

**EASTLAKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 13, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Eastlake City Council was held at Eastlake City Hall, 35150 Lakeshore Boulevard. The Meeting was called to order by Council President Mr. Morley at approximately 7:11 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Matheke.

ATTENDEES

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

Those attending from the Administration were Mayor Andrzejewski, Law Director Klammer, Finance Director Slocum, CBO Stigalt, City Engineer Gwydir, Police Chief Reik and Fire Chief Whittington.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – NOVEMBER 22, 2011

MOTION: Mr. D'Ambrosio moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 22, 2011. Ms. DePledge seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – NOVEMBER 29, 2011

MOTION: Mr. D'Ambrosio moved to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of November 29, 2011. Ms. DePledge seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Mr. Morley

Meetings Scheduled

Mr. Morley: The next Council-as-a-Whole Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Council meeting will be convened immediately following the adjournment of the Council-as-a-Whole Committee meeting.

I would like to thank the Women's Club and the Girl Scouts for the evening with Santa that they had at the Community Center on Sunday.

I imagine most of you are here about the \$2 million in cuts we have to put in so we can balance the 2012 budget. We will be going over the budget for 2012 as we have to have a final budget approved by March, 2012 and a temporary budget by the end of this month. Some of the cuts we have talked about will be the pool closing and as I said in the Council-as-a-Whole Committee meeting Council took at 10% cut and we also reduced one staff member we had part-time. We looked at the cuts in our Department as all the others have done and cut down some of the office supplies and our Clerk usually goes to some meetings but we have decided the ones she will not go to this year. The Law Department has taken a 10% cut. Along with the pool not opening we will not have fireworks and unfortunately there will be a reduction in the work force for the City that will total 25 positions. At the moment the Police as if 1/1/11 had 32 and their reduction will be 11 with them being down to 21. The Police Administration had 5 and was reduced by 1 with that going to 4. The Police Building has no reductions. Victims Advocate had no reductions – there are 2 Victims Advocates. We will keep the 6 Dispatchers. In the Fire Department we had 28 as of 1/1/11 and will lose 4 in 2012 to make 24 firefighters. In Fire Administration we had 3 and will reduce 1 for a remainder of 2. In Recreation we had 13 and will reduce 5 in 2012 and be down to 8 workers. In Service Administration there were 4 – we will reduce 1 and have 3. In Streets there are no reductions – there are still 2 and in Sewer there are 7 with no reductions. The Mayor's office will remain at 2. Council office will remain at 1. Finance Department will go from 17 to 6. Tax Department will remain at 3. The Law Department will stay at 2. City Hall will stay at 1. The Senior Center will remain at 1. Anything else from the Mayor, Mr. Slocum or anyone else?

Mayor Andrzejewski: When we knew the levy would be on in November around mid-year we put in a hiring freeze and some of the reductions are the result of not replacing people who have left or retired or will retire in 2012. Now, those people we did not replace will become permanent. I want the residents to know we saw some of these things coming in the middle of the year and put on a hiring freeze. In particular the Service Department had several people leave and we did not replace them.

Mr. Morley: At the next meeting, December 27th, and the meetings of January 10th and January 24th we will look at possibly increasing the garbage fee \$3 per month. Right now the garbage costs the City about \$1.2 million per year and the \$36 we collect generates \$970,000 of revenue for a difference of about a couple of hundred thousand dollars. For those who read my Gazette article in November and in the new article in December and January I have done some research into this and looked at if we eliminated the supplement of the garbage to save \$250,000 and contract privately you would look at \$100 per quarter versus the \$36. By increasing this \$3 per month it would go from \$36 to \$45 and so we will look at that to at least break even on the garbage fee for the City. That concludes my report. But, I wanted everyone to know we will be discussing this at three meetings so if anyone wants to come speak on the issue they are more than welcome.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

A liquor license transfer request was received from Zarko Duvnjak dba High Point Bar & Grill, 1366 East 346th Street, Eastlake, OH to Vlatko Dujmovic dba High Point Bar & Grill,

1366 East 346th Street, Eastlake, OH. Mr. Morley explained that this was discussed in Council-as-a-Whole Committee and a motion would be made during the Committee reports.

Conditional Use Permit Renewals and Amendments were received from the Chief Building Official for I.A.C. of Eastlake, Inc. dba The Captains Club, 34820 Vine Street, Eastlake, Jeanne's Joynt, 36091 Vine Street, Eastlake and Cross Roads Motorcycle Tire and Brake Service, 1226 Hulett Avenue, Eastlake. These were referred to Planning Committee.

A communication was received from the CBO requesting an amendment to City Ordinance Section 1153.01 "Nonconforming Buildings." This was referred to Ordinance Committee.

A communication was received from the Administration regarding a Lease Agreement with the Jean Chase Memorial Fund, Inc. for use of the Community Center. Mr. Morley explained that this was discussed in Council-as-a-Whole Committee and a motion would be made during the Committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SAFETY COMMITTEE – Mr. Matheke

Mr. Matheke: The Safety Committee has not met since the last regularly scheduled Council meeting. I have nothing to report. Chief Reik and Chief Whittington, I would like to meet with you sometime this week. After the meeting we can get together and figure out a time. I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Matheke.

