

**Joint Meeting of Grove Cemetery Association, Buck, Goshen & Pleasant Township Trustees, and Kenton City Council held on November 22, 2021, at 6:30PM in Council Chambers.**

**J. Althaus:** Good evening and I'd like to welcome everyone to the combined meeting of the Grove Cemetery Association, Board of Township Trustees and City Council. We'll begin with the roll call.

**Roll Call: (Buck)** Jerry Layman, Rodney Haudenschild, Randy Scharf, & Roger Crowe (Fiscal Officer); **(Goshen)** Joe Sherman, Daryl Flowers, & Allen Barrett; **(Pleasant)** Wes Broseke (Absent: Beryl Rogers Dudek & Ron Rogers); **(City Council)** Joel Althaus, John McEntee, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Jacqueline Fitzgerald, Robin Jones, Mayor Lynn Webb, & Safety Service Director Cindy Murray (Absent: Law Director John Schwemer).

**J. Althaus:** I'll pass along regrets from John, but something came up very urgently that involved City Council and he's working on that right now. With that, I'll turn it over to Antwillia.

**A. Davis:** Thank you all for being here tonight for our annual combined meeting of the Grove Cemetery Association, Buck, Goshen & Pleasant Twp. Trustees, and City Council. Did all of you look over the previous minutes from the last meeting? Can I have a motion to approve those minutes?

**Motion by Jerry Layman and second by Allen Barrett to approve the minutes from 11/25/19. All aye; motion carried**

**A. Davis:** Okay, if you'd please allow Roger Crowe to come up and go over the 2020/2021 y-t-d financial report.

**R. Crowe:** I'm glad Brenda is not here tonight because she & I had numerous emails back & forth because I had people talking to me in the office when I was sending her the reports...I'd send her one & then realize nope that was wrong, so I'd send her another and nope that one was wrong. Well, it's still wrong. Under the Capital Projects Funds the header dates are wrong, but the numbers are correct. So please ignore the headers. We'll go over the General Fund sheet, which is the one with all of the small numbers on it. We really didn't have a meeting last year to go over numbers, but I think they were all released to you, if I remember right, but we never met in person to discuss those. The Cemetery had a very good year financially last year, but a bad year for the community and this year is shaping up to be just about the same for the Cemetery. As you can see, our total operations income last year was \$120,000 and we're already at \$113,000 as of November 1<sup>st</sup> with 2 months left to go. If you look at lot sales, last year the \$21,000 was up & this year it's up significantly more to almost \$34,000. In the open & closing permits we'll probably be about the same by the time we end the year. Foundations...that \$19,000 figure for 2021 I've got an additional check for just over \$5,000 that I'll be putting into that, so we'll exceed last year's foundations. That just kind of ties in when you sell more graves you're going to put in more headstones. Fees, you'll notice the fees are significantly higher this year and basically that's all one transaction. We have dirt piles out there where we have excess dirt & we don't charge anybody for the dirt, but if we have to load it for them we charge a fee for loading. One guy paid \$1,000 for the number of loads that he took so that really punched that number up there. Under the Intergovernmental Revenue, that is the tax money that each of the agencies pays to the Cemetery every year. We still have approximately \$25,000 to come in on that for this year, so we're going to be over last year's tax collections again this year. Under the Misc. Expenses those are pretty much all in-line with what they are year to year so that gets us down to our total revenue of \$340,000 and we'll probably reach last year's and exceed that. Under appropriations, this year we had audit expense. We have audits every 2 years & this was our year for an audit by the State. We did have a good audit, with only one minor notation in the audit report. About halfway down the tree trimming has a big goose egg after it. I could've sworn we had trees cut this year, but it's already been a year since we've had any tree work done. Adam Haudenschild does the tree work and, as you may or may not know, he had a rather large fire & a lot of equipment was lost. He spent most of the year playing catch up with getting equipment & getting caught up on other jobs. Typically, he will work at the Cemetery in the winter months when he can't get in other places, so we may have some done this year, but it may carry over to next year. The next item to look at is new equipment...you'll see that number is up this year. That equipment amounts to our annual purchase of a new mower, we bought a new hydraulic concrete bucket that mounts on the front of a bobcat or skid steer so they can haul concrete back into the middle of the sections to put in for foundations, and we also bought a trailer to haul the mini excavator that you'll hear about later on in the report. The final thing I wanted to mention under expenses is under payroll. You can see our payroll is below what it was last year and I think it's going to come in at or below what it did last year by the end of the year. We don't have an excess of employees at the Cemetery & the ones that we have are getting the work done, but we are having to pay more just like everybody else...you have to pay more to keep the employees. I think it's going to be kind of a wash this year for that. Are there any questions under our General Fund Financials? Under the Capital Projects Funds you can see under each one there are 2 columns one above each other. In the equipment line for

