President of Council Marjorie Harlow called Council to order on March 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance. Mrs. McNear gave the invocation.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Present were Council members Diehl, Emerson, Hawkins, Knox, Squires, Vanover and Harlow.

The minutes of March 6, 2013 were approved with six affirmative votes. Mr. Diehl abstained.

COMMITTEE AND OFFICIAL REPORTS

Civil Service Commission - no report
Rules and Laws - no report
Finance Committee - no report
Planning Commission - Mr. Vanover said they approved the extension of the special event banners for another year. The issue of political signs text amendments was tabled until April. We discussed the RV regulations for quite awhile and a lot of good points were brought up. Any variance granted goes with the property forever and there were concerns about upkeep on them. We had an ad hoc committee formed. Mr. Diehl, Mr. Okum and Mrs. Ghantous will discuss some other alternatives. We had a review from neighboring communities and what they are doing.

Board of Zoning Appeals - no report

Board of Health – Mr. Squires said our Health Commissioner, Cammie Mitrione, lost her father. We all should keep her in our thoughts and prayers. We discussed the public swimming pool/spa fees and decided to keep them the same as last year. The Children’s Health Fair will be held May 16.

Public Utilities - no report
Public Relations - no report
Capital Improvements - no report
Public Welfare, Safety & Education - no report
Housing Board - no report

Mr. Parham passed out a booklet of the proposed 2013 Summer Street Program. As I present the proposed 2013 Summer Street Improvement Program we all realize over the past couple of years, the City was not able to commit much funding towards the program. For a couple of years, we were only able to budget $100,000. With that amount of funding, you really can’t accomplish much. Last year was the first year we were able to budget a substantial number of $400,000. We spent about $373,000 on improvements in the Oxford Hills Subdivision. Last year, we indicated that staff (Public Works Department and Engineer’s office) would examine our streets to determine which streets should be the next ones to target for the program. At that time, it was felt that more than likely it would be the streets in the Beacon Hills area. The program you see this evening does not take us into Beacon Hills. It remains in Oxford Hills as well as the cul de sacs off of Glensprings. If you think about the amounts we used to budget for the program in previous years, and had we been at those levels, perhaps we would have completed Oxford Hills last year. But the reality is we did not have that amount of funding available. As staff began to assess the City’s roads for this year’s program, they determined that Oxford Hills should be the focus of the 2013 Summer Street Program. We’re hopeful that
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at the conclusion of this year, with the exception of Yorkhaven and Cedarhill, depending on how bids come in, we can possibly complete Oxford Hills and begin to move into other parts of the community. Last year we budgeted $400,000 and when the bids came in much lower than our estimates, unfortunately, we were not prepared to add any additional streets to the project. We asked the contractor to give us a price on the Cameron Road sidewalk extension, but their number came back too high so we rejected it. This year if the bids come in much lower than what Staff has anticipated, we have added a number of alternates to give us some flexibility to take care of additional streets. Three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000) of the $700,000 budget can be found in the Capital Improvement Fund (090). The other $400,000 is in the Street Maintenance Fund (061). The base bid would consist of full curb and gutter replacement, catch basin repairs, handicap ramp improvements at affected intersections, pavement repairs on select streets, installation of collector lines, city-wide sidewalk repairs and the Cameron Road sidewalk extension. When we were exploring the possibility of speed bumps and humps on Cameron Road, the discussion moved to need to extend the sidewalk on Cameron Road from Cameron Park to Sharon Road. The proposed streets for the base bid would include Greencastle, Hillgrove Court, Coxbury Circle, Cantrell Drive and Chardon Lane. On the page, you see notes that say curb 1972, overlay 1999. Those were the last years any work was performed on these particular streets. The base bid also includes the cul de sacs off of Glensprings Court (Fairsprings Court, Knollsprings Court and Glenfalls Court). Alternate Bid I would include paving work only on Harcourt Drive. The curb and gutter work on Harcourt was completed as a part of the 2012 summer street program. As noted above, we are proposing to complete the curbs and gutter for Cantrell and Chardon as part of the base bid for this year’s program.