RECREATION COMMITTEE – Mr. Hoefle

Mr. Hoefle: The Recreation Committee has not met since our last meeting. I have had nothing placed in my Committee so I will not be scheduling a meeting. I will be making the following Motions:

MAYOR'S COMMISSION RE-APPOINTMENTS

MOTION: I hereby move to approve Mayor Andrzejewski' Commission re-appointments as follows:

Anthony E. Linc, Jr., 488 East Overlook Drive Eastlake, OH to the Architectural Board of Review for the term expiring December 31, 2014

Ron Giangiacomo, 35445 Mondamin Drive, Eastlake, OH to the Civil Service Commission for the term expiring December 31, 2014.

John Sima, 200 Forest Drive, Eastlake, OH to the Eastlake Port Authority for the term expiring December 31, 2015.

Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

The Mayor's Commission re-appointments are approved.

COUNCIL'S COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

MOTION: I hereby move to approve Council's Commission appointments as follows:

Robert Kenneally, III, 174 W. Overlook Drive, Eastlake, OH to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the term expiring 12/31/2016

Thomas Liebhardt, Sr., 1034 Cliffview Drive, Eastlake, OH to the Planning Commission for the term expiring December 31, 2016.

Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

The Council's Commission appointments are approved.

Additional Comments:

Mr. Hoefle: This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Hoefle.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – Mr. D'Ambrosio

Mr. D'Ambrosio: The Planning Committee has not met since our last Council meeting. We did discuss one item in Council-as-a-Whole Committee – a liquor license request and I will make a Motion on it:

Liquor License Request

MOTION: I hereby move approve and send back to Columbus, Ohio with no objections the Liquor License Request for Zarko Duvnjak dba High Point Bar & Grill, 1366 East 346th Street, Eastlake, OH to Vlatko Dujmovic dba High Point Bar & Grill, 1366 East 346th Street, Eastlake, OH. Mr. Knuchel seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. The Liquor License Request is approved.

Additional Comments

Mr. D'Ambrosio: As items have been referred into my Committee I will be scheduling a meeting and will get together with the Council Clerk. This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. D'Ambrosio.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. Knuchel

Mr. Knuchel: The Finance Committee met on December 6th at 6:23 p.m. with me, Mr. D'Ambrosio and Ms. DePledge present from the Committee. In attendance from Council were Mr. Hoefle and Mr. Morley. Ms. Vaughn, Mr. Matheke and Mayor Andrzejewski were absent and excused. In attendance from the Administration were Service Director Semik, Fire Chief Whittington, Police Chief Reik, CBO Stigalt and Finance Director Slocum. We went over pretty much everything in the Council-as-a-Whole Committee that we covered in the Finance Committee. We did not do a budget review because of extenuating circumstances in finding out that layoffs were planned. That budget review will be moved to another time. I will be making the following Motion:

Legislative Recommendation

MOTION: I hereby move to add Legislation No. 12-13-(11) to the evening's agenda authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Lease Agreement between the City of Eastlake and the Jean Chase Memorial Fund, Inc. for use of the City of Eastlake Community Center. Mr. Matheke seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation No. 12-13-(11) is added to the evening's agenda.

Additional Comments

Mr. Knuchel: This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Knuchel.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE - Ms. Vaughn

Ms. Vaughn: As I was unable to attend the Ordinance Committee and Mr. D'Ambrosio was kind enough to run the meeting I will request he give the report on the activities of that night.

Mr. D'Ambrosio: The Ordinance Committee met on December 6th with me, Ms. DePledge, Mr. Morley, Mr. Hoefle and Mr. Knuchel and Council-elect Mrs. Quinn-Hopkins present from Council. Ms. Vaughn, Mr. Matheke and Mayor Andrzejewski were absent and excused. Five items were on agenda and Mr. Morley talked about a couple during the Council-as-a-Whole Committee meeting – under 155.01. Some of the other ones concerning 155 which are non-union employees – when contract negotiations for Union employees are completed we usually try to get the 155's on the same level as the Union employees. As we did not have the contracts to make the comparisons all the items were held in Committee. Once we get the contracts we will be discussing those. The other item discussed was under miscellaneous – Ordinance Section 132.14 which was the fees for rescue calls – Chief Whittington discussed this. Everything was placed on hold with the last one being moved forward. This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions.

SERVICE/UTILITIES COMMITTEE - Ms. DePledge

Ms. DePledge: The Service/Utilities Committee has not met since our last meeting. Therefore, I have no formal report. I would like to say at this time that I think that today has probably been one of the most difficult days for our community and Administration and employees. For those people who were told today that they may not have a job coming up in the next week or two we appreciate everything you have done and the sacrifices you have made and your loyalty to the City. For those employees who are remaining we know this is difficult for you as well and we appreciate your dedication and your support. This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Ms. DePledge.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Morley recognized the public input at this time; he reminded the speakers that there is a 3-minute limit for their comments; all comments are to be directed to the Chair and not include any personalities or individuals.

