

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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3rd REGULAR SESSION:

Kenton City Council met in their 3rd Regular Session on February 13, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Pegg Wren, Robin Jones, Anda Tudor, Mayor Lynn Webb, Safety Service Director Cindy Murray. Absent: Antwillia Davis, Law Director John Schwemer. Absent: Ray Lawrence.

Prayer given by Mr. Althausser:

Lord, thank you for the gift of life and the opportunity to serve the people of our city. Help us to act with character and conviction, listen with understanding and goodwill, and to speak with clarity and restraint. Give us a spirit of service and remind us that we are stewards of your authority. Guide us to be the leaders Your people need. Encourage us to see humanity and dignity of those who disagree with us, and to treat all persons; no matter how weak or poor, with the respect Your creation deserves, and finally Father, renew us with the strength of Your presence and the joy of serving this community. We ask this in Your holy name, AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

MINUTES:

Althausser: In your packet you have the minutes from the previous meeting. Are there any additions or correction to those minutes as they are printer? Hearing none, let the record show they've been approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Althausser: We have a couple on the agenda; just reminders, the Ohio Ethics Commission, Emma did include the reminder of the disclosure to be filed. If any council members or anyone with an appointed position, anyone who needs to fill it out, or if you simple have questions because it's a topic that interests you, please see Emma, you can contact myself. It's very quick to fill that out; especially if you use the online tool. But do not fail to fill that out. Also, the Kenton Hardin Health Department included two set of minutes; one from a special meeting on January 6th, and then the regular meeting which was December 13th. Have any questions with those? Lynn might have been at, at least the regular meeting, I believe and I'm certain she could answer your questions or feel free to contact the Health Department. As always, we thank the health department for including their report to us. Any other communications that need to be presented?

PETITIONS:

None.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Althausser: As we always do, we start off with Police Chief Musser, and I think the Chief has quite a bit to talk about tonight. So, it's all yours Chief.

Musser: Thank you. In the interest of everybody's time, I have this put together, the stats. I apologize you didn't get a whole lot of time to look those over but it's just a brief overview on a number of major cases that Detective Kemmere worked, some were stand-alone Kenton cases, some were task force cases. So, I just wanted to give council and idea as to the depth of these cases. I can't really put it into words the time and commitment it took to see these through. They were a tremendous undertaking; some more than others, but you'll notice in those cases you'll have conviction, no conviction, search warrants; those were search warrants that Detective Kemmere wrote himself, in addition to the work other task force members or Kenton officers, in some of these cases we doing to bring those cases to a close. So, I wanted to maybe give you guys an idea of what he's been doing. Keep in mind these are just the major cases. There's a lot of lower-level felony cases that he's worked as well but these stand out as, some of them huge, in my opinion. So, I asked Dan to come in here this evening to, so we could recognize what he's done. I realized back in 2015 when I got this job; our department was kind of a mess, and we were missing a detective. So, we really didn't know what was going to happen with the task force at the time. I was talking to the Sheriff about it, are we going to keep it going, you know and then Kemmere volunteered, or approached me and said I really want to take a shot at that. Kemmere at the time, had been on 3rd shift for years, which can really take a lot out of you, in

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terms of life. So, I thought yeah, okay, we'll give it a try. He's just, he's made that position, he's done, I don't even have words, honestly. He's done such a tremendous job. A level of dedication that honestly, like I said I can't put into words. So, I know there might be a couple other people here that want to say a few words so I'm not going to take up all the time but if Brad would share; if anybody wants to say anything, please come on up.

Althausen: And anyone else who's out in the hall, there's a couple of chairs out there if they want to grab a chair and sit down.

Brad Bailey: You want me to stand here, or speak at the podium?

Althausen: Go on up to the podium if you would, Brad, thank you.