this year, you'll see there is a \$60,000 expense & that is the mini excavator that I talked about earlier. The other small equipment items were taken out of the general fund. Under buildings, the \$6300 was for a new roof on the concrete block garage. The other expenses are basically nothing out of the ordinary. We're able to continue to transfer funds over on a regular basis from the general fund into the capital projects. This year we transferred over \$50,000 (\$30,000 into equipment & \$20,000 into buildings). Any questions? Thank you, Antwillla.

**A. Davis:** I'm just going to give you an update on what we've done...so we've sold double the normal graves, we're at 85 burials now, & we have 50% more foundations than usual. Of course, that's great for us and sad for the community. As Roger spoke about, we have the new roof, we planted 60 trees, we did finally get the driveway installed on Section M so that was very exciting for us, and then we got the new mini excavator. Since we previously talked, Gary Haudenschild is now our Grounds Superintendent & Jim Litzenburg is more of an office Superintendent...he still works at the Cemetery but just in a different capacity. So both of them are there any time you want to stop out. The last thing to note is our crew is very busy. We took no summer youth employees this year, so all the work that was done was done with our current employees, and I don't believe we're going to be taking anymore youth employees for a while. The last thing is Jerry Layman is going to be leaving us after 18 years, so if you'll all please join me in a round of applause to a very special man. (Applause) We'll probably still be calling you next year for advice on what tile is where, etc.

**J. Layman:** If I may, I'd like to introduce Jason Fulton as my replacement.

**A. Davis:** Nice to have you, Jason. You've got big shoes to fill. My last announcement is the rotation so typically it goes City of Kenton, Buck, Goshen, Pleasant. We're going to switch because of Jerry leaving us, so we're going to switch Buck & Goshen and have Joe take over as President, then Jason will go in as Vice President, then we'll continue the rotation with Pleasant Twp. Ron Rogers, and then the City. Do you guys have any questions for us? If that's everything, I'd like to thank everyone for coming tonight, it's been 2 years since we've seen you. Call the Cemetery at any time if you have any questions. (The meeting was adjourned at this point)

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## **22<sup>ND</sup> REGULAR SESSION:**

Kenton City Council met in their 22<sup>nd</sup> regular session on November 22, 2021 at 7PM in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, John McEntee, David Beazley, Antwillla Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Jacqualine Fitzgerald, Robin Jones, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, & Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.

Prayer given by Mr. McEntee & the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Althausser: Before we move forward in the agenda, I'd ask Council to consider the addition of 2 items to our agenda under new business. You should have copies at your station. The first would be ordinance 21-034 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> is resolution 21-012. Are there any objections to the additions of these 2 items to new business? Okay hearing none, we'll consider those under new business.

## **MINUTES:**

Althausser: Are there any questions, additions, or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

## **CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:**

Althausser: We do not have any citizens on our agenda this evening that have requested time to speak. We'll make certain that everyone knows if you're in attendance tonight and did not get on the agenda, you have the opportunity to speak under comments at the end of the meeting.

## **DEPARTMENTAL NEWS/UPDATES:**

Althausser: I know our Fire Chief wants to give us an update on some personnel.

Chief Bruce Donnelly: I'll just have him come up & introduce himself & tell you a little about himself & where he's from.

Nate Harmon: Hello, I'm Nate Harmon. I'm a Firefighter, brand new here in Kenton. I originally come from Hancock County, I was born & raised in Findlay, but my adult years have been mostly in Arlington, and I now live in Forest. I have a wife and 5 dogs & they're all monsters. Ha. I'm very excited to be working here & I'm excited to be helping this community.