Jack McCauley, 36473 Port Drive, Eastlake

Retired Chief McCauley: I have been an Eastlake resident since 1972 and I also became an Eastlake Police Officer in 1972 and served 31 years on the Eastlake Police Department, retired as a Lieutenant and went to the City of Kirtland as Chief of Police and to the Village of Timberlake as Chief of Police. I have now since retired from the police service and I work as a consultant in crime prevention. I am here to speak on the possible reductions in safety forces in the City of Eastlake. I understand due to budget problems and the cutting of funds from the state and federal governments. Everyone reads the papers. What I am concerned about is when I started as a patrolman in 1972 there were two patrolman on the road on day shift, two patrolman on the road on midnights and three patrolman on the road on the 4-12 shift. If there is a reduction - I don't know how many will be reduced - if there is a reduction in the police force that is what will happen. It will go back to that. The main concern is the prevention of crime and most important is officer safety. You read the papers - you listen to the news - almost on an average of every other day or every two days a police officer is shot and wounded or killed in this country. Last evening a Lorain County Sheriff's Deputy was shot and wounded. The day before that a police officer in New York City was shot in the face and died by a criminal who had just got out of prison. We see this all the time. Officer safety is imperative. I would think every citizen in this City and every member of our City government would agree that we don't want to see any of our police officers hurt or killed - God forbid. It is terrible that it goes on around the nation. If you look statistically year by year there have been more fatalities and more police officers killed in the line of duty because of improper backup and improper training. Our Police Department is very well trained. I also want to speak on behalf of the Fire Department. Our paramedics and firefighters are very unique people. I recently became ill and was taken to the hospital by our paramedics and they were just fantastic. They were there so fast I could not believe they were there that fast. The bottom line is we need to protect our citizens. By reducing police officers and firefighters and paramedics you are putting the citizens in jeopardy. We cannot afford to do that. We need to maintain safety and to take care of our citizens. They are owed that. The federal and state governments have failed the citizens of this country and it is up to

us to somehow take the money even if we have to close the Recreation Department and other frivolous things and put it into safety. It is imperative. And our Service Department – they service the citizens also. If I am correct Councilman Morley I believe you were cited in the News Herald as saying that you would rather see any other cuts rather than safety officers – that meant the Police and Fire Department. I applaud you on that. I would please ask you to be considerate of reductions. I know the money is tight and it is a shame the State has stabbed us in the back but I would ask you on behalf of the citizens of this community to please consider safety #1. Keep in mind – I am a crime prevention specialist – I cannot prevent crime – I teach and I formulate programs for citizens. Crime prevention starts with uniformed basic patrol on the street. They are out there in uniform and answering calls, making traffic stops, people see the lights flashing – that is what keeps the criminal element down. Look at what is happening in Lake County. Sheriff Dunlap has had to lay off deputies and their burglary rate has soured sky high. Luckily enough with good police work and citizen participation they just caught two of the individuals that created most of the burglaries. So, they got lucky and had great police work. We don't want to see that happen here. So, I would ask for your consideration and thank you for your time.

Mr. Morley: Thank you for your comments. As both the Police Chief and Fire Chief know, along with every other Director here, this Council respects all the workers for this City. As Ms. DePledge has said this is a tough day for all of us with the cuts. It is never easy to eliminate anyone. When we do the 2012 budget – obviously we have to get some more revenue in here somehow to keep the workforce we have. Both Chiefs know I respect them and respect their Departments. I have been lucky enough over the last sixteen months that I did not have a job – I just got a job two weeks ago after being off for sixteen months – that I got to be involved more with both the Police Chief and the Fire Chief and the Service Department – all the Departments. I went on a couple of arrests with the Police Chief and watched some of the interrogations on the last arson we had. We do understand that and when we sit down and do the budget we are going to look if there is any way possible that we can save people in all the Departments. We do know the safety of this City is #1 - all seven of us – we know safety is #1. We will try to do some things in the next so many months. As I said part of it will be if we do increase the garbage fee – that will save a couple of hundred thousand dollars – will that enable us to bring a couple of policemen, firemen or service workers back? We are hoping to do that. When we have those talks I suggest everyone who hears what is going on to come to our budget meetings when we start them. You will see where the monies are. We are cutting the things we need to cut. We cut all the sports fields and we will probably not do that anymore. We won't line the fields. We won't do any of that so we will have the money to keep what we have intact after this. We just have to try to get some revenue in here. I am not going to preach the levies – they are what they are. We get it – that no one has any money and are tired of having to take the burden because they believe that government overspent. I will tell you this. Even though we may have deficit spending at the end of this year we have not purposely spent. That is all I can say. I read the blogs. I read all the nameless people that consistently call this Council and the Administration names. If anyone out there behind the blogs has anything except negative we are willing to hear it. We are seven people – we are not the City – the residents are the City. We are the seven that were elected. We are forming a Committee the beginning of January – a Citizen Advisory Committee – if people on it sit down and find ways that we don't see we are big enough

people – our egos are not that big that we are willing to listen. Most of the time the criticisms we get are negatives and are behind people on blogs and we don't even know who they are. We get emails all the time saying how bad we are – I am not lecturing the group here – I can take everything that people call me – that is really not ever going to bother me. But to sit out there and believe this Council is just here to eliminate – we are not. What I did say in the paper – I agree – this is a sad day for the City of Eastlake and we will try to keep as much intact as we can. If we don't get any more revenue I don't know how much more we will have to cut. I appreciate your comments.