Last year Mr. Vanover brought to Council’s attention the rutting that was seen on Northland Boulevard near Tri-County Parkway and Kemper Road, and on Crescentville near Chesterdale. As a part of our Northland Boulevard project, you will notice on the approach to Kemper Road at the shopping center there is a long length of concrete instead of asphalt. We put the concrete there because we experienced so much rutting from the buses as they try to come to a stop approaching the traffic signal. Unfortunately, we did not construct the concrete far enough back so we’re still seeing the rutting in that area. The idea is to create a concrete base that will eliminate the rutting of the pavement. At the intersection of Crescentville and Chesterdale you have Sharonville to the east and south of Crescentville and you have Butler County on both sides of Chesterdale to the north. We are trying to have discussions with them about entering into a joint project to address the rutting in that area. Since the Northland Boulevard improvements, we believe Metro is running much larger buses in our community.

Mr. Vanover said most of it is the asphalt itself that gets pushed up.

Mr. Shvegzda said that is the case on Northland Boulevard. We’re not quite sure with Crescentville because it was developed through the years and we’re not sure what the pavement composition is.

Mr. Hawkins said Northland and Kemper at Kemper Square, is that the area highlighted on page 10?

Mr. Parham replied the clear area is the part we completed in 2010. The red striped area is the part we would have to include in this project.

Mrs. Harlow said the extra money we had to pay for Northland Boulevard, was that part of taking the road bed down farther?

Mr. Parham replied the additional amount we had to pay was for the entire roadway because we had to perform more full-depth repairs in areas than we originally anticipated.

Mrs. Harlow asked the part that is highlighted now, was it a full-depth repair in 2010?

Mr. Parham replied no, it was not.
Mr. Parham continued presenting the balance of the program. The Oxford Hills subdivision costs includes the curbs, catch basins, handicap ramps, collector lines for the streets of Greencastle, Hillgrove, Coxbury, Cantrell and Chardon is estimated at $314,000. The estimated cost for paving Greencastle, Hillgrove and Coxbury all located in Oxford Hills is approximately $133,000. Chardon and Cantrell are not included in the base bid. They will be considered as alternates.

On the cul de sacs off of Glensprings, the gutter plate is overlaid with asphalt. As a result, when we repair the curbs will also have to pave the street. When we begin making repairs in the Beacon Hills area, we will face a similar situation. The costs of the improvements on the cul de sacs off Glensprings include asphalt paving as a part of the base bid and is estimated at $159,522. After we completed the 2012 improvements, we began getting calls from residents about sidewalks. So we have a list of city-wide sidewalk repairs included in the program. The Cameron Road sidewalk extension is estimated at $43,000. Last year the contractor gave us a price of $60,000 so we didn’t accept that price. The City Engineer has provided us with a proposal to perform the design work for the 2013 Summer Street Program. I also had the Law Director prepare legislation authorizing the design work. If Council agrees, we could approve the proposal for the design work on this project tonight.

Mr. Parham said some other projects that need to be addressed are Elm Alley, the main parking lot at the Municipal Building as well as the parking lot off Osborn Way. We are not proposing those for this year’s project, because we think we can complete Elm Alley and the parking lot off of Osborn Way with a purchase order.

Mr. Parham said if you go to the third page of Tab 1 under Total Curb Replacement, by Greencastle and Hillgrove, you see a note that says possible collector line. Throughout the community there are residents that have sump pumps connected to downspouts that are discharging out onto the roadway. Some years ago, Council passed legislation indicating that residents could no longer discharge their sump pump into the street. If you’ve ever had an opportunity to experience the results of that discharge, in the cold weather it turns to ice. If it’s a summer season, the moss it generates is probably more slippery than the ice. We are going to take inventory so we know which ones are in the City. In the meantime, to eliminate the problem that exists we are going to put a collector line behind the curb that will catch the sump pump residue and take it to the catch basin. The process will also allow us out into the community so we can begin taking inventory as to where these conditions exist. Then we would be aware if new situations appeared.

Mrs. Emerson asked do the residents pay for that connection.

Mr. Parham replied no, this is included as part of the project. If the resident puts one out now, then we’ll have to address it and they will have to remove it.

Mr. Vanover said with getting the water into the collection system that will extend the life of the curbs.

