

**COUNCIL AS A WHOLE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY  
JUNE 26, 2012**

Council President Mr. Morley opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**SWEARING IN OF JEFF LICHT AS WARD 4 COUNCILMAN FOR THE  
CITY OF EASTLAKE**

Law Director Klammer administered the Oath of Office to Jeff Licht as Ward 4 Councilman for the City of Eastlake.

**ATTENDEES**

Members of Council in attendance were Mrs. Quinn-Hopkins, Mr. Licht, Ms. Vaughn, Ms. DePledge, Mr. Hoefle, Mr. D'Ambrosio and Council President Mr. Morley. Also attending was Council Clerk Mrs. Cendroski.

Attending from the Administration were Mayor Andrzejewski, Law Director Klammer, Finance Director Slocum, Service Director Semik, City Engineer Gwydir, Police Chief Reik and Fire Chief Whittington.

**LEGISLATION PROPOSED**

**06-26-(01): CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT: DJ'S CLUBHOUSE GRILLE, LLC, 35400 VINE  
STREET, UNIT #10, EASTLAKE**

Mr. Morley: Mr. D'Ambrosio?

Mr. D'Ambrosio: This item was discussed in the Planning Committee held June 19<sup>th</sup>. DJ's Clubhouse is where the old Beef O'Brady's and Xtra Innings used to be. This is a permit for them to operate. We wish them the best and hope they can make something work at that corner.

There were no questions or comments.

**06-26-(02): LEASE AGREEMENT AMENDMENT: CASCIA, LLC & CITY OF EASTLAKE**

Mr. Morley: Ms. Vaughn?

Ms. Vaughn: The Finance Committee met with the Captains organization on June 19<sup>th</sup> and we felt this was a fair contract for both parties and we look forward to working with the Captains on another successful season.

Mayor Andrzejewski: We have worked long and hard over many months to work out this deal and we appreciate Council looking at this as we did and seeing it is a good deal for both parties. The one thing I will emphasize is it gives an incentive. One thing I think we all hear from our residents is they would like to see more events and concerts. It gives the Captains an incentive to do more events at Classic Park and for every event they do the City makes money which can be used to pay down the debt.

Mr. Morley: If anyone in the audience or residents would like a copy of the Side Letter they can get it from Mr. Slocum.

There were no further questions or comments.

#### LEGISLATION PENDING

There was no Legislation Pending.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### ORDINANCE NO.: 2012-045: AMENDMENT: CITY ORDINANCE SECTION 155.01 “GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, SPECIFICALLY SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (D)” (VETOED BY MAYOR 06/19/2012)

Mr. Morley: Mayor Andrzejewski, you sent me a memorandum that you would like to make a statement. Please make your statement at this time.

Mayor Andrzejewski: Mr. Licht, I would appreciate it if you would listen to my comments but they are not directed at you as at that point you were not on Council. There is nothing bad in here but it does not affect anything you did.

For the last two months I have listened to Council discuss the reduction in salary for one and only one position in the City of Eastlake. That is the Mayor's position. One of the reasons given by Council for this is that it is for economic reasons. If that is the reason – if it is truly the reason – and to make a difference in the budget then all Directors and non-Union salaries should be cut by the same percentage at the same time. Not just the Mayor's position. If this were to go into effect in 2014 that is the same year all of the Union contracts are being negotiated. The same request – and I mention it is a request because these are negotiations – can be made of the Unions at that time. It would be good timing. I would like to compare the salaries of the Mayor/Safety Director of the City of Eastlake and the City of Willoughby and the City Manager of Painesville. When one speaks of Lake County those three cities are always the ones used in comparison because we are approximately the same size and the same population. The Mayor of Willoughby, per an email he sent me, makes \$100,000 per year as Mayor and Safety Director. The City Manager of Painesville makes \$99,900 per year. Today, the Mayor of Eastlake's salary is almost 18% lower than these two and with Council's proposed salary cut into two positions the Eastlake Mayor would be 28% lower than these two comparable cities. The Mayor of Eastlake because of our budget cuts also serves as Economic Development Director, Human Resource Director, Assistant Service Director when Mr. Semik is gone on vacation or off and wherever else is needed in this City Hall. The two cities I mentioned – Willoughby and Painesville – both have Economic Development Directors, Human Resource Directors and several assistant managers in the Service Department. If one were to put a minimum of \$50,000 for each of these additional positions the Mayor of Eastlake serves the taxpayers of Eastlake are receiving \$230,000 worth of salary positions for the \$82,400 Mayor's salary. That in any situation is a good deal for the taxpayers of Eastlake. I can say without reservation that as Economic Development Director if it were not for my efforts we would not have a ValuKing grocery store in this City. I know I personally called every grocery store available to get one here. The new WalGreen's drug store on the corner