Frank Bergant, Eastlake

Police Detective Bergant: I have been an Eastlake resident for about 15-16 years and have been a police officer for 24 ½ years. I know a lot of the residents here – a lot of these people here are my friends. I know a lot of you up there – you are my friends too. It is one thing when you lay people off – this is just something I am saying because I have heard the rumors and I have heard people talk about it. You lay them off with dignity. There is a way you treat people and they will treat you the same way back – with dignity if you give that to them. Now I hear the rumors from City Hall – the Fire Department – the Police Department about how certain leaders in our City say things to them. Just as an example – “I wonder who is getting laid off today.”

Mayor Andrzejewski: I know you are looking at me but it is wrong. You know as well as I do...

Mr. Morley: Mayor, we are not going to have a debate.

Detective Bergant: I have always treated everyone here the same way. These people work for you. They give their best. All they ask for is you to treat them with respect and if you treat them with respect they will walk out of here knowing they got laid off but they will have pride in everyone here on Council and our Mayor – but, those people are not going to have that. That is because of one reason – figure it out.

Michelle Slokar, 871 Audrey Drive, Eastlake

Ms. Slokar: I have lived here since 1973. I drove yesterday down to Solon and I have seen an official Eastlake car driving down the street. Are official Eastlake cars allowed to drive out of Eastlake? I don't know but he followed me all the way down to Rte. 43 and made a left turn and I made a right turn. We can save on mileage and gas. Whoever it was – was a man with a scruffy beard. All of you drive Eastlake cars – right?

Council: No.

Ms. Slokar: Who drove the one yesterday?

Mayor Andrzejewski: I cannot think of anyone who had ...

Ms. Slokar: Check it out.

Mayor Andrzejewski: I will.

Mr. Morley: There are numbers on the side of the cars – if you had the number on the side of the car we could find out.

Ms. Slokar: It was an official Eastlake car and it followed me all the way down to Solon.

Mayor Andrzejewski: We will look into it.

Harry Endrulas, 863 East 341st Street, Eastlake

Mr. Endrulas: Has anyone looked into the selling of the stadium?

Mr. Morley: We have talked about that.

Mayor Andrzejewski: Over the years we have. The difficulty is that unfortunately any business person looking at it knows it is – how can I put this gently – a losing proposition. The amount of money coming in from the stadium does not offset the payments and the debt and the obligations on the stadium. So anyone looking at it is not going to make that investment. It would be like losing \$600,000 a year. So, yes, we have looked at it. That is a tough one. You would almost have to have someone like a Warren Buffet or a Bill Gates or someone who just wants to buy the thing to have it as a memento or something.

Mr. Endrulas: If it is a losing proposition to a businessman is it a losing proposition to the City?

Mayor Andrzejewski: It was before all of our times. We have reduced the stadium debt in half. We used to have a \$1.3 million loss on it – it is down to \$620,000 now. We have paid off half the debt and over the years taken every penny we could to reduce the debt. It is something we inherited and we have to do the best we can with it. And, I think we have. We used to have a much higher loss than we do now.

Mr. Endrulas: Are there any other options? How about tearing it down and putting up housing?

Mayor Andrzejewski: You would still have to pay the debt. There is one option we are doing. Even if we tear it down it is like tearing down your house – you still have to pay the \$13 million you owe.

Mr. Endrulas: I understand that. You won't be receiving money every year on the deal. When all the houses were bought to put up the stadium there was a lot of revenue lost. We are not getting the money coming into the City. I know it is nice and some people enjoy it but if someone will buy it why do we need it.

Mayor Andrzejewski: If we did not pay your obligations and you got a terrible credit rating because you defaulted on your notes then any projects we have coming up for the future – sewer or road projects – that we may want to go out for with our own money at very low

interest rates we would never get it. I appreciate your points but to answer your question we have looked into it. It is just a tough nut to crack and I think people have to realize that we have greatly reduced our obligation on the stadium and that is the best we can do.

Mr. Endrulas: I overheard you say they are not going to be doing lines? Are we paying for putting up lines at the stadium?

Mr. Morley: No, the lines for the Little League fields – for our parks and recreation.

Mr. Endrulas: The other thing – when you go to a restaurant they give you a 10% - so much percentage 10%, 15% 29%. Has any looked at – I appreciate everyone taking a cut. The police are our safety – everyone's safety is at risk. Has anyone looked at what we could save if someone took a 15% cut – 13% - 20%? Those people that can't afford it – some people may leave on their own to find better positions. But, it will affect every one of us. So, a 10% cut is – it is a 10% cut – all we can take.