Bailey: I'm here to speak on behalf of the recognition the Chief is going to bestow on Mr. Kemmere. Mr. Kemmere is a good soul, a way to put it. He has one thing I've noticed that I don't see a lot; he has a good heart. He's got compassion, but on the other hand, to be a detective you need that to go sometimes where your instincts take you, but you also can't be gullible to the point that somebody gives you a snow job and you buy it. I've seen him with witnesses, harsh witnesses, hostile witnesses; still keeps his composure and yet get good things from them; other times, victims, he works with them and has sympathy for their cause. So, he's got a good mix. He's well trained. He's interested in listening to constructive criticism, I'm glad because we do have a lot. It takes a lot to win a case. A lot of the cases the Chief is alluding to were not one day trails; robberies, murder cases, kidnappings; these were multi day trails. I say at least a week, two-week type trails. It takes a massive amount of evidence to put before a jury and it takes time to collect that evidence, categorize it, and he has done that. He's always willing to work. Always willing to listen, and he offers some good opinions and we do adopt him. So that is a good working relationship. I'm in support of this recommendation for this recognition for Danny Kemmere, and if there's anything else I can do to help him, I'm there. I'd like to train him. He has the desire. He actually, I think mentioned to the Sheriff and myself, he'd like to get into more itech, technology, you know, internet crimes; God knows we're a day of cell phones and internet and that is a major portion of our crimes and he hope to want to go in there and get trained and I support that wholly. So, I'm wholly, in regards, supportive of this recommendation. Thank you.

Sheriff Everhart: I cannot speak highly enough of Dan Kemmere. I get blessed with him everyday because he actually works out of my office down there, most times and he has helped us tremendously over the years. I think we've helped you when you guys need help. The task force probably wouldn't be in existence without Dan Kemmere and Brad is absolutely right, the Chief and I have pretty big plans for him when it comes to the computer, nerd, tech stuff. So, don't you be going anywhere. I am truly honored to be here to tell you publicly Dan that you are one of a kind and I appreciate everything that you do.

Musser: As the Sheriff and Brad alluded to; loyalty is a rare trait. Especially in this climate for police officers to put up with what, putting up with the last couple of years and stick around and see through when they could go into the private sector, especially with investigative experience and do much better fiscally. So, we appreciate it. I wanted to give Dan this award we had put together for him that says, "With great honor and appreciation for your commendable and dedicated service to the Kenton Police Department, the Hardin County Crime Task Force, and the citizens of Kenton-Hardin County. Never forget the difference you make every day. Your hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed." At the bottom of this there's a small inscription that says, "Get 'em Dan!". If you don't know, you don't know. (Laughter) You'll have to get that out of us later, I think. But Dan if you want to come up...

Dan Kemmere: I just want to say thank you to everybody; thank you for all the kind words. It's not just a one man show. Everything from a good base, good foundation all starts with the road guys, works our way up and we wouldn't be near as successful without the support of the Chief of Police, the Hardin County Sheriff's Office, and Brad Bailey's office. So, thank you so much for everything and God Bless.

Applause

Musser: Okay secondly, we have Dan Carroll, Dan Carroll. Dan Carroll started here in 1991, is that right? Yeah. So that is 32 years, 31. Dan Carroll was the first officer I met here when I applied and was a sergeant at that time as well. Dan Carroll, before he was with the Police Department was an administrative clerk in the Marine Corp and a hell of a clerk. He was actually a scout sniper with 2nd

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Recon but as Marines do, they would often berate one another insinuating that you're a POG; a POG means someone that does administrative work in the military as opposed to carrying a rifle. So, I passed out a little, one of Carroll's, I don't know what you want to call it, cartoons, alterations to a news release; I have a whole folder of them in my office but, some of them probably not appropriate to share at council. So, I thought I would share that one though. I've enjoyed them for the last, almost 23 years now. So, yeah ever since the beginning Carrol has been a guy to lean on. He doesn't say much until you get to know him; pretty soft spoken, and doesn't, I don't know that I've ever seen Dan truly lose his temper, ever. Even with a violent suspect, he's throwing sir in there, "Sir, please stop fighting us, sir." You know it's crazy. So, I wanted to recognize Segreant Carroll as he departs. I wish he wasn't departing. If he could give us, you know, until 2025, as far as I'm concerned, that would be great. But it's been a pleasure working with Dan. I don't know any, I have never heard anybody say a coarse word about the guy, ever and like I've said before; if you're especially good at something, whether it's police work, or leadership, or your disposition dealing with others, whatever; you don't have to tell people. Other people will tell them for you, and I think that's probably the case with these two guys here tonight. So, that being said, got his weapon engraved, as is customary, inside a shadowbox there.