Althausser: Welcome & thank you for coming tonight.

Chief Donnelly: Just a couple of other things...I did hear back from the service manager about the ladder truck. They're still having electrical issues with it & they're fighting with the manufacturer to

actually try to get a new part instead of a rebuilt one to see if that improves anything. The part manufacturer at this point is refusing that. I told them if there is any way we can help them with that issue to let us know so we can keep this moving. He seems to be pretty frustrated with the part manufacturer, but hopefully he'll give us some good news on that. The new ambulance is in our station & we do have all the decals off of it, so it's prepped to get wrapped. I did get 2 additional bids in from the time you made the approval on that & they actually were quite a bit lower than the original bid for wrapping it. So that's been a surprise and I'm glad to see we got some better pricing & might save some money. Other than that, things are going pretty well down at the station & the guys are staying pretty busy and we're looking at about 1300 runs for the year at this point in time.

Beazley: I have a question...Firefighter Harmon, are you also Paramedic certified?

Harmon: I am not, I'm an EMT.

Beazley: Are you pursuing the Paramedic?

Harmon: I'd like to after my probation is done.

Beazley: Thank you.

Althausen: Any other questions? Thanks again, Bruce.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS/PETITIONS:**

Althausen: I'm not aware of anything new as far as petitions, now we do have one under old business. Communications...do you want to address this?

Mayor Webb: Yes, I can touch base on it real quick. United Way, you know we're pretty passionate about it. 95% of the money stays in Hardin County...

Auditor Brian Hattery: 99%.

Mayor Webb: 99% stays in our County and you can pick & choose where you want your dollars to go to as Dave Beazley would say. I'm pretty passionate about it and we are a very giving community. I know Brian is working hard on it, so I definitely need those in by the 1<sup>st</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> but let's go with the 1<sup>st</sup>. I appreciate everybody's consideration on that.

Althausen: Does anybody else have a communication to share?

#### **MONTHLY/ANNUAL REPORTS:**

Althausen: In your packet you have the WWTP Daily Discharge Flow. Any comments on that? Cindy, do you want to add anything? Okay, I do appreciate that report though. Then we have the Public Works report for October & the Water Loss report. All 3 of these reports were just started under this Administration. Questions on those?

Fitzgerald: I'd just like to thank the Administration for doing this. I think it's really important, so thank you for putting this in place as it's very transparent & we know what's happening.

Althausen: The only other item would be the Tree Commission minutes from 11/10/21. Questions?

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Althausen: There is a written report from the Finance Committee...

Finance, Beazley: We've got the written report & you have a budget for a first read tonight. This is a product of the hard work from the Administration, Dept. Head's, Auditor's Office, and our Finance Committee members.

MOP, Wren: MOP did meet and we're having another meeting on Monday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:15PM and we should have a report and maybe some legislation after that.

Safety, Nuisance, Davis: Safety did meet and we're working on starting with some lights in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward, 1 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, and then we're hopefully going to be able to eliminate the parks to prevent some vandalism situations that have been happening.

Althausen: Any future meeting dates that you know of?

Davis: Not at this time.

Althausen: Are there any other assignments or committees to report?

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-029, 2<sup>ND</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE VACATING THE ALLEY LYING BETWEEN INLOTS NUMBER 11, 12, AND 13 OF ADAM SCHNEIDER'S SUB-DIVISION AND INLOTS NUMBER 87, 88, AND 89 OF LETSON'S THIRD ADDITION TO THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO.**

Althaus: If you'll recall, this is the alley around 1879 Electric. Any questions at this time? If there are no objections, we'll read this for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 3 weeks. Is there any further old business to be presented?

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Althaus: With the 2 items added, we now have 4 items to consider.

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-032, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: Most of these have to do with the health insurance situation. It's my understanding this will transpire the end of the year, so we do have the opportunity to read it another time. Are there any comments or questions?

Beazley: Mr. President, I'd just remind Council that this particular expenditure & appropriation deals with our exit from the plan we're in.

Althaus: Okay, if there are no objections, we'll read this a 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 3 weeks.