Adrian Griffin Sr., 532 St. Lawrence Blvd., Eastlake

Mr. Griffin: I live in Surfside and welcome to our new Councilperson and, Mr. Morley, congratulations on getting a job. I would like to thank the Police Department and the Fire Department for the great job they do. I would like Council to consider doing everything they can to keep our safety forces intact. I know it is a difficult decision. Ms. DePledge, I wanted to respectfully disagree that this is not the saddest day in Eastlake – there have been some really tough times in this City that we have gotten through. And, some people stepped up and did the best they can to make this City a little bit more livable and a little bit better to live in. And, we are falling on some difficult times. We have to make some tough decisions and as you mentioned it is easy to complain. We are tapped out. We don't have any more money. You stood in my driveway and handed me a pamphlet and you said consider voting for this. At the time I was honest and said I did not know if I could – it is tough. Because at the time I had the City asking me for money - the schools asking me for money – I had a college asking me for money. Everyone was asking me to kick in a little bit. It is tough. We all have to make some difficult decisions but fortunately everyone that is here I think is going to make their best effort to get through this. I said this when we had a discussion in my driveway. You kept me from cleaning my garage that day. I think there are some solutions we have to try to think of. I mentioned once to the Mayor and I mentioned that day to you. Why are companies like Avery Dennison moving to other cities? Why are they not moving to Eastlake? We have some fantastic property here – don't we? We have some places that people can move in – businesses – some have decided to – a new bank opened up on Vine Street – we have a beautiful facility that we are paying a lot of money for. We should utilize that in some way. We should draw business here and I thought – and I could be wrong – but, one of the solutions I thought of – can we hire someone to be an economic developer - a person that is responsible for doing nothing more but going and seeking business to come to Eastlake. And if we have to take them one night to see a game and foot the bill for the CEO of a big company and say “Come to Eastlake.” Let's invite the Police Chief and Fire Chief to that event and take them up in a loge and show them Eastlake – how beautiful we are and the things we have here for them to move their business here. There are lots of people who are opening up businesses. There is a commercial on the radio that says the best time to open up

a business is during a recession. There are a lot of people who are looking for places to open up businesses. Why are they not coming here to Eastlake? That is a thought I had. Maybe it is a solution, maybe it is not. Maybe you have the answer why we don't do that. I know in talking with you Mayor that you said you handle that responsibility of trying to get businesses to come here. Maybe we should focus on that.

Mayor Andrzejewski: Every call we receive I can assure you I follow up with. And the things you pointed out – the Key Bank, the Walgreens, Biagios – there are a few inquiries we have and the best I can tell you is I assure you we follow up on every one of those. The difficult point is – I will get an email from a resident asking why we don't get a Kohl's here or why don't you get a Home Depot here and I say we would love to and when we talk to those people they make the decision based on demographics and whether or not their company can make money. That is the tough part for residents to understand – that you just don't call a company and say come to Eastlake because they do their studies and their due diligence. But, I do want to assure you that any call I get – whether it is a two man operation or a 20 person shop or whatever – we follow up on until it is over and one with.

Mr. Griffin: And, that is my point. You are the Mayor of the City – you are the Safety Director of the City – how can you find time to call people up and discuss moving their business to our wonderful City?

Mayor Andrzejewski: When they call I make time. With all due respect to Council – and they have tried to work with me to get an economic development person – again, the money is not in the budget. We have proposed that over the years many times – to get an economic development person. Correct, Mr. Morley?

Mr. Morley: We always needed the money for something else more important in the City. We would love to have an economic developer.

Mr. Griffin: I see a lot of businesses moving to other cities around us – Willoughby and Mentor – I don't see them coming here. I don't know what the solution is. That is just one idea. Maybe collectively we can come up with some other ideas on attracting business here. It will be nice when Super WalMart opens up and maybe that will attract some other smaller businesses around the area and we can continue to improve Vine Street.

Mayor Andrzejewski: I am active with the Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce and go to every one of their functions and meetings. We have had business breakfasts and luncheons at the stadium where we invited Eastlake businesses for two reasons – to find out how they are doing and to thank them for being in Eastlake. Some of those things residents don't see but we do economic development activities kind of behind the scenes. We don't publicize them but I know from my background in business and sales you want to retain the businesses you have which is what we are strongly doing. And then try to fill in when you can. We are doing what we can.

Mr. Griffin: Good luck and let's stay positive with this. Let's try to come up with some ideas and solutions to make this better.

Steve Koziel, 1420 East 330th Street, Eastlake

Mr. Koziel: Who up here took a pay cut?

Mr. Morley: All of us.

Mr. Koziel: Mayor, why don't you.

There was no one else who wished to speak.

LEGISLATION PROPOSED - First number will be 2011-150

RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(01)

Requested by: Administration

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Contract with the State of Ohio Auditor for Compilation Services for the years ending December 31, 2011, 2012 and 2013 for the total amount Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00), and declaring an emergency.

Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-150.

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RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(02)

Requested by: Service Director Semik

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Contract with Northeast Lubricants, Ltd., the sole bidder, for the purchase of Motor Oil and Grease as listed for the cost as outlined, and declaring an emergency.

Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-151.

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Requested by: Service Director Semik
Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(03)
A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Contract with Osborne Concrete and Stone Co., the lowest and best bidder, for the purchase of Stone & Slag Aggregate Products as listed for the cost as outlined, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-152.

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Requested by: Service Director Semik
Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(04)
A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Contract with Osborne Concrete and Stone Co., the lowest and best bidder, for the purchase of Asphalt/Concrete Products (Asphalt) as listed for the cost as outlined, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-153.

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RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(05)

Requested by: Service Director Semik
Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Contract with Tech Ready Mix, Inc., the lowest and best bidder, for the purchase of Asphalt/Concrete Products as listed for the cost as outlined, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-154.

