

**EASTLAKE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 10, 2012**

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 7:05 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Quinn-Hopkins.

ATTENDEES

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – JUNE 26, 2012

MOTION: Ms. Vaughn moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of June 26, 2012. Mr. D'Ambrosio seconded.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Mr. Morley

Meetings Scheduled

Mr. Morley: In accordance with Article V, Section 5 of the Charter of the City of Eastlake Council will be on summer break with the last meeting in July, 2012 and the first meeting in August, 2012 being suspended.

The next Council-as-a-Whole Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 28, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Council meeting will be convened immediately following the adjournment of the Council-as-a-Whole Committee meeting.

Mr. Evers, Chairman of the Task Force, has invited Council to meet with them on Tuesday, July 17th to present a few items compiled by the Task Force. We will check with the Law Director to see if this meeting has to be advertised. We will not be making any decisions – the meeting is just informative.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

An amendment request was received from Finance Director Slocum regarding City Ordinance Chapter 913 "Comprehensive Storm Water Management, subsection 913.14 "Fees." This was referred to Ordinance Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Morley: There were no Committee meetings. Does anyone on Council have any comments?

Mrs. Quinn-Hopkins, Economic & Community Development Council Chair: Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 19, 2012.

Mr. Morley: I have been getting some calls on the \$6 storm water fee that has been sent to the residents. Mr. Slocum has advised he has been talking to the Auditor about this for next year. Mr. Slocum?

Mr. Slocum: We are still in negotiations. We are hoping to actually have the Auditor collect that because it is a pretty extensive effort for us to maintain our data base, prepare the bills, mail them and follow up. The Auditor's office is much more suited. At this point we do not have anything final that they will in fact do it.

Mr. Morley: For those in the audience. A \$6 fee was sent to each resident. It was not on the garbage bill this time because we are no longer billing for garbage. It is not a new fee and has been in existence the last four years and is due once a year and it will continue.

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.

Charles L. Price, 88 Sunset Cove Circle, Eastlake

Mr. Price: Let me explain who I am. My name is Charles Price. I am a 6.5 year resident of Eastlake and am about to celebrate my 78th birthday and I am retired and have been now for 10 years. I am not now nor have I ever been an employee for the City of Eastlake, Ohio. For a little over three years now I have been an unpaid volunteer acting as a commentator for Eastlake's Channel 12 and 99. I interview the Mayor of the City to tell the citizens what is new and what is happening around the City. This is a strictly informative type of show. I have had an interview with the head of our City Council as well as Council people. I have interviewed our Chief of Police and Fire Chief. I have talked to the Service Director. I have interviewed the Lake County Prosecutor, the Lake County Public Defender, the Head of the Lake County Fair and the Head of the Lake County Bureau of Aging. I interviewed the Head of the Lake County Chamber of Commerce, the Lake County Veterans' Association and even the management of the Lake County Captains. With all of that I have never once expressed my own opinions. I have never questioned the Mayor's or the Council's decisions and how they operate this City. I am a-political. I do not take sides while acting as a monitor. The Mayor has often mentioned to me not to discuss certain issues on the air unless they be construed as political. But, it is funny. In the years I have been here no one has ever said anything to me about this show but since I am a private citizen and since I have criticized our Council on what I believe to be a misguided and unfair action by this body I am accused of being blatantly prejudiced. Now, Webster defines blatantly prejudiced as "someone who is noisy especially in a vulgar or offensive manner. Completely obvious, conspicuous or obtrusive especially in a crass or offensive manner." You know freedom of speech in the United States is protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and by State law and many Federal laws. Criticism of the government and advocacy of unpopular ideas that people may find distasteful or against public policy are always permitted and are not unlawful. Channel 12 costs not a penny for the City of Eastlake. I have spent over