Applause

Dan Carroll: Well, thanks a lot. About 31 years and 4 months ago this building opened about 2 weeks after that I started. So, hopefully you guys got this thing paid off, I don't know. (laughter) But yeah, I just got out of the Marine Corp and Ex Chief Slack hired me so I'm appreciative of that and appreciative of all guys I work with. Thanks.

Applause

Althausser: Chief Donnelly, anything you want to talk about tonight?

Bruce Donnelly: Basically, just giving you an update, we submitted our fiscal year 2022 to Citizens Firefighter Grant Application on Friday. Basically, replace some hose nozzles, get some additional hose for our engine. So, I think the final tally was about \$69,000 worth of equipment. So, with a 5% match on that. So, we are still waiting to hear whether we got our fiscal year '21 AFG grant or not and our '21 SAFER Grant. I've been told they've got a deadline of mid-March, but I think we've already passed at least one, if not two, other deadlines that we were told see. So, we kind of had to go into this application with, okay what's our second highest priority of stuff we need. So, with that, we're still waiting on that. I do kind of appreciate, I reached out to our 2 State Senators and our U.S. Representative, and I did hear back from both; our State Senators offices and they reached out and said they'd reached out on our behalf to FEMA to kind of see where we are in the process with last year's grant. So, I was appreciative of that. So, I know some of the other, some of the guys are working on the Community Foundation Grant applications and some others for BWC, Bureau of Workman's Comp grant application. So, kind of the season right now for turning in a bunch of applications right now. So, with that, that's about all I got but I mean, things are going pretty well down there. Haven't seen too many hiccups and run volume seems to be kind of busy here the last couple week so but getting things done. So, that's all I've got for tonight.

Althausser: Thank you, Bruce. Okay, anything you want to report on for Parks & Rec? And then I'll ask you the next one after that.

Jacqueline Fitzgerald: So, I'm just going to give you a quick update on some of the stuff that's going on at Frances Lake with Capitol Budget that we were awarded of \$100,000. Two new docks were put in. That happened last week. They're pretty awesome. Everybody out there seems to be excited to get their boats in the water now. We had a kayak launcher that was put in. Maybe this week we might see concrete being poured for the 20X40 pads for campsite; the back 16, which is water and electric hookup. We already have a lot of those rented out for the season. You're going to see on the week of the 25th of February, removal of overgrown brush along the waterfront, they call it phase one. It's where you pass the boat ramp, and the brush has just been overgrown for some time. We just thought, our water is great real estate, that's what everybody wants to see. So, it's time to get it cleaned up. Through this grant we were able to do that. We will have 6 new trash receptacles out there, which has been needed. That's kind of the update. So, we should see probably the whole Capital Budget done at the end of February, if the weather stays the way that it's been. Swimming pool update: So, we're hiring 13 lifeguard, one head guard, one pool manager, 4 slide attendants, 5 front desk concession workers. We open on May 29th. We close on August 12th. Hours are 1-6, and then swim champs which will be big for

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the City of Kenton will be on July 7th & 8th. So, we'll be closed then. We are getting a new roof put on the pool, as we speak. They started today. It's looking really nice. Everybody at the Y wanted to know what was going on. I think Lynn told them that we were getting a lazy river. (laughter) That would be great. So, lots of dirt. Lots of construction moving and happening. Park updates: Glendale Park, our crew has taken down some of the old equipment that wasn't insurable. And I'm working on, with Joe Burgbacher, Park Board; he's got a group that would like to put in a new piece for that park. So, have a lot of stuff that was broken and not used and has been taken out. All the metal slides have been taken out that were not insurable; so, Wharton Park, Sauliberry Park, Pioneer Park. The tree has been removed at the quarry so that it's now open and people can go in that round little cul-de-sac, and kind of hangout down there where they seem to like. That was a pretty big tree, and I appreciate the timely movement that happened on that. We're getting ready to hire for seasonal summer mowers. We'll hire 3 of them, we have one coming back from last year that did a fantastic job; he's retired from Honda, and we have a lot of applications coming in through Indeed for the seasonal. So, we're pretty busy with that. Glendale Park, all the equipment has been removed and we've talked to the school. We're just trying to see if the lease can be broken early; if they'll take that back and if they sell it, or what they do with it. If not, then we just maintain it until 2032. It's, John it's a 20-year lease, is that correct?

John Schwemer: I believe so.