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RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(06)

Requested by: Service Director Semik
Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Contract with Specialized Construction, the lowest and best bidder, for the purchase of Asphalt/Concrete Products (Asphalt) as listed for the cost as outlined for the year 2012 with option year 2013, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-155.

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Requested by: Administration
Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

RESOLUTION NO: 12-13-(07)

An Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into an Agreement with the Lake County Department of Telecommunications for the establishment and operation of an 800/700 MHz Radio System in the total amount of Twenty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars and Thirty-Seven Cents (\$23,889.37), and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-156.

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Requested and Sponsored by:
the Eastlake City Council

RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(08)

A Resolution setting forth that the Council of City of Eastlake, individually, hereby resolve to not receive the authorized salary increase in the amount of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for the year 2012, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. D'Ambrosio moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Ms. Vaughn seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. D'Ambrosio moved to adopt. Ms. Vaughn seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-157.

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Requested and Sponsored by:
the Eastlake City Council

RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(09)

A Resolution setting forth that the Council of City of Eastlake, individually, hereby resolve to not receive ten percent (10%) of the total of their authorized salary in the total amount of Five Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$5,370.00) for the year 2012, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. D’Ambrosio moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Ms. Vaughn seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. D’Ambrosio moved to adopt. Ms. Vaughn seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-158.

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Requested by: Administration
Sponsored by: Ms. Vaughn

ORDINANCE NO.: 12-13-(10)

An Ordinance amending Section 132.14 “Fees for Rescue Calls,” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Eastlake, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. D’Ambrosio moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Ms. Vaughn seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. D’Ambrosio moved to adopt. Ms. Vaughn seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Ordinance No. 2011-159.

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Requested by: Administration
Sponsored by: Mr. Knuchel

RESOLUTION NO.: 12-13-(11)

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to enter into a Lease Agreement between the City of Eastlake and the Jean Chase Memorial Fund, Inc. for use of the City of Eastlake Community Center, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and reading in full. Mr. D’Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Knuchel moved to adopt. Mr. D’Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No. 2011-160.

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LEGISLATION PENDING

There was no Legislation Pending.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR/SAFETY DIRECTOR – Ted Andrzejewski

Mayor Andrzejewski: I too would like to thank the Women’s Club for hosting the Evening with Santa. I know the kids all had a good time and liked getting a little gift from Santa and Mrs. Claus. One thing on the stadium – one of the things Mr. Slocum and I and an outside bond company have been working on is refinancing the remaining \$13 million in stadium debt. It went out for auction the last few days and that process will continue until Thursday. At that time hopefully we will be able to announce some news of saving some significant money on refinancing the stadium debt and taking advantage of the lower interest rates. Also, on the Community Center – over the years I have gotten people to rent there – bingo, gymnastics and other organizations. That along with the miscellaneous rentals we receive pretty much pays for the Community Center and keeps it open. The thing there is if we did not have that the building would deteriorate. You all know what happens to buildings or homes that are not heated or kept up. The building would deteriorate to nothing. So, I appreciate Council – and I am sure the bingo people do – approving the lease. That helps significantly along with gymnastics to pay for that building. Several years ago because we did have a little extra in the amount of rent we collected versus what we paid we did replace one of the air conditioning units and that saved the General Fund around \$8,000. So, having renters in there does help. Mrs. Sutch – I say this jokingly but next year get us the lease in November. This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mayor Andrzejewski.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

Mr. Morley: One item I forgot to talk about during the legislation. Mrs. Cindy Quinn-Hopkins, who is in the audience and is the Council-elect in Ward 3, also graciously agreed to both pay cuts. I applaud her for that - she is not even sworn in yet.

LAW DIRECTOR – Randy Klammer

Mr. Klammer: All my reports are submitted to you in writing or by email. Chief McCauley, it is nice to see you again. I would like to publically compliment Fire Chief Whittington and Firefighter Saperstein – the Union President in the Fire Department. Mr. Slocum and I met with them and a couple of other firefighters on Monday night. He had spent a lot of time understanding the math of how that cut for the Fire Department worked and came up with a real, solid, creative proposal that Mr. Slocum has to review and take to the Mayor for his review as well. That was a perfect example of the way things should move now that we are at this point. Some of the cuts the Administration and Council don't control because they are by Union contract. Mr. Slocum does the best he can to find dollar values in some cuts and in working the way Mr. Saperstein and the Fire Department worked so quickly and strategically and intelligently. He found and proposed to Mr. Slocum another way to save that firefighter's job. I hope we will see a little bit of that spill over to each Department and we won't see the same level of personnel cuts. They are all very complicated. Fire is and Police is even more so in the amount of cuts and how it actually relates to personnel. I thank you Chief and I thank Mr. Saperstein. I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Klammer.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – Mike Slocum

Mr. Slocum: As the Mayor indicated we are in the process of refinancing the bonds. We should know by Thursday exactly where we stand with them. I will report at that time. I will have the 2012 appropriations – I already have a draft and am going through my review process with Mr. Vuckovich. I am open for questions.

Mr. Knuchel: The refinancing of the bonds – does that also include some of the bonds for City Hall?

Mr. Slocum: No. In fact, it does not include all the stadium bond – it is about \$9.4 million – the tax free bonds but it does not affect the City Hall bonds at all.