\$1,000 of my own money to purchase equipment for the benefit of the City in order to keep that station on the air. I have spent countless hours calling on businesses in Eastlake, soliciting their help to financially support the station and I have collected thousands of dollars on its behalf. I have spent hundreds of dollars in mail out pieces and postage and have never benefitted or received any financial re-numeration from the City and I have donated when asked for various City needs. I am offended by the actions of the City Council being critical of my personal feelings as a citizen and in trying to deny me my First Amendment right to freedom of speech. I publically now dare the accuser who said this to tell me where my personal feelings have ever been expressed while acting as a commentator for the City of Eastlake. I am not a shill and not a lackey for the Mayor or anyone else in the City. I believe in a fair and honest government and I personally feel that the actions taken by this Council were neither fair or in good faith. However, the Council voted on it and being the American system of law it is passed – so, it is history. But, I am amazed at my Council Representative who has not even gotten up to speak words on behalf of freedom of speech or upon my being able to speak.

Kimberly Evers, 34137 Beachpark, Eastlake

Mr. Evers: I am here tonight to make some recognition of certain people. One would be Chief Reik and the other one would be Chief Whittington and another being Service Director Semik. Gentleman, for your services rendered to this City on the evening of July 3rd on my street, Beachpark Avenue, which was totally blocked off by the storms. Waldmer was totally blocked off, Roberts Road was blocked off and so was S.R. 91. My family could not get home and my wife was very upset. She stopped to talk to Officer Tryon and he calmed her down. I would also like to thank Council members who I know personally were there – Mr. Hoefle and Ms. Vaughn. It is nice to see our Council out on an evening like that checking on residents to make sure they are okay – and any other member of Council who showed up. But, expressly my sincere thanks to the Service Department for their speedy action in clearing that roadway of the debris and the trees and getting the roadways back open. Thank you very much.

There was no one else who wished to speak.

LEGISLATION PROPOSED - First number will be 2012-051

There was no Legislation Proposed.

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 sent a memo to Council – you may have not received it yet. But, just to clarify there are two new employees in the Building Department. They are part time employees and can work up to 20 hours a week. They will be helping us with clerical, answering the phones, helping our residents get permits and they are there at no cost to the City of Eastlake. We have been working for several years with an organization called Mature

Services. They offer part time employees to various organizations including City governments to assist anyone over age 55 years old to secure future employment and get more on their resume. If you receive any questions from your constituents please let them know that these two employees are not costing the City anything. They are paid for by Mature Services. It is the same organization who offered an employee for the Tax Department who has worked there for the last two years on a part time basis. I will include this in my Gazette article in August so people know. Monday – Mr. Semik and I spoke this weekend – Mr. Evers, you don't know but I was there on July 4th with the Fire Chief at several houses. I spoke with Mr. Semik on Monday and we decided it would be a proper and good use of City resources to send a couple of Service Department guys along Beachpark, Roberts and Waldmer and the 340th Streets to pick up the big branches and limbs that Republic Waste would not pick up unless our residents cut and bundled them. Mr. Semik, your guys did a nice job on that. I think we are all done now, right?

Mr. Semik: Yes, we are.

Mayor Andrzejewski: We tried to provide an additional service to the residents who had trees and branches down by picking up the big branches so they would not have to bother. Our guys chipped them up.

There were no questions of Mayor Andrzejewski.

LAW DIRECTOR – Randy Klammer

Mr. Klammer was absent and excused.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – Mike Slocum

Mr. Slocum: I do not have a report but am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Slocum.

CITY ENGINEER – Tom Gwydir

Mr. Gwydir: I have nothing to report and am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Gwydir.

SERVICE DIRECTOR – Mike Semik

Mr. Semik: I would like to thank Mr. Evers for his comments. I will pass them along to the people in the Service Department. I do want to indicate that yes, I did speak with the Mayor. I was in also on Tuesday night when I got the call at 9:45 p.m. The Police Department had requested personnel and I came in because they had mentioned there were trees down everywhere. I brought in two individuals – Pat Curtis and Dan Sharpnack. But, Chief Whittington and Lt. Angelo were working dispatch and it was a good site to see how well the Police and Fire work in a situation like that. Chief Whittington was in civilian clothes so he must have been coming from somewhere and was helping out dispatch, fielding the 911 calls, answering resident's questions. We take them for granted. When I got there I spoke with both gentlemen and they told me the intersections that were blocked worst and that is where we turned our attention. However, two took us a little bit longer because we had to wait for CEI to turn off the power on sections because they don't want us in their wires which is understandable. We would not want our people there either. Wednesday we had a repeat performance at East 357th Street where one tree came down on the wires. I brought in two people at approximately 10:00 p.m. That was John Ramski and Kevin Lesak who stayed