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-033, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATION FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF KENTON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: As David referred to in his report for the Finance Committee, this is the budget. Of course, it only looks at the expense side and by the ORC that is the part that you look at is the expenses, and the complete budget has an estimation of income based on what we think that income will be. Don't think this is the end now that Dept. Head's, Administration, Finance have worked so hard to get here...now is when your work comes in. Now is when you get to look through that and you get to question things. This can be amended just like anything else and there are many times we have done that. So I'd encourage you to look through it and grab hold of the Finance Committee or Mayor Webb or Cindy Murray with any questions you might have. You then can look to Brian & Pam for some of the nuts & bolts behind it and I know they can answer that for you. This is probably the most important thing that you do as a Councilmember. So I'd encourage you to take a little bit of time to review it. Most of you have been going to Finance Committee meetings so you're well up to speed. If there are no objections, we'll read this again in 3 weeks. Okay, we have 2 new items, Ordinance No. 21-034 and Resolution No. 21-012.

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-034, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: It's my understanding most of this has to do with the time involved with the incident that turned out incredibly well in the end, as much as something like that can be positive, a couple of weeks ago. And we have items this coming pay period, so we'd ask for a suspension of the 3-read rule.

Beazley: I'd also point out under the General Fund, if you go down to Fire Incidentals to Fire Maintenance of Equipment that is a reallocation of funds from our last meeting. We incorrectly slotted the wrap of the ambulance in the wrong line, so this is simply transferring it to the right line. Likewise, under Law Enforcement Incidentals to Law Enforcement New Equipment that's the purchase of new firearms for our police that we had previously approved and now we're slotting it into the correct line item. So that's why all of these are accomplished by transfers.

Althaus: Is there anything Pam that you need to add?

Chief Dep. Auditor Pam Romanko: No, I went through the current appropriations for 2021 and expected bills that I didn't have 2 weeks ago, so these are just the lines that require extra funds. Since we don't have dispatchers that was a fair amount of money to get into the police overtime. It looks like a lot but since they had extra that's why we put it there.

**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. Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried.**

**Motion by Mrs. Wren and second by Mrs. Davis to approve Ordinance No. 21-034.**

Althaus: Is there any discussion? (Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried)

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-012, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE ONE OHIO SUBDIVISION SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE JULY 21, 2021 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.**

Althaus: I'm going to turn this over to John.

Schwemer: This really came last minute as did the last one. If you recall, in August we passed an ordinance and they're proposing a resolution format here, so it's a little different but basically the

language is pretty much the same. Back in August we approved One Ohio Settlement with McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen. That is part of a national settlement and basically, they're looking at the cities and counties to approve it. The higher the vote the more money will be distributed. So, this just came through and that's why I was not at the joint meeting with the Cemetery. I wasn't trying to skip that intentionally, but I was working on this because the problem is they need action on this by the 8<sup>th</sup> of December. If you look at your schedules, we do not have a meeting, so it was either I rush and get this ready for tonight or we'd have to call a special meeting in the next 2 weeks. So this is the same proposal and it's the same percentages just trying to get more...it's the same MOU that I'd sign with the same percentages it's just the addition of they've reached a settlement with Johnson & Johnson and Jansen. I guess Jacqueline you were not a part of the prior discussion, although I know you've always been aware of what has been going on, so are there any questions? I'll be asking that we waive the 3 read rule; otherwise, I'll be asking you for special meetings. So I'll leave that up to you. That's the thought process here...it truly was a rush but it's that or inconveniencing everyone here in the next couple of weeks.

Althaus: There is not a downside to this other than to not act on it because of the threshold that sets the percentage.

**Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Davis that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried.**

**Motion by Mr. Lawrence and second by Mrs. Wren to approve Resolution No. 21-012.**

Althaus: Is there any discussion on that resolution? **(Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried)**