Mr. Morley: Did you estimate what the savings would be?

Mr. Slocum: We had initial bids today which we were not overall enthralled with to be honest with you. We think we have come up with an alternate strategy that will still present significant savings. In any case I know I will be looking to pull the trigger because in today's interest rate environment any savings we can pull out – there is no guarantee if we wait a year we will have the same interest rate environment we have today. We are at lows.

Mayor Andrzejewski: One of the reasons we are not giving a specific number is because it has varied and we do not want to throw out a number we are not sure of. As soon as we know the exact dollar amount of savings per year we will let Council know. We are not trying to avoid the question – it is still up in the air how much we will save.

Mr. Matheke: Mr. Slocum, we had a discussion about 10 days ago about – I had come to you because some residents had voiced a concern that we would save money if we shut down the

Income Tax Department and outsourced it to RITA or CCA – could you go over those numbers since we have a lot of residents here.

Mr. Slocum: Currently, the City's cost of running the Income Tax Department is roughly 2.25% of actual collections. If we go to RITA or CCA we will be paying 3%. So we would be actually increasing our costs by about \$75,000. I think we deliver a very cost efficient product here in the City that I would not look to outsource at this time.

Mr. Matheke: So, just to clarify – if we did outsource it to RITA or CCA it would cost us more money and absolutely be no saving.

Mr. Slocum: No, there would be no savings in outsourcing it.

Mr. Knuchel: That does not include collecting delinquent taxes either – we would have an added expense.

Mr. Slocum: I think the 3% would cover going after delinquent taxes also. We chose a couple of communities that are similar in size to us and asked what they are paying for their entire program and it is roughly 3%. That varies a little bit year to year but nothing significant. It was 3% when I was at Maple Heights.

Mayor Andrzejewski: The State of Ohio is trying to propose taking the income tax collection away from us – that would be disastrous because then they would process the forms but not be as aggressive as we have been. Since I have been Mayor we have been really aggressive in going after companies – especially large companies who owe us tax – bed tax – whatever. There were a couple of years where we collected well over \$200,000 in back taxes and we are not hesitant to take people to court to get our money. The Tax Department not only does it efficiently but they also aggressively go after companies – large companies that owe us significant dollar amounts.

There were no further questions of Mr. Slocum.

CITY ENGINEER – Tom Gwydir

Mr. Gwydir: It is all quiet on the engineering front and I have nothing to report. I am open for questions.

There were no further questions of Mr. Gwydir.

SERVICE DIRECTOR – Mike Semik

Mr. Semik was absent and excused.

CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL – John Stigalt

Mr. Stigalt: We are still issuing permits for roofs, decks, driveways this late in the season. I have given everyone maps of the vacant homes in our City. So if you have a chance to review them and want to talk to me give me a call and set up an appointment or whatever. Just to see what you have in your Wards. We are going to try to track them throughout the

year. We will also try to be more creative in trying to get compliance for the property maintenance of the homes. I feel this coming year will be difficult for a lot of people. We have more programs that are being offered that we will be giving to the residents and we will be sending letters out over the next couple of months. This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Stigalt.

POLICE CHIEF – Larry Reik

Chief Reik: When I was thinking about this report today I knew a lot of people would be here who wanted some questions answered. My concern was at not having something prepared and emotions started taking over and getting off topic. With your permission I would like to read a short statement.

I served as a proud member of the Eastlake Police Department for nearly 20 years and was honored to take over as Chief of Police in January of this year. Throughout my career I watched the Police Department grow in both the number of officers employed and the amount of services and programs we have provided to the public. However, with the ongoing decline in the economy along with the recent failure of the levy I am troubled to inform you that as a Department we will be forced to make some necessary adjustments. I will start by saying that the failure of SB 5 did not come into play with our current situation because there is a collective bargaining agreement in place until the end of 2013. Had SB 5 passed its provisions could not have been implemented until the expiration of the contract. The contracts that are in place provided for no increases in wages and benefits and the Unions have had contributions increased and benefits were reduced. I am not saying this with concern for these touchy, political topics but felt it was necessary that people had the correct information. My main concern is how these proposed cuts will affect the employees under my control and the citizens of Eastlake. Over the past year the Police Department has seen the departure of six officers. Only two officers are currently employed here as their replacements giving us 29 police officers. This number includes myself and my staff and is a sharp decline from the 38 officers we had only eight years ago. The elimination of 4 more officers will put us at staffing levels that we have not seen in over 30 years. Over that same 30 years call volume, population, and the time it takes to handle complaints and investigations have all increased. Unfortunately, law enforcement is not a profession that we can efficiently and effectively do more with less. As I am greatly concerned for the welfare of the residents I am equally concerned for the safety of my officers. Some of the services and programs we provided in the past will be eliminated and we will have to reassess our investigative abilities as well as our response to non-priority calls based upon the daily activity level of the City. We will continue to research outside the box solutions to provide some reasonable level of service and staffing during these unfortunate times. I will continue to focus on solutions for the future and not the blame for the past. I am proud to serve with my fellow Department employees and wish that others could see on a daily basis the outstanding performance of these individuals. In closing I ask for your patience and understanding during these tough times and I want to assure you that when you need us the most you will be able to count on the quality, bravery and professional service of the Eastlake Police Department.