Mr. Parham stated most of the pages in Tab 1 simply identify and break down the costs of the proposed project. Under Tab 2 are photographs of some of the areas in the City showing the conditions of the curbs and streets. We showed you the comparison between curbs and gutters in Oxford Hills vs. the cul de sacs. Page 7 shows the extension of the sidewalk on Cameron Road. Page 8 shows the condition of some of the sidewalks throughout the community. Page 9 and the following photographs highlight the Northland Boulevard concrete replacement project. Under Tab 3 is a map of the streets impacted by this year’s program. Tab 4 is a list of sidewalks planned for improvements. Tab 5 is a list of addresses that will be impacted by the project and will be required to make improvements to their drive aprons and/or driveway. They may be required to repair all or part of their driveway and/or apron. The staff has identified 48 properties needing repairs to their drive apron. They can contract with whomever they chose including our contractor. If they do not do make the necessary repairs, we will have the work done and add it to their taxes. The overall cost of the total program is $686,000.
Mayor Webster said we used to put $700,000 a year into the summer street program routinely. Every street in the City was on a ten-year basis. The program worked great and our streets were in great shape. Once we cut back on that annual expense you see what kind of situation we get into. Last year we had $400,000. This year it’s $700,000 and we’re not even out of Oxford Hills and we still have another $300,000 to $400,000 of work to do before we get out of Oxford Hills. Next year we’ll try to finish Oxford Hills and then get into another subdivision. It’s going to take us awhile to get caught up and we’ll probably have to invest more than $700,000 to do so.

Mrs. Harlow said I’d like that to be a priority for us.

Redistricting – Mr. Knox put up a map that had been in the atrium for a couple of weeks. The committee that did the redistricting was Mayor Webster, Mrs. McNear and the three at-large Council members. We aimed for one person/one vote as much as possible. It turned out that as it was suggested, there are only thirteen votes different between three of the districts. We were 23.3 percent out of balance. At 25 percent we must redistrict. We figured that was close enough that we had to go forward with this. Our goal was to restore the balance to less than 10 percent. The percentage under the suggested plan is 7.1 percent. While it is not possible to divide the City into four districts geographically we came pretty close. In order to keep the balance, in District 1 we kept all of Glensprings except the last 100-200 yards. North and south we used Springfield Pike as the dividing line. Once past Glensprings, everything south and west of that is District 2. We did have to put Wimbledon Apartments in District 4 to get the balance we needed vote-wise. There is a vast void of voters in District 4. Major credit for this plan goes to Mayor Webster. He came up with this plan and I thank him for all the work he did on it. District 3 now includes everything with the exception of The Wimbledons south through Maple Knoll. District 3 does include the five houses north of the Wimbledon Apartments. The list we are going to send to the Board of Elections, if approved, will show everything on Lawnview Avenue from Kemper up through and including the addresses 1 through 11960. The Wimbledon Apartments are at 12000. We tried not to break up roads as much as possible. One section of Springdale Lake Drive had six houses on it in one district and the rest of it in District 1. We try to keep every street in the same district. There was one case where one side of Park was in one district and the other side in another district. It’s now all in District 2. District 4 starts at Springdale Lake Drive and runs entirely east to Heritage Hill. We are hoping that the people at the Board of Elections will see the merit in this and bring us down to have two precincts. We went from 23.3 to 7.1 percent using this approach. Most voters will stay in the same district they are in now. The people at Maple Knoll are going to move from District 4 to District 3.

Mayor Webster said thank you for the acknowledgement but I’d have to say this plan represents the thoughts of all five of us on the committee and everybody had a hand in this. Ed did a lot of number crunching and he and I spent a lot of time on our computers. I feel 100 percent sure that the numbers we came up with are accurate. I think this was done in a very organized manner. I think we have cleaned up a lot of things that were wrong with the districts that were established in 1993. I think areas where next door neighbors were in different districts and even across the street in different districts is not a good situation. Hopefully this plan will serve the City well for many years to come.

Mr. Vanover said I think that one change on Springdale Lake Drive was the most common sense application going. I appreciate the work.

Mr. Squires said from the map it’s very obvious that Mr. Vanover’s district is the largest land mass. That’s the district we had to get votes into.

Mr. Knox said the most likely place for expansion of voters is the 99 acres that are sitting here under that squiggly line. If that occurs, half can go into District 1 and half into District 4 without disrupting any streets, and that would bring those districts up to the same as District 3. District 2 would be the smallest but we’d still be within the 10 percent limit.

Mrs. Harlow asked if they are ready for an ordinance to be brought in at the next Council meeting and Mr. Knox replied yes. Mrs. Harlow said we are asking for the
emergency clause so we can get it to the Board of Elections so if they need to have any conversations or they have any questions, they would then be able to address those in plenty of time to meet the deadline the Board of Elections has.