Fitzgerald: So, we're just in talks with the school.

Schwemer: The Murray Park is the similarly situated. Of course we're going to continue that, as a park but that's the same, the school actually owns both of those parks and just through leases that we've renewed over the years we kind of operate it and maintain it as a park but now with Glendale being the way it is, you know, we're hopeful that the school will allow that, and then they would be able to sell the property, or do whatever they want with it, you know, so.

Althausen: I'm glad that was brought up. A lot of folks don't know that; that those two parks are leased and that's one of those facts that most might not consider that important, but it is unique. Quick question, or just reconfirm, one of the things that you mentioned Jacqueline was that the equipment removed from those two locations were removed because they are no longer insurable.

Fitzgerald: Yes, since 2019, so we just really got on it and the guys, the street crew guys were great, taking a rainy day and going out and getting them pulled and getting it done for us.

Althausen: And there was no way, it wasn't a, "We don't want to deal with it anymore." it wasn't a, "We want to take this metal to the junk yard so we can get revenue."

Fitzgerald: There's hardly, scrap is not...

Althausen: It was we were flat out told by our insurers we can't insure that equipment anymore. We can't provide liability for the city on that equipment. So, I may not even necessarily agree with that myself; but it's not responsible for us to ignore what our insurers say.

Fitzgerald: Right, we grew up with metal slides. So, we wax papered them.

Althausen: The other thing; just real quick Jacqueline off the top of your head, and I think you've answered this before, how many days was the pool open last year?

Fitzgerald: Seventy-four.

Althausen: And that would be from roughly Memorial Day to...

Fitzgerald: The second week of August. We were only closed...

Althausen: And the second week of August because all of our lifeguards are going back to school.

Fitzgerald: Yes, I mean they are back into sports, they're going to college.

Althausen: Those seventy-four days; how many days did we close?

Fitzgerald: Five.

Althausen: Five, for weather. We didn't close twenty. We didn't close thirty. We didn't close just because we wanted to. We closed five times because of legitimate weather conditions. That's it, and I know, I know because I was involved, hearing them, Jacqueline was trying to keep it open at all costs.

Fitzgerald: Right, we were blessed with good weather.

Althausen: We were.

Fitzgerald: I mean...

Althausen: But this idea that the pool has been closed way too much; hopefully we can dispel that enough. Anything else Jacqueline, on that front?

Fitzgerald: Not unless there are any other questions on what we're doing.

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Althaus: Okay, is there anything you want to talk about with Community Development?

Fitzgerald: Just working with some private developers and trying to get some leads on getting some businesses in the community. Also, we had a Downtown Architectural Review Board meeting today and we're working on; it's just very old language in for the downtown and what's going on. So, we're trying to re-do that. John was there today; we're just trying to get some guidance from him. On our signage, you know to apply for a sign the permit was \$5.00; well it's not been raised in forever and it's just like there's no, it doesn't like really mean anything I'm just going to go get a \$5.00 permit and we're going to put this sign up. So, we took it to \$50.00 and we just have a really good board. Janya Jansen heads that, Jolene Bailey is here tonight, she's on that board, Tasha Heydinger and Tim Dawson, and we're all very committed to really try to enforce some of these things in the downtown and get letters out to the business owners that these are the things that we're looking for, and you have to follow by these set of rules. So, we continue to chase some leads and some deals. Jobs Ohio continues to send out lots of leads that are taking place. We just have to find land and somebody that wants to develop it, and do we fit all the criteria? You're looking at 200,000-400,000 square foot buildings now. That's a lot of land.

Althaus: Any questions? Alright, thank you Jacqueline. Income Tax, just comment that there is a report from the January report for the Income Tax Department, which also includes a new report that I'm guessing comes from our newer software. Any questions on that? Please look it over and if you do, reach out and we can get answers for you. Anything from the Auditor's Office; outside of what we have in...

Pam Romanko: I just want to give a quick update on the annual report; our compiler is, said last week that they are almost done with our annual report to file, that's due March 1st, so I'm really happy about that and also I have January closed, and I just sent out the January reports to all of council and they are also posted on the website, and I encourage you guys to look at them and to review and ask me questions. It's important to know the revenue and expenses that you're; you guys are responsible for approving the expenses. So, it's important to look at those and see what those are, and if you have questions I'm always here.