Schwemer: This is not something I have for you tonight, but I wanted to give everyone a heads up and I thought under new business would be appropriate. We received a correspondence mid-week last week from the Hardin County Emergency Management Agency and they're basically looking to amend the agreement. The Commissioners did pass a resolution...basically in the past we've had a rate to participate in the Hardin County EMA of \$0.25 per capita, and their proposed increase is \$0.30 per capita. There hasn't been a rate increase since 1993 so it's remained flat. If we do not participate in this we'd have to develop our own plan, so basically they've done this & we pay per capita rate. I'm advising you of this because I plan on having legislation at the next meeting to approve it. Just so everyone understands, this may be a budget issue, so we need to look to see what we have in the line item because right now...our population has declined...the population has been 8262 and under the Census it drops to 7947. So when you run that through our cost at \$0.25 per capita it's been \$2065.50 per year. When you run the new rate with the lower Census numbers it goes to \$2384.10. So we're looking at really \$320ish increase for next year. So the question is we may need to at some point in time look at that line item and see if we have enough in or whether we have may need when we're doing an additional appropriation to add that if we do pass this resolution. But I just wanted to give everyone a heads up that I'd have legislation in place.

Davis: Is that EMHA in our budget?

Schwemer: No.

Davis: Okay, sorry, I thought I'd just clarify there.

Schwemer: We have some time to figure that out and I'll plan on the first meeting in December to have that legislation ready and we'll make sure that we're not a little bit short or something.

Althaus: Anything else John? Any questions? I'd just draw your attention to...when did you say was the last change?

Schwemer: 1993.

Althaus: You think about what EMA's responsibilities of burden has been and how that's changed the last 30 years...it's been considerable.

#### **COMMENTS:**

Althaus: I'm going to go a little bit out of order here...Tim, did you want to address Council?

Hardin County Commissioner Tim Striker: It's been so long that has been raised and it's by the population and, as you correctly stated, population went down and the requirements of EMA, equipment, laws, and training have gone up. So we decided to raise it a little bit instead of a lot...we were looking at a lot bigger figure at first. When you let things build for a while and don't raise them, then all at once you're trying to catch up. So it's a little bit of a ding in your budget time, but it's sorely needed. If you know Jacob Burgbacher at all, he's our EMA Coordinator and he's excellent. He made the request to us so we're passing it on to everybody else, so that's kind of what that's about. I also brought some updates on things the County is doing especially as we look at the American Rescue funding and things like that as people are wondering what we're working on. The money we're spending this year is for the County bills and then we'll look at what's left and what comes next year and then we'll look at requests and grants to

other entities. We spent quite a bit of money on archival digitation of records in the Records Office. The records were sent out and digitized so if a virus or something happens again, they'll all be online, and people can work that way so they don't necessarily have to come in to the Courthouse to get records. It'll be a couple of months until we get them all back. MARCS Radios...we're looking at replacing most of the MARCS Radios that the County owns, which is quite a bit of money. We did some Fairground Handicap Parking. We're working on upgrading computers & software and wiring of the Courthouse and all of the Court's records in our 2 Courts...that's turned into about a 2 year deal already. We have a couple of subdivision treatment plants that we're going to replace. Those are quite expensive...one is down by Roundhead, one is down by Pfiesser Station...so those will be coming online & construction will be down the road. We upgraded to no ink poll books which you probably just used in the last election. We paid for those. The multi county jail roof...it was built 20 + years ago and it has the original ventilation, heating, cooling system and we're replacing our share. For those that don't understand, Hardin County is about 12%-22% vested in the Multi County Jail in Marion, so whenever they have a major bill Hardin County pays like 21.65% and we can use American Rescue money for that. A little update on the CARES money...last year what we spent it on has been cleared by the Auditors so we're moving on to the American Rescue money. Different things in the community...as you've all heard Ridgeway was assigned a \$750,000 Community Block Grant to improve the city. The regional board goes around and picks out an area each year and we're kind of going counterclockwise to the different villages making improvements. Of course you read about the Dunkirk factory coming in and hopefully that will develop (Pegasus) and the grocery store is still on as far as we know. Another village is looking at an industrial park development request so we're working on that grant. And of course we're getting hit with rural broadband. I think the County last estimated about 70% broadband so there is a big demand for it, especially when the schools went out. Commissioner Crowe lives not too far out of town and his reception is terrible and he had to stay home and work some last year so we're trying to improve that and work with a couple of entities. You'll notice all over the County there is being fiber optics laid by 2-3 different companies, so that's all coordinated through the engineer so he can watch where everything is laid and they can map it. Then those companies will make available to the different households that need it. They call it the last mile...the one house is clear out on a dead-end county road that nobody wants to lay fiber optics to, so a lot of this funding is going to that. The US government, everything they passed this year just about the very last line says and broadband funding. So that is a major push for everything. I want to remind you to just keep it in mind, the State is working on a level and it will be on a County level in the spring, but you just saw the Lunar Eclipse and there will be a Solar Eclipse cutting right across diagonally Hardin County. It's going to be April 8, 2024 from about 3PM to 3:10PM. It's considered closer to Forest, but if you take a yardstick on the County map from Roundhead up to Forest, that's basically the path and it's about the best spot for people to come to so NASA told us to be ready. The last time it happened in Kentucky a couple of years back in a county about our size and they had about 50,000 people inundate them for that day. So they are State wide preparing for this with State Patrol and Deputies. One of the problems that day will be a lot of cellphone radio communication will be overwhelmed. We'll get with you when it gets to the County level...they're asking each County to have a public place for heating/cooling, first aid, water and of course for Hardin County the Fairgrounds is the most ideal place to gather a lot of people with campers. So that's on the horizon & we're planning now for April 8, 2024. At the Courthouse we've put the windows in and now we're working on IT wiring throughout the building, putting in firewalls, & updating everything. We put up the Christmas lights & wreaths so we're ready for tomorrow night to flip the switch. We're busy working on the budgets, as you are too, and it's getting to crunch time and we're pretty close to getting things in. The holiday season is here so happy holidays everybody. I want to personally commend everybody involved in this room in the rescue efforts of the little girl and the kidnap situation. I can't really talk about details, but it warms your heart the community comes together, especially this one, and the city employees were, I think extra special. To the young man coming on the Fire Dept., in 1985 or 1986 I joined the Fire Dept. and was there 30 years, so you can become whatever you want and do what you want but thank you for your efforts and Chief and everybody. Thank you for your efforts. I think that about got all my quick notes. I want to announce my candidacy to rerun for Hardin County Commissioner. I've got my petitions in & they've been certified so I appreciate your support in the May primary for the Republican Party. Thank you.