Veteran’s Memorial Committee - Robert Wilson, Chairman, introduced John Wright as a member of the committee. Mr. Wilson said other committee members are Mrs. Harlow, Mrs. McNear and Mr. Vanover. The committee met February 27 and Mr. Wilson was elected chairman. We discussed four items: (one) development of a historical time frame of our conflicts and wars. We wanted to get chronological dates of wars starting with the American Revolutionary War going all the way to Afghanistan. Second was the budget which was determined not to be a priority as there is almost no budget. Next we had to think about the collection of names of the service men and women from Springdale and also family members of Springdale residents who served honorably in our armed services. We had to determine the verification of how we would get this information. Next Mrs. Harlow and the Mayor felt we needed to prepare a new form to get the information needed for family members in case we were going to use bricks. It was determined if we use the bricks it would cost $25 apiece. We received some information from Mr. Agricola and Mr. Parham relative to pricing the story stones, possibly relocation of existing pavers. The next meeting was March 18. The committee reviewed the e-mail from Administration regarding the lettering of the story stones, the relocation of bricks to residents and non-residents and we are waiting for more feedback from them on that issue. We discussed the possibility of cost of the time frame. If we decided that we are going to do a chronological breakdown from wars, the dates, what it would cost to make that possible. We had to identify Springdale residents' bricks of those veterans' bricks that are already in place. It was determined by vote that we would not block out an area for just Springdale veterans. We decided we would do something special for Springdale veterans. It could be an emblem, an etching but we have to determine the cost for these things. The concern was if we used a commemorative coin for example, and we put it in the brick, it could crack the brick or there could be an issue of vandalism. We are leaning towards etching but that hasn’t been determined because of the cost factor. We also talked about a rededication ceremony. Mr. Wright and I have been talking about getting commemorative coins from the various branches of service. I am a member of the American Legion Post Hamilton. I’m an officer there and a Butler County officer. Mr. Wright is very familiar with the Veterans’ Administration and veteran’s activities as he does that as his regular job. We hope to get the VA and the five services to help us in getting something. Mr. Wright felt we should have the new form on the website with information to the VA so people interested in buying these bricks for themselves or family members will have a link to the VA website and can get information about the veteran. The next meeting is April 15 here. Hopefully, we will have some numbers together in terms of cost. The key thing is to get the forms out and make the public aware of what we are doing, identifying Springdale veterans.

Mayor Webster said Mr. Redden is in the audience and he is responsible for getting this conversation started. I think he contacted Derrick several times in regards to what we could do to honor Springdale veterans. We want to do whatever we can to do that but I want to make sure before we get too far into this thing that we are at the same expectation level.

Mr. Wilson said I talked to him earlier this evening.

Mayor Webster said we could find a way to convert the bricks that are over that by attaching an emblem, etching or something, and make allowances going forward that any bricks that are purchased, if they are a Springdale resident they will be properly identified. Is that going to meet the expectations of the committee and of Mr. Redden?

Mr. Wilson said the cost factor has a lot to do with what we can do. The bricks in place now have dates of service so we’ve already identified World War II through Iraq and Desert Storm. The question is whether we do etching or do we do an emblem. We talked about superglue for the emblems and we talked about drilling a hole. If we drill a hole, what will happen to the brick? Will superglue solve the problem because we still have the issue of vandalism?
Mayor Webster said if we can figure out a way to do it, is that going to meet the expectations of the committee and Mr. Redden? He’s the one who initiated this issue.

Mr. Wilson said once we find the cost of each.

Mayor Webster said you still haven’t answered my question, Mr. Wilson. Forget the cost and how we do it. If we can figure out a way to do it, is that going to meet your expectations?

Mr. Wilson replied yes.

Mayor Webster asked Mr. Redden, will that meet the expectations you expect?

Mr. Redden responded I was planning on going to the next meeting on April 15 and talking with them and see what they thought. My expectation is for seeing the World War II names on one of the plaques.

Mayor Webster said you’d like to see the names on the wall. Mr. Wilson and I served on the initial committee and we talked all those issues through and through and we pretty well decided that those plaques are going to be reserved for Springdale residents who died in the line of service. That’s why, before we get too far into this, that we figure out a way that’s going to meet expectation and then have you say that’s not what you wanted.