Mr. Morley: Thank you, Chief.

There were no questions of Chief Reik.

FIRE CHIEF – Ted Whittington

Fire Chief Whittington: I would also ask for some patience because like usual I have a lot to say. I have also prepared a statement but before I get into it I would like to make a couple of comments. First of all the \$700,000 in cuts the Fire Department was forced to make represent about 14 positions in the Fire Department. Of those 14 positions there were 9 people. Those people represent part-time firefighters, full-time firefighters and also someone from the Administrative staff. I think that to allude to some of the concerns I brought to you is that I would have liked to have seen us handle the situation a little bit better. The one person in the Department that I chose to put on the cut list has served the City for 32 years. She served in a variety of positions and basically today we let her go without recognizing the efforts she put forth. Now, I don't feel comfortable mentioning her name and I want everyone to know that I specifically care about what she did for the Fire Department. The Law Director brought up that the Fire Union has worked diligently with me to try to solve some of our problems and I think that effort should be acknowledged by everyone. When we get labeled because of some of the negativity you see in the press – the public employees in this City specifically are not out there to take advantage of anything. They understand the economics of the City changes and so really we are making a lot of efforts to bring us into a program where we are meeting the demands of our Community but also making sacrifices internally. I want to give a nod to those guys for the work they put forth.

It is a sad and dark day for the City of Eastlake and the Eastlake Fire Department. As of this month, the Eastlake Fire Department has had our budget cut over \$700,000. That represents about 20% of our operating budget – 14 positions. I have been asked several times how these cuts will affect our fire department operations. I have given that question a lot of thought over the last few weeks. I will resist the temptation to speculate and just discuss factual information. The mission of the Eastlake Fire Department is actually determined by the residents of this community each time that you call 911. It is not something the Administrative staff comes up with. When someone calls 911 they are looking for us to solve their problem. As you could imagine, the Eastlake Fire Department has responded to a variety of different types of calls to assist our residents over the past 61 years. Besides EMS and fire related problems, we also have seen trapped animals, water pipes leaking, water rescues, flood duty, gas leaks, and many more. Regardless of the type of problem you are having, the fire department will respond and do everything in our power to make your day better. That is what we do. In 1981, a full time fire department was established by the residents of the city of Eastlake. At that time, the Eastlake Fire Department was staffed with 10 personnel per shift and a minimum staffing of 8 personnel on duty. In 1981 the fire department responded to 1,451 calls for service. In 1998, the fire department experienced a period of growth. Between 1998 and 2001 the Eastlake Fire Department increased staffing to 11 personnel per shift and a minimum staffing of 9 personnel on duty. During that period, the Eastlake Fire Department responded to an average 2,400 calls for service per year. As we end 2011, the Eastlake Fire Department will be staffed with 8 personnel per shift and a

minimum staffing of 6 personnel on duty. It is projected that the Eastlake Fire Department will respond to 2,800 calls for service. Since 1981, the fire department has lost 30% of its personnel, (10 full time firefighter positions, 9 part time positions, and 1 administrative position). During that same period of time the fire department call volume has increased almost 200%. My fear is that we have not seen the end to the reductions in Fire Department staffing and I have no expectations that the call volume of the Department will decrease. As you Fire Chief, I must state publically that my comfort level for minimum staffing has been 8 personnel. Eight has proven to be the most efficient way to address multiple incidents and during the initial operations at a structure fire. When staffing was reduced to 7 because of budgetary problems, we made the appropriate internal adjustments. It was below my comfort level, but we made it work. Now we are going down to a minimum of 6 firefighters on duty. I must be direct and state that I have concerns for the safety of our firefighters and our ability to meet the requests for service to our residents in a timely manner with 6 firefighters on duty.

In the past 10 years, the Eastlake Fire Department's operating budget has been reduced almost 30%. Besides personnel costs, we have also experienced reductions in the training budget. Training of our personnel is an essential part of service delivery. It prepares our firefighters to handle your requests, but also contributes to the overall safety of Fire Department operations. I feel that any future budget reductions will have a long term impact on this department and the community.

One of the biggest challenges the fire department is facing is formulating a plan to ensure that we continue to deliver a high level of service with reduced staffing and increased run volumes. This is a big challenge. Over the past 30 years, this Department has never had staffing levels this low or had calls for service this high. In anticipation of these cuts, the Fire Department staff and firefighters have been hard at work the past two weeks in developing, updating, and implementing operational procedures based on the reduced staffing. We should all feel fortunate that we have a group of dedicated fire officers and firefighters that will continue to do their best to address the needs of our residents. I would also ask our residents for their support and patience as we transition through these difficult times. Because of the reduction to personnel, we expect that there will occasional delays in providing service to you. I would ask each of you on behalf of the Fire Department, firefighters and residents that somehow we find out what we need to do to preserve this City because the direction we are actually going into could be very detrimental to us. I think we need to come up with some solutions now before it gets worse.

Mr. Morley: Thanks, Chief.

There were no questions of Chief Whittington.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REMARKS

Mr. Morley: I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:24 p.m.

DENNIS MORLEY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____
DEBORAH A. CENDROSKI, CMC
CLERK OF COUNCIL