Althausen: Any questions for Tim?

Fitzgerald: You talked about an industrial park in a village...is that Ada or where?

Commissioner Striker: I can't tell you. I'll let you know when I get a little more detail.

Murray: I, too, want to recognize Chief Musser & the Police Dept., the Sheriff's Dept., all the first responders in the County and all the outside agencies for a job well done. (Round of Applause) I'm sure

Lynn will touch on it, but it is tremendous just to watch the teamwork and the coordination of the effort and just not leaving any stone unturned. They took a lead and went with it. Leaf pickup, we are currently in the 3<sup>rd</sup> ward, next week we'll be in the 1<sup>st</sup> ward & on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> they'll be in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ward. That's all I have.

Auditor Brian Hattery: Thank you, Mr. President. Just a few things to touch on. I noticed in the Tree Commission minutes that they plan on coming after the first of the year. It feels like it's been a long time, but they provide an invaluable service to the community and it's always good when they come and bring an update. Their efforts where they do a whole lot with a whole little amount of money, I always look forward to them coming up here and sharing where they're at. The budget is done, and I'd also like to say my thanks as City Auditor to everybody who worked on that & helped prepare that. It is never an enjoyable task, it is running chest deep in water for a mile and it's very tedious to get through, but everybody persevered. There is a lot of work that happens even outside of the regular Finance Committee meetings with my staff, Dept. Heads, and the Administration, so thank you everyone. In 2021 for the Auditor's Office, I'm not going to go into detail, but it was incredibly interesting to say the least. What you're looking at here is an absolute miracle (Pam) from where she was to where she is back to now and she'll probably tell you she's better than before. 2022 has the potential to be just as interesting in a positive way, nothing scary like that, but a lot of changes are coming the very least is software and some potential changes that are coming. So, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please let me know or let Pam know. Thank you to Pam for 2021, although it's not over yet so don't make me regret thanks in the last month. Ha. The last thing is since the United Way was brought up, I did text my wife who works part-time so when your spouse is involved with something you get drug into it too, so I'll probably be walking the parade tomorrow for United Way. 98% stays in Hardin County and they are at 80% of their goal as of today. They had some businesses come in, but she said every dollar helps even if it's just \$1-\$2 that you can donate. If the workers of the City and Council would agree to do that everything helps gets them closer. So if you can get it to them by December 6<sup>th</sup>, is what she said, that would be great. The last thing I'm going to touch on with United Way, and it's just side conversations I've heard, there is a stigma of abortion with United Way because some United Ways across the country and other places support abortion. But every United Way is independent and different, so this United Way in Hardin County 98% of those funds go to a set of nonprofits that help the community. Nothing goes to abortion. The 2% goes to the national United Way. There is that stigmata or misunderstanding, but if that is a reservation from giving \$1 a pay, I just wanted to clear that up. It's been interesting...I'm not on the board, but this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row to interview agencies and then you come together, and you meet with their board and give a report on the interviews. Then they determine from your report how to divide money from what's being requested for programs. Until you actually meet with these individuals who run these agencies and see what they're doing & what they're trying to do to help in a variety of ways in the community, you never really realize how much of an impact that these groups can have in giving to the United Way to help fund them. So I'd encourage you to consider it and ask any questions. Thanks.