Mr. Redden asked what about the plaques on the outside wall?

Mr. Wilson said I showed him the diagram we had in 2003 and I identified the story stones and some other areas we might consider. He mentioned that he had a list of seventeen World War II veterans.

Mayor Webster asked how many of those people already have bricks there? Mr. Redden said he didn’t know. Mayor Webster said that’s why we created this area. We wanted to make sure that was available so they weren’t walked on. It’s totally for veterans. A lot of bricks have already been purchased. I think we’re doing what you’d like to see done and you might be surprised how many of those seventeen folks are already recognized over there. What we haven’t done is identify them as Springdale residents. If that’s the task at hand I think we can accomplish that. But if we want to tear it down and build a whole new wing of the Veteran’s Memorial just to honor the Springdale residents, we are not going to be able to do that.

Mrs. Harlow said I want it to be inclusive, not just World War II, but anyone who served our country, no matter what war or conflict they were in. If it comes out for a special designation for Springdale residents I want it to include all the different ones. I think they all gave their best for us.

Mr. Wilson stated the goal at this point is to identify Springdale residents. As you stated, Mr. Mayor, the brick itself gives name, rank, branch of service and dates. We now have to find a way to identify Springdale residents.

Mr. Redden said I was a resident here from 1931 to 1948. I served in World War II on a submarine in the South Pacific. My brother, James, was a City Councilman from 1961 to 1965. I’ve lived in Fairfield since 1954.

Mrs. McNear said we talked about identification of Springdale veterans and we even discussed pulling up the bricks for the identified Springdale veterans and perhaps putting them in one place that I was calling the Springdale Garden. If we were building that today we might want to have something set aside as a Springdale Garden but to retrofit that now, to disturb all the bricks we have there now, would be costly, perhaps damaging to the bricks we have and I don’t think it would make sense at this point. We want to find some other way to make that designation if they were Springdale veterans.
Mr. Diehl asked, Mr. Wilson, have we identified who was a Springdale resident? What is the qualification?

Mr. Wilson replied we have the qualification already. They don’t have to have been in Springdale at the time they were in the service or living in Springdale now. As long as you can say I was a Springdale resident.

Mr. Diehl said if I grew up here and then spent twenty-two years in the service and never came back...

Mr. Wilson stated you would still be eligible. We have not clearly stated that you have to have been a resident of Springdale at the time you served or the time of your discharge, just that you had to have been a resident of Springdale and had served honorably. That’s the criteria.

Mr. Diehl asked will you determine going forward who qualifies and who doesn’t?

Mr. Wilson responded I asked Madam President if we had those forms that were originally used to purchase bricks. We are going to have a challenge with some of the bricks because we may not be able to identify whether they were living in Springdale at one time. In the future, with the new bricks we will be able to identify Springdale residents versus non-Springdale residents, which is another reason why we did not want to lump the Springdale veterans on one side and non-Springdale on the other. Close to two-thirds of our bricks have been laid and unless you know that individual veteran, how would you be able to determine if they, at any point in their lives, were residents of Springdale.

Mr. Wright said I know it’s a huge issue that we’re discussing, veterans in Springdale and veterans in service. It’s a veterans’ memorial. I don’t know that we should as a committee, I wouldn’t want to spend time trying to decide if you were from Springdale or if you served. If you have a DD214, that means you served. I think it’s more about whether you served, not whether you went in from Springdale or died living in Springdale.

Mrs. Harlow said during our meeting we talked about our previous round of bricks and you could put in a brick for a family member which I did, and no one questioned whether I had their DD214 or did I know the right years, etc. They just accepted the fact that the people completed the forms to the best of their ability and they made the bricks for them. The only difference here is we’re trying to identify the person who lived in Springdale. If the person filling out the form says the person lived in Springdale I think we need to take their word for that and offer them that recognition.

Mayor Webster said if the committee can create the criteria for what qualifies as a Springdale resident and we put that on the website and we publicize it, it will put the onus back on whoever purchases the brick going forward. If they say it is Springdale we take them at their word, but I don’t think we want to undertake the responsibility of researching everyone of those bricks that are over there to ascertain whether they are or are not a Springdale resident. I think we put the word out and if you’ve ever bought a brick and you’re a Springdale resident, let us know and we’ll make sure that gets done.