Althaus: Brian, anything additional? John, anything tonight?

John Schwemer: Just a couple things just coming up; I believe, and I'm researching it, I think probably at the next meeting I'll have another legislation. There's another opioid settlement that I think we probably have to have a resolution to approve. Okay, so I probably plan on having that at the next meeting, just a heads up, and then Antwillia had asked me and she may speak more to this but we'll have a resolution to put a renewal, one mill, for Grove Cemetery which is what we do every 5 years. So, that will be in legislation and all we're doing at that; what we have to do is we first have to pass a resolution requesting the auditor, the County Auditor to give the amount of income generated from the one mill within the city. So, we pass that resolution, he provides the figures, and then we pass the formal resolution where we're putting the ballot issue on in the city. So, it'll take two separate pieces of legislation if we have enough people there, I probably will ask that this first one be moved along quickly because all we're doing is asking the Auditor's Office what is the amount for one mill levy. We're not actually putting it on and that would then leave us plenty of time to get the important resolution which is the one certifying to the Board of Elections in time. So, we're ahead of the game, but I'd rather be that way then up against the wall. That's all I have.

Althaus: Okay, any questions for John? Alright we are to Cindy Murray.

Murray: The only I have is out by Walmart, if you haven't been out there lately, the stop light is not working anymore. So, it is currently set on a three-way stop. It is blinking red all directions. I have reached out to ODOT. ODOT put that in originally. Right now, to fix that, the cost that we have is \$20,000. I have reached out to ODOT to kind of ask them, is it necessary to have that stop light there or can we remain with either the blinking or put up stop signs all three sides? So, we're waiting to hear back from them, but I just want to advise everybody to be cautious going through there; that it is now a three-way stop.

Althaus: David?

Beazley: Have we had any incidents since it has been out, and I believe it went out Christmas weekend? With the weather there it got...it had been repaired but it has not been right since then.

Murray: Right, right.

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Beazley: No, thank you.

Althaus: Anything else? Okay, Mayor Webb.

Webb: I want to talk about Columbus Street, the construction zone; the good news is they are so far ahead of schedule. So, the bad news is, we're kind of in limbo for a hot second; the question was put LSM, which is a type on concrete in the trenches, but we're so far ahead and the way the weather looks they're going to be back in at the end of this month instead of the end of next month to start the curbs. So, they thought two and a half, three weeks, there wasn't any point to pour the concrete, then come to put the curbs back in. This way it will just do it all at one time; put the LSM in probably through March, mid-March we should be and then we'll have it opened back up, but until then, just a reminder the road is closed to through traffic. People who live there, can get there. So, we seem to have some people that want to test their 4-wheeler of their car going down through there but anyway, the good news is they're way ahead of schedule and the weather has been very positive to get that done. So, everybody hold on for a couple more weeks, and we'll see some more activity. So, we're real pleased with how that's going. Also, I just want to bring everybody's attention, I think Emma sent it Friday, was my nominee for you to confirm for Port Authority to fill the seat that was vacated by Matt Jacobs. It's Chris Jones, he's president and CEO of HSLC. I think his bio stands for itself, he's very strong in economic development in the community he lives in. He was a very quick yes on this. So, I would love that confirmation from you guys.

Althaus: And in New Business we will have the opportunity to discuss that, ask the mayor any more questions, and then we will ask you to confirm that, to consider that nomination formally. Anything else Lynn?

Webb: No.

Althaus: Okay, and just real quick I would just echo Pam's comments, and with regards to looking at the reports every month. She's gotten in this routine of being very timely. That almost always comes, a lot of time the day of our first meeting of the month or it's right, right there.

Romanko: The goal is the 10th.

Althaus: I know you, she tries to beat the first meeting, yes, exactly. So, please look those over. We get some pretty good data out of the new system. She's learning more about it everyday and I think it is still a goal of ours, I know she and I both brought it up at different times of trying to have a session where maybe we do some Q & A and do a little training on that. Part of it is still getting to the point where, cause there's still another step in some software that you need to work on yet, and we hate to offer that opportunity and then realize we have to do it again. So, this summer hopefully, everything slows down, it's boring, we have nothing to do; we will be able to do that.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althaus: Finance, you see a written report in your packet. Mr. Chairman, David anything you want to add to that?