would not be here if not for my efforts with the State of Ohio in getting an easement on S.R. 91. A new Key Bank, Charter One Bank, Biagio's Plaza on Vine Street and in particular the new WalMart which is a direct result of my calls to the WalMart headquarters in Arkansas when I found out the Kmart was closing. These businesses being in our City bring in more than enough income tax dollars to justify the Mayor's salary without including the other positions the Mayor covers. If you would bear with me – let's go back in history a little bit to the year 2004 when I was a Councilman in Ward 3 and Chairman of the Finance Committee. We looked at correcting some of the items concerning the Mayor's salary and the abuses of that position before the current Mayor and we changed 155 to create the elected officials category. At that time we surveyed our surrounding communities and in particular we surveyed Willoughby, Painesville and Mentor. Council came to the conclusion that the \$82,000 was a fair salary for the Eastlake Mayor at that time. And it has worked well for the past eight years. We eliminated the automatic increases in pay for the Mayor and the accumulation of sick days and the ability to cash in or carry over vacation time or sick days. The Mayor's salary has remained the same for eight years. There were no emails, calls, letters to the editor, etc. by the residents calling for lowering the salary for eight years until Council now in 2012 has decided to take that action. The voters of Eastlake ultimately decide every four years whether the Mayor is worth the salary or not. Please remember that when these changes were made in 2004 the former Mayor was still Mayor and received that salary as well as George Spinner when he was the Mayor. By singling out the Mayor's position and leaving all others intact it clearly indicates to me that this is just not an economic matter. I would like to enter into the public record a listing of the City of Eastlake wages by employee for the last year of 2011. It is here if anyone in the audience would like that. *(Please note this listing was not provided by the Mayor and is therefore not included in the public record)* The Mayor's position is at #19 on that list of highest paid employees with 18 of the positions above that belonging to members of the safety forces. The Police Chief and Fire Chief both make substantially more than the Mayor does. The next 30 positions after the Mayor's position on the list of highest paid employees in the City also belong to members of the safety forces. Only the Service Director is able to break into that category. As I stated earlier if the reason for this reduction in pay for the Mayor's position alone is economic then all Directors salaries should be addressed – not just the one. If you are to make a difference economically one salary reduction is not going to make any difference. If all the positions are not cut at the same time as the Mayor's then it is clear to me that reasons are not just economic and I will let the public draw their own conclusions as to what is happening. We need good, capable individuals in City government. By lowering the Mayor's salary Council is reducing the pool of possible candidates for Mayor both now and in the future. It is clear from the 2011 earnings report that the Mayor is not anywhere near the top wage earner in the City of Eastlake. The City of Eastlake has 101 employees and an overall budget of \$20 million. The Mayor's salary as it stands is a fair pay for the responsibility and work that goes into the position. To reduce the salary further would ultimately reduce the number of candidates in the future who would like to run for Mayor. In conclusion, I will state for the record that if City Council would like to do an across the board decrease in salary for all the Ordinance 155 employees to take effect in 2014 then I will be more than willing to do my part and take a salary reduction. As it stands now Council is selecting one and only one position for a reduction and that is what I feel is wrong about this ordinance change.

My hope is that several members of Council will realize this and vote no on overriding my veto of this ordinance change. Thank you very much.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### WARD 4 PETITION/ELECTION REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Morley: Mr. Klammer, did you need to talk about the petition/election requirements for Mr. Licht?

Mr. Klammer: I sent an email – our Charter provisions require the petitions to be filed 45 days before the day of the election. The Board of Elections contacted me. Their deadline for the federal and state is apparently 90 days. In essence they are going to certify them at 90 and soon thereafter they will go to print. I told them there was not a lot I could do to override the Charter's 45 day provision. However, not only is it a matter of law and a provision of the Charter and if we determine the 90 day provision is a matter of general law as a matter of law it overrides the Charter. I asked Director Dasher to ask the prosecutor to research that and give me his opinion as to whether that constitutes a matter of general law in which case the conclusion is easy. I want to start making people aware now that it may be an issue and if anyone intends to pull those positions and file they should mark the 90 day deadline as opposed to the Charter's 45 day deadline so no one questions anyone's fairness later on. We have reached the conclusion one way or the other but I would like to err on the side of caution as soon as possible. Every chance I have I will start telling people to use the 90 day cut off which is August 8, 2012. If it turns out I am wrong in 45 days then we have 45 days wiggle room. If not I want to make sure the residents who are interested in the position are aware of it.

Mr. Morley: Are you guys in agreement with the number of signatures?

Mr. Klammer: I have to finish looking at that.

There were no further questions or comments.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:18 p.m.

dac

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_