Mr. Wilson said going forward the form will have addresses on it and the website for the VA will help those individuals more clearly to find what they need for dates of service, rank, branch of service, etc.

Mr. Wright said the designation of the VA website on that form would be strictly so they can request the DD214.

Mr. Hawkins suggested using a different color brick for Springdale residents.

Mr. Vanover said I agree it’s not Springdale’s tribute to Springdale residents. It’s Springdale’s tribute to all veterans. I said early on I had trouble picking a conflict or theater over one or the other. You can’t tell me the loss of a World War II, World I,
Korean, Afghanistan was any greater or any less. Mr. Vanover said perhaps the color of the etching could be changed.

Mr. Agricola said the current bricks are not etched. It’s a laser engraved finished. It chemically changes the silica within the brick to like a glass. I don’t believe they can actually change the color of that. The brick color is an option.

Mr. Parham said it sounds like your recognition is a brick.

Mr. Wilson said we want to have a commemoration on the existing bricks. We have to look at the cost.

Mr. Parham said Mr. Redden’s original request was to have some kind of identification for World War II Springdale veterans. Council’s discussion was not to recognize just residents involved in one conflict, but to recognize residents involved in all conflicts. My thought is if we can find a way to appropriately recognize Springdale residents who served in the armed forces, and that recognition fits in what currently exist at the memorial, then we should be fine. Are you saying the recognition you identified will be a brick?

Mr. Wilson said you have veterans who are already there. We want to identify them as Springdale residents as well as new veterans that are buying bricks now. We want one common denominator that identifies them as residents of Springdale.

Mr. Parham said with the bricks we have in place, there is only so much space on them for printing. Plus, we would need to have those folks come out to perform the changes or additions in the field. Some of the bricks already have a lot of information on them.

Mr. Wilson said we have to get more in depth at the next meeting. We’re hoping to have some costs that we have to deal with. The other thing is the time tables. We have the space on either side and maybe we could list the dates of conflicts on those walls.

Mr. Parham said if you determine that bricks are the appropriate recognition, we (staff) want to do all we can to help you find out whether we can put an emblem on them, laser them, etc. for Springdale residents who have served. At some point there may be a decision that we can’t find what I would identify as the “appropriate recognition” for those individuals that will blend in and doesn’t take away from what is already there.

Mr. Wilson said there are a lot of factors we have to look at; the cost, aesthetics, etc. It may be determined that we can’t do anything to disturb the existing bricks.

Mrs. Harlow said Mayor Webster said we have five story stones that are blank. If we can’t work something out with the bricks, perhaps that could be looked at, for the names of the veterans to be put on the story stones. Our next step would be to get more information from Mr. Agricola and Administration to see where we can go and what direction we take to get there.

Mrs. Emerson said what about something as simple as an asterisk. It takes a small amount of space and it would denote that those people were residents at some time in Springdale and served in one of the services. It would be cheaper and still have them stick out as Springdale residents.

Mr. Wilson said we could have the asterisk and then a plaque identifying what the asterisk is.

Mrs. McNear said Mr. Wilson, I brought up the idea of using an emblem such as a flag but we weren’t sure if the materials used to put that on there would last the test of time. Maybe a laser etching would last. Whatever we do, it would be small and wouldn’t impact the overall aesthetics. We don’t want to disturb a whole lot of what we have there.
We are trying to retrofit this so we have to be cautious. We are trying to honor and recognize people who have served.

O-K-I – Mrs. Harlow reported she attended the meeting on March 14. Todd Portune, president, spoke first about the Brent Spence Bridge and the need to replace that bridge. He requested that regional leaders get together and build a coalition to urge federal dollars for the bridge. He said primarily the media has been focusing on tolls in order to pay for the bridge and he thinks a coalition needs to gain media attention so they can identify the need for federal funding. Mr. Brian Cunningham reported on House Bills 39 and 51 indicating that they were merged and they passed. Most of this funding on this bill is for northeastern Ohio infrastructure but it also is considering increasing the speed limit to 70 mph. There are several transportation bills that the Kentucky legislature is looking into for the year 2040. They are seeking input for priorities on those projects. They had a presentation of the fiscal year 2012 audit. TEC is doing a thirty-day study looking at traffic that crosses the Ohio River; a four-day study of key interstate and primary arteries. They are also doing a new data source that has not been available previously. They’re recognizing through wireless travel data how people transfer and travel within the region. They will be able to use it to include freeways, ramps, major roads and minor roads. They will be doing it through cell phones and other wireless probes for eight counties in the Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana region. This is intended to provide them with much more accurate data than they’ve ever been able to gather before.