Beazley: No, sir. The explanations in the legislation are sufficient.

Althaus: And just a bit of a follow up; when we do get to that legislation, you'll see that there are 3 items under 1st read. I'm just going to give for a forewarning now; we're going to ask you on the first two that you'd consider them tonight, but you'll see Pam has a very good description and Finance Committee can add to that description.

Althaus: Anything from, do any of the other committees have a report tonight? Okay then, as far as individual council members, are there any reports from any of you that have an individual appointment?

Antwillia Davis: I was just going to reiterate what John said, if you guys have any questions about the renewal, please get ahold of me. We are planning to get that on the November ballot.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Althaus: Ask council first, do you have any questions regarding the bio for the mayor's nominee for the Kenton Ohio Port Authority? Also, I would ask do you have any questions with the process, and finally then if not, then I'd ask for a motion.

Beazley: Just clarification; this takes up the balance of Matt's term?

Althaus: Correct.

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Beazley: Thank you.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Davis to affirm nomination of Chris Jones to the Kenton Ohio Port Authority Board.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried.)

Althaus: You noticed that also Ray, Councilman Lawrence is not here this evening; he had an obligation, a personal obligation that came up rather suddenly. I would ask council to consider a motion to excuse him.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Wren to excuse Councilman Lawrence from the meeting.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried.)

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Althaus: Just to reiterate; and that's my bad. Emma asked me to review the agenda. I should've looked closer to ask if there were any that we need to act on tonight, I did not. We've been trying to have an asterisk there, so you all know. I know finance probably already knew, but I'll try to do better I apologize for that.

1ST READING

- **RESOLUTION NO. 23-002, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AS PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: And you've kind of known that was coming it was sort of, we talked about it a little bit. I'm trying to remember where, whether that was...

Romanko: It was council.

Althaus: It was council at the last meeting.

Romanko: Finance or council.

Althaus: So, Pam if you want to follow up; or any questions, she's here.

Romanko: I sent out kind of an evaluation. I looked at the various interest rates and the various accounts that they were offering, and we've come up with a substantial amount of interest more by going with Huntington for the next 5 years. We have been with Middlefield/Liberty for a long time, but they have a cost, they take our fees out of the interest but they don't give us any earnings on that account. So, I had separated those accounts to earn some interest but, like I said, we can, I'm estimating we net about \$70,000 for Huntington which is \$54,000 more than Home Savings and \$65,000 more than Middlefield and we did send out a request for quote to Community First but they're just not large enough to handle our public depository. So, as I, as Joel mentioned our current depository agreement expires March 1st so I need to move on this rather quickly so I can meet with Huntington and get our new account set up.

Motion by Mrs. Davis and second by Mr. Beazley 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 and second by Ms. Jones to adopt Resolution No. 23-002.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried.)

- **ORDINANCE NO. 23-003, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: Pam has an explanation there, but she is here to explain anything that you might have questions with regard, or if you want to go down through it and hit the highlights, that's up to you, Pam.

Romanko: I'll just say, it's not new money. It all has to do with the design of phase 2. That first purchase order it runs through the stormwater capital fund and now that we have a stormwater enterprise fund, we have to run it through there as advised by our compiler and the state auditor. So, this is something that we also have OHM bills to pay so I'm also requesting to waive the three-read rule. Like I said, this is not new money, and it's covered by loans.

Beazley: And its loan proceeds that we're spending?

Romanko: Yes.

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, 6 ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Wren to adopt Ordinance No. 23-003.

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Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried.)

- **ORDINANCE NO. 23-004, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND FOR TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 2023, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: So, while Pam is here, I would say that you notice there's a very detailed explanation again. If you have any questions, I would ask her. Now, I've been advised that this can go two reads, but...

Beazley: Will that include Sergeant Carroll's severance?

Romanko: Yes.

Althaus: So, if you have any questions now might be the time as I can't guarantee that she'll be here in two weeks. Alright if there...

Beazley: These would have been discussed that are in the copious notes from the finance meeting if someone wants to get some very detailed explanation beyond what's here.

Althaus: And nothing is preventing you all from going ahead tonight, I'm just...

Beazley: You are correct, sir.

Althaus: Okay, if I don't hear anything pretty quick, I'm going to take that as a, you want to read it a second time in two weeks.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Antwillia 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. Davis and second by Ms. Jones to adopt Ordinance No. 23-004.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried.)