Chief Dep. Auditor Pam Romanko: Thanks for that Brian, it has been a crazy year. I will say the books are closed for September, but I haven't been emailing you guys the reports because they're behind. So as of today, they are all posted on the auditor's website through September and October is nearly done. So I'm getting caught up and I'll be caught up by the end of the year just in time to do all that crazy end of the year/beginning of the year stuff. So it's coming and thank you for your support and patience through all of this getting caught up.

Chief Donnelly: I just wanted to let you know that (can't hear...static)...applying for a grant for air packs (can't hear...static).

Murray: Afterwards I'd like Chief & Pam & Dave to stay for just a second and maybe Robin.

McEntee: Happy Thanksgiving everyone! With the news and all of the things going on it seems like there is not a lot to be thankful for, but we all have a lot to be thankful for (can't hear...static)...

Beazley: (can't hear...static) I'd like to thank our first responder's cooperative effort (can't hear)

Davis: (can't hear...static) have a safe Christmas Parade...be aware and look out for children...

Lawrence: Happy Thanksgiving everyone and good job Chief!

Wren: We do have a lot to be thankful for. Happy Thanksgiving everybody.

Fitzgerald: Chief Musser, thank you for the work you've done. I've been fortunate enough to see it behind the scenes with a couple of things. I'm thankful that you & the Sheriff's Dept. work so good together. It's amazing what you guys do and I'm forever grateful for your leadership and what you've done in our community. It's amazing to watch that and I'm forever grateful. You're a rock star.

Chief Dennis Musser: Thank you.

Fitzgerald: For some reason I get to feed all these people...I don't know, I just do so I want to thank Durez, Jac'n Dos, Peacock Water, Jim & Sandy Pruden, Our Place Family Dining, and the Berea Baptist

Church who opened up their doors for everyone so they could come in & eat. We have a phenomenal community that comes together and the outcome was tremendous and I'm just very, very thankful.

Jones: Thank you, Chief Musser. I think we're so proud of everybody in Kenton...they do such a great job but sometimes we get so busy caught up in every day things that we forget to say how thankful we are. I like it too that he hires a lot of young men from our community and he makes them want to stay here and be a part of our community. Thank you, Happy Thanksgiving to everybody, and count your blessings.

Mayor Webb: First off, the Christmas Parade is tomorrow night and the excitement...I mean, it's just one of those things that has been created and we kind of missed out on it last year a little bit, but once the Caboose gets set up it's almost like it's show time. So I'm really excited about that and I'll echo Antwillla and let's just keep it safe and everybody keep your head on a swivel, but let's really enjoy the night because we know it will become magical downtown tomorrow. Look at the kid's faces and they will light up, from 1 to 92, however old the kids are. So I'm pretty excited about and it puts us on the map...I think sometimes we don't realize events like this is a small piece of economic development that people then tend to come to your community so that's a benefit of it too. So let's touch a little on Lake of Lights...they knocked it out of the park so they're getting ready to go. They posted it on Facebook again about the gift cards you can purchase from them. It's another great community event and I'm really proud of that. And, Firefighter Harmon, welcome. I can just tell you that we sat in on his interview and I told him it was probably one of the best interviews I've ever sat in. He's an Eagle Scout and he's just a neat kid so it will be fun to watch him. Welcome, I'm pretty proud that you're here. Finally, last but not least, Chief Musser you're killing it! When you see leadership in a certain way that you're just in awe how that happens...and I don't want to discount Chief Donnelly because his crew jumps right in too. It's a very collaborative effort. But when you know these guys haven't slept for 48 hours and if the result hadn't ended up like it did, they would have just kept on going. It was a Christmas miracle...we've had 2 great miracles here and we can't ever lose sight of that. An event takes place, but what do we learn from it...we have to really keep an eye on our kids, and it does take a village and each other. There are lots of people who struggle so however we can get involved we need to. Our prayers are with Trinity for her complete healing. That is all I have.