Mr. Vanover said they may be excited. I’m a little apprehensive. That sounds like an Orwellian novel, 1984. Big brother is watching. I have a problem with some of the data usage in our lives.

Mr. Knox said those two bills you mentioned at the outset, one of the provisions to that is to raise the truck limit from 80,000 pounds to 90,000 pounds and another provision is that at least 75 percent of the money has to be spent in the north.

Mr. Hawkins said on the cell phone records they are looking at, is that off of active cell phones or terms of measurements being used in phones that are on?

Mrs. Harlow replied it is network signaling data.

Mr. Hawkins said it is basically just checking off people’s phones that are on. Do they have an estimated year that the bridge will be completed?

Mrs. Harlow said that wasn’t even discussed. Mr. Knox might have an idea.

Mr. Knox said my crystal ball is getting very cloudy. They don’t have an idea. They want to start in 2015 but my best estimate is 2023.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Webster said I just want to share with Council that the City lost one of our very valuable citizens, Rosie Rodgers, a long-time coach, babysitter, a stalwart in our community for many years. I’m sure at the next Parks and Recreation meeting she will be inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame. Unfortunately, this year we have three people who will be so honored; a booster, Mrs. Dryer, then Bill Siefert and now Rosie Rodgers.

Clerk of Council/Finance Director – Mrs. McNear said, elected officials, this is your reminder to complete your Ohio Ethics Commission paperwork and get it in on time, April 15. I will give a quick financial update this evening. Our budget for this year is $16 million and change. Year to date through February we have $3.7 million collected which is 23 percent. We should have 25 percent each quarter but already just through February, we have 23 percent. For expenditures we have a budget of $16.9 million. Through February we have spent $2.7 million, which is 16 percent, quite a bit less than the 25 percent we have scheduled.

Administrator’s Report – Mr. Parham said as part of the Cameron Road sidewalk extension we need permanent easements from four of the residents. We have made contact with the residents and they appear willing to make the donation to the City. We
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would like legislation at the next meeting to accept the easements. Three of the affected properties are on Cameron Road at 387, 389 and 393 and the other is 396 Glensharon.

Mr. Parham stated the Butler County Engineer’s Office has made contact with our City Engineer’s office to indicate that they are taking a look at the speed limit on Crescentville Road. They would like to make the speed limit more uniform along Crescentville. In Springdale, from SR 747 to before the residential area the limit is 40 mph. It then turns to 35 mph until you get to Chesterdale. When you get into Sharonville, it’s 25 mph. On the northern side of Crescentville it’s 40 mph. They are going to begin a study that will eventually have them to cover the speed signs and use radar to get the actual speed people are driving.

Law Director’s Report - no report

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Shvegzda said there is no change on the 2012 street repair program. We had the pre-construction meeting with ODOT on the SR 4 paving project. They will begin work on that May 12. The SR 4 culver replacements between Sharon and Cameron are ready to go.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. McNear said there is a letter from the Department of Commerce advising us that all permits to sell alcoholic beverages in our political subdivision expire June 1. Every permit holder must renew the application. If we have objections to any of the permits it does give instruction and an expiration date to run that in to the Department of Commerce.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 6-2013
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CDS ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR DESIGN ENGINEERING SERVICES NECESSARY FOR THE 2013 SUMMER STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Harlow said this covers the material Mr. Parham gave us earlier this evening.

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Squires seconded.

Ordinance 6-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS - none

MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Housing Committee - Mar 22
Planning Commission - April 9
Board of Zoning Appeals - Apr 16
Jaycees Easter Egg Hunt - Mar 30
Opening Day Parade - Apr 13

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none

UPDATE ON LEGISLATION STILL IN DEVELOPMENT

Temporary Event Signs and Banners - Apr 3
Agreement with TEC (Closed Loop Signals) - Apr 17
Zoning Code Change – RV size    - TBD

RECAP OF LEGISLATIVE ITEMS REQUESTED

Redistricting       - Apr 3
4 Ordinances for Easements   - Apr 3

Council adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Marjorie Harlow, President of Council