2nd READING

None.

3rd READING

None.

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althaus: We only have two there with dates scheduled. Obviously it doesn't surprise me finance wouldn't have anything on the calendar. They need a little bit of a rest.

Beazley: It's almost time to start the budget.

Althaus: It's almost time to start the budget; yes I was reading the minutes, something about April.

(laughter) Those two meetings, legislation is that correct and public utilities, those meeting dates correct?

Jones: Yes.

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

None.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Althaus: We will start with Sue.

Buroker: Nothing.

Althaus: Okay, David?

Beazley: I just noted to Antwillia after Chief's presentations that we are losing a generation of officers. I know Chief has plans to grow that up before his planned departure but...

Althaus: That's decades from now though.

(laughter)

Beazley: We have been blessed with some very good officers and we are grateful for what they have offered to the city.

Held

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Davis: I would like to congratulate both officers tonight. Also, thank everybody for excusing me last week. I had another event I had to be at. Also, thank you to the administration for the work at the pool. We all know I'm a little bit bias when it comes to the pool, just a little bit. Swim champs is in Kenton this year. It is a huge deal, the WOAL tournament bring in a lot of people to our little itty-bitty town. They eat here, they basically live here for two days and when that pool looks good, we look good.

Althaus: It was tough to get you excused but, in all seriousness, we did have a little release that explained why you were gone, and I want to say congratulations on your leadership with the Ohio Board of Realtors. I don't know if I have that name correct?

Davis: It's Ohio Realtors, but yes, thank you.

Althaus: you've been involved in a leadership position there for several years now and it's nice to have folks from our hometown be involved and that level. Pegg?

Wren: I want to thank Pam, I know she's heard it before, for the explanations that she gives. I mean that is a tremendous help. I've been here for years, as you all know, and nobody has ever done it until she come along, and it was great. We always relied on Dave to tell us what was going on.

Beazley: This is a much better alternative.

Romanko: I use smaller words.

Wren: So, it is wonderful, and I did, my husband said today, he said, are they tearing the pool down, I said what makes you think they're tearing the pool down? They're putting lumber there to build something. What are they building? Another building? I don't know. So, I will have to explain to him what's going on. That's all I have.

Althaus: Okay, Anda, you're turn. Robin?

Jones: Thank you for Sergeant Carroll for all of his years of service. I'm sure they said Chief Musser will train up some good ones through the years. So, congratulations to him and that's all I have.

Althaus: John, anything to add? Cindy? Lynn?

Webb: Chief, Lieutenant, I think it was a testament of the officers that were here to support and those who could be here was outstanding. You guys have a tremendous department. Your leadership is next to none. So, outstanding, job well done. Again, Kemmere is a diamond in the rough of the roughs, and we are so beyond blessed to have him and continue to have him. Dan Carroll, how long was he on third? How long was he Sergeant for third?

Musser: 20sish, probably.

Webb: And you know that's one of those things, it's like, you don't, it's like turning the water on and it's always expected but you know, he keeps us safe when we're all going to sleep. It's a good thing where we live in today's world.

Musser: Honestly, he agreed to stay on thirds so I could stay on seconds and be with me kids.

Webb: That's awesome.

Musser: So, there you have it, and I stayed on seconds the whole time the first two were growing up, until I got Chief, and he didn't give me any fuss about it.

Webb: And again, thank you council for the approval of Chris Jones. That moves things along very nicely. So, without a hitch.

Althaus: And I would just echo Chief you said it; alluded to in this environment, I think we were talking about Kemmere, we don't always have, I don't know, it's a tough environment to be a police officer and I just wish around the country they could see what we have right here. We really have something that's great and it's because of all of you guys. When you look at what your department has faced the last few years, it's no small task and yes, it's your leadership but you've got some, you've had some pretty darn good people in there and we really are going to miss them, especially Carroll. We're losing a generation; you're right David. So, have to try to catch both of those gentlemen and say that to them personally, but thanks for doing that Chief, here at council. So, our next meeting is February 27th. February always seems to go by so quickly. Tomorrow is Valentine's Day, keep that in mind and act accordingly. Unless there are other items, we're adjourned.

Joel Althaus, President of Council

Emma Boutwell, Clerk