until 7:00 a.m. and it took until 6:00 a.m. – 6:30 a.m. to finish helping CEI’s people clean up the tree and push it off to the side of the road. As the Mayor indicated earlier we did discuss what to do with the debris and typically with the workforce we have I was a little bit hesitant in cleaning up storm damage. But, because it was localized I agreed this was a service we should try to provide – which we did. I did want to mention those four individuals specifically. Once the storm was over the Police and Fire went back to patrolling and my guys, the Service Department, were out there cleaning up the mess. The DuraPatcher is out and we worked on Stevens Blvd. between Willowick Drive and Jakse. A few residents have called to thank us for that. We will continue DuraPatching when the weather is good and hope to get the streets profiled next week with paving the following week. That is all based on when they do the profiling and weather but it looks like we will start profiling sometime next week. I do have to mention one more time all the repairs made to Farragut, North Riverview, Admiral Drive and Wacoka. During the last downbursts we have had in the City all those areas were dry and the water drained off. This concludes my report and I am open for questions.

Mr. Morley: Mr. Semik and I have been working on a project on Quentin and East 332nd Street. It seems like we have been having a lot of rats in the area. Mr. Semik called the Health Department and they will provide some information on the rats. He has gone to the residents homes I had talked to and they were both pleased how the Service Department is helping them button up some of the areas on their houses where the rats are coming from. One has an excess lawn and the other was not feeding Decon because of their dogs. That is taken care of. Mr. Semik is getting some information from the Health Department that we can hand out. We also had an issue with the area around the pump station on Lakeshore. Some people thought it was beach access that the City has the right-of-way for – we had received a complaint from a resident. Mr. Semik spoke to them – it is a City right-of way for the outfall. It has been a busy couple of weeks, especially with the situation on Quentin and East 332nd Street. I appreciate that. I did have the gentleman call me again about the light poles on S.R. 91 today. Please try to get answers on this – please get the pole numbers. He called me on July 8th and is now saying they are still out from the last time he called me.

There were no questions of Mr. Semik.

CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL – John Stigalt

Mr. Stigalt: WalMart has their footers in and will be starting on the walls today. Kennedy school is moving along quickly. I was there today – they were on the “B” wing already. They have “A” wing almost completed and are working on the drywall and should be finishing it up in the next few weeks. The foundation is in for a new house on East 360th Street. We have been getting a lot of deck permits and driveway permits the last two weeks. We have been trying to keep up with the grass issues. Mr. Palmer, our new Zoning Inspector is coming along rather quickly. His past experience is helping out a lot with zoning issues. I am open for questions.

There were no questions of Mr. Stigalt.

POLICE CHIEF – Larry Reik

Chief Reik was absent and excused.

FIRE CHIEF – Ted Whittington

Fire Chief Whittington was absent and excused.

RIVERFEST

Mr. Morley: Ms. Vaughn, do you have any comments about the Riverfest?

Ms. Vaughn: The Riverfest is scheduled for August 2nd through the 5th. It will be a family fun filled weekend with a variety of activities including but not limited to a Monte Carlo, day long entertainment, a beer garden, instant bingos, a dunk tank, perch fest, a fishing derby, a car show on Sunday and a craft show on Sunday. Alex Bevin is playing on Sunday. There are top notch bands playing every evening. There is a strolling magician and caricatures as well as a Chinese Auction. There is a carnival with various rides and concessions. The parade is Saturday at 1:00 p.m. It will be an outstanding event. We have a volunteer committee of many people working on it together which is very refreshing. Everyone is picking up their fair share plus and we have raised approximately \$12,000 to subsidize this event all through volunteer donations or contributions. Hopefully you will all be there.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:26 p.m.

DENNIS MORLEY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED: _____

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