Althausen: I'd just mention I wasn't involved with this situation directly, as most of us in here were not, but I spent a little bit of time on the incident that happened a year ago and this is another occasion to mention as Lynn said, Chief Musser you are just a leader. We are so fortunate to have you and all of your department, to have Chief Donnelly and all of the Fire Dept...to see them work together with Sheriff Everhart...and if you don't think all of entities above us that came in to help...they don't leave any stone unturned & they do it so quickly & so efficiently. But that all works because of how organized Chief Musser is and his leadership that he shows, so thank you very much.

Chief Musser: Thank you.

Althausen: I love the last meeting in November because normally that means we have the budget on the table, Thanksgiving is this week, it means the Christmas Parade is in this case tomorrow...it's just a good meeting. We have 2 more meetings this year and I want to again welcome Anda Tudor here tonight who will be starting her term on January 1, 2022. I'd just remind everyone that our next meeting is Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> so we do have 3 weeks, but it goes by fast because we've got Thanksgiving in there, MOP is going to meet on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:15PM in here, and beyond that take a little time with the budget and ask a few questions. If you can corner Brian, corner him...Pam is the one maybe that has more knowledge, but I don't want a lot of Pam's time taken up in the next month & a half here. But Pam would be happy to answer any questions you have. Or, see the Finance Committee.

Romanko: Or just shoot me an email.

Althausen: That's right and she'll email you right back.

Mayor: I forgot, but to Robin and her crew, as you walk that square it's magical with their decorating skills. We are blessed to have her and Charlotte Hamm, Cindy Martino, and Diane Beach...I mean these ladies spent endless hours and a lot of it is with their own money, but it's an incredible amount of time and what a creative talent they have that sets our town apart from most. So, as you walk the square and you see the lights, once again we have a very giving & talented community and we're just so appreciative that you stepped up.

Jones: We had a lot of fun, we laughed & laughed.

Althausen: I drove through and the pots were being worked on in the rain.

Jones: Yes, Sue Bailey, Kim Taylor & her daughter, Sheila Whitaker, Kim Longbrake, Kim Kaufman and sometimes Lana Jackson, they go and cut the branches and that's a lot of work for those decorations. They were taking shifts that Sunday that it rained because it got so cold and they finished up on

Wednesday. But anyway, we just kind of like said okay, what are we going to do? We didn't want to go backwards, so Lynn reached out to Charlotte, and she was like I'm in so we just kind of took it over...I hate to say that, but we did because we just did. It needed to get done, so we took it over. So anyway, we had a great time so enjoy the windows and we're always looking for volunteers. You don't have to be creative you can hang garland and lights and timers, etc.

Wren: I watched these ladies for 1 ½ hours one day and they are very meticulous. Every light, every branch has to be just so. They stand and do that and that's why it looks so good.

Jones: Thank you.

Althausen: Last before we adjourn, I just wanted to say a little praise for John Schwemer. He was rushing around trying to get that passed really quick & get it in front of us...I don't know how many of you know how many times he does things like that. We are fortunate...you don't need 10 John Schwemer's because you only need him. He'll do the work of 10. Thank you, John, for doing those things over & over & over again. I really appreciate it and I know the Mayor does too. With that, if there are no objections, we're adjourned until December 13<sup>th</sup>.

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Joel Althausen  
President of Council

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Emma Boutwell  
Acting Clerk