf. Any questions, Mr. President, on that information? I look forward to helping you guys out if you have any community projects that you want to submit.

Althaus: As always, thanks Jon. Anyone else from the public?

COMMENTS FROM NEWS MEDIA:

None.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Beazley: I welcome our new...is she gone? (yes) Well, welcome anyway. I welcome our 2 gentlemen tonight and their family. I appreciate you being here and being a part of what's going on. We look forward to you growing up into leadership in our city. I appreciate that.

Davis: I have nothing additional to add to Dave's comments.

Lawrence: Nothing.

Wren: I have nothing either, except I am the person that will not be here on the 24th. I won't be back in town until after 8:30PM so it'll be kind of late.

Mayor: Just another quick shoutout to our public works guys last night. They got called out about 6PM on a service line and it was a cold night. Cindy said she was there until 9:30PM and they got it all taken care of. It's one of those things we couldn't let it go, but it wasn't a main and they did it under pressure. If you could see the pictures on Facebook it was shooting pretty good, but again no water shutoff and it was all taken care of. So a big shoutout to those guys. They are very committed. We never have any trouble with calling people in. They all come and we're real proud of that group.

Althaus: Wyatt, do you have anything?

Linke: No, thank you.

Althaus: Well, thanks for being here. The agenda is a little bit of a work in progress, but we'll get there. I'll talk to each one of you about committee appointments real quick here after this meeting and just a reminder the next meeting is on the 24th. So look for an email from me about committees and

also I tried this with John...I sent the packet to John via email & it worked out okay. I'm not saying we're not going to print hard copies, but we're going to start taking steps towards getting away from that. So I'll be sending you each the packet just to see how you're able to read it. I was able to look at it fine on my phone, other than my phone shut off when I was trying to read it. So we'll try that and I guess beyond that, if there are no objections to adjournment, we're adjourned until the 24th.

Joel Althausen
President of Council

Brenda Hanna
Clerk