**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Flaute called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. at the Riverside Municipal Center located at 1791 Harshman Road, Riverside, Ohio.

**ITEM 2: ROLL CALL:** Council attendance was as follows: Ms. Campbell, present; Mr. Curp, present; Deputy Mayor Denning, present; Mr. Fullenkamp, absent; Mr. Schock, present; Mr. Smith, absent; and Mayor Flaute, present.

Staff present was as follows: Bryan Chodkowski, City Manager; Mitch Miller, Service Department; Mark Reiss, Police Department; Bob Turner, Fire Department; Tom Garrett, Finance Department; and Bob Murray, Planning and Economic Development.

Ms. Elizabeth Glaser-Rice was Acting Clerk of Council.

**ITEM 3: EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** Mayor Flaute said Mr. Fullenkamp will be ½ hour late and Mr. Smith is in California at a First Suburbs meeting; both have asked to be excused. A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to excuse absent members Mr. Fullenkamp and Mr. Smith. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. Motion passed. Mr. Fullenkamp arrived at 6:24 p.m.

**ITEM 4: ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:** The agenda was revised prior to the start of the meeting adding item 14 (II) h, Resolution No. 12-R-1675. Mr. Schock said there was a resolution he was wondering if council could put on hold until the next meeting – Resolution No. 12-R-1671. A motion was made by Mr. Schock to table Resolution No. 12-R-1671. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Campbell, abstain; Mr. Curp, no; Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; and Mayor Flaute, no. **Motion failed.**

**ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to approve the agenda as revised. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**ITEM 6: WORK SESSION ITEMS:**

1. Mr. Steve Byington, Chairman, First Suburbs Consortium

Mr. Chodkowski said tonight, he would like to welcome Mr. Byington from the First Suburbs Consortium, who is here to address council on what the First Suburbs Consortium is working on as far as their agenda for 2012. Mayor Flaute welcomed Mr. Byington and thanked him for coming to Riverside.

Mr. Steve Byington, Vice-Mayor for the City of Oakwood, said he was very happy to be in Riverside tonight and happy there wasn’t a full house. He said the last two city meetings he attended had very controversial issues that lasted a long time and hopefully he has broken his streak of long meetings.

Mr. Byington said as mentioned, he is the current Chairman of First Suburbs Consortium of the City of Dayton; he is also a member of the National First Suburbs Consortium and your Council Member, Mr. Smith is at their summer conference now. He said he wasn’t able to attend because Oakwood has one of their big festivities this weekend and he wasn’t able to go. He said for those who might not be familiar with the First Suburbs Consortium, we are a group of 14 municipalities from around the region: Clayton, Centerville, Jefferson Township, Harrison Township, Huber Heights, Kettering, Miamisburg, Moraine, Oakwood, Riverside, Trotwood, Vandalia, West Carrollton, and Washington Township. He said our group is made up primarily of elected officials but we do have some appointed officials that act as members of our group as well. He said their mission is to revitalize mature developed communities and raise public and political awareness for the problems that are going on in our individual communities around the central core of Dayton.

Mr. Byington said we are a consortium of cities that ring Dayton and there are a few that aren’t directly adjacent to Dayton but we found that issues that the first ring suburbs are facing are also being seen in the outer communities so we decided the more the merrier and the sharing of information is very important. He said one of the benefits of our coalition is that it allows members of each individual community to share things about their individual communities that some folks might not be aware of. He said it shows the commonality that we have in issues that are facing us as well as allows us to exchange ideas on how certain groups might be addressing things.

Mr. Byington said we were originally a subcommittee of the National League of Cities; they have a national organization that he sits on as well as Mr. Smith. He said we also have a representative, Jan Vargo from Huber Heights, and Barb Staggs from Trotwood sit on this national committee. He said in 2005, it was decided that the Dayton Region could do a consortium and specifically talk about this area so in 2005 the communities came together and we formed this group.

Mr. Byington said one of the major accomplishments we’ve done is that we have developed a trust level between many different communities. He said before then there was always a sense you had your own individual community with your own set of issues and there wasn’t a lot of sharing of information and ideas. He said he felt that by having a strong group of elected officials on our consortium we’ve really started to develop trust levels between each other.

Mr. Byington said as mentioned before, we’ve brought together a core group of respected leaders that have adversity throughout the region and what we are trying to do now is develop a set of priorities of issues that need to be taken on. He said when we were first formed in 2004, the primary function was to get members together to discuss certain ideas, things that are going on, and get guest speakers to come in to our meetings and maybe talk about certain issues whether it be urban sprawl or regionalism or those types of things. He said most of those meetings ended up with a lot of information being conveyed but there weren’t a lot of action items taken from those meetings. He said he thinks they have gotten to the point now where we have such a trust level amongst all of our group that we’ve really decided that it’s time to start acting on some of the ideas and concepts we have been talking about for all these years.

Mr. Byington said some of the major issues we are looking at right now are to come up with developable policies for regionalism vs. home rule. He said he thinks everybody has heard the phrase “regionalism” and in his estimation it is sort of like “world peace or bipartisanship” – something everybody wants but nobody really understands exactly what it means or exactly how you achieve it. He said regionalism has the complexity to it but we also have the concept of home rule which allows the cities to do what they need to do, so its how do those two things blend together; how do we work together as a region while maintaining our individual identities as cities.

Mr. Byington said also the concept of urban sprawl has been around for a long time and he thinks every community is dealing with it in its own way. He said it’s pretty evident if you look at demographic material that the Dayton Region is not growing in terms of population; its been fairly stagnant and in the past 5 to 10 years there has been a small decrease in the population. He said yet, if you look at the developable land – the land that has green space that has been turned into developed land, we’ve increased that by 40% over the last 20 years. He said it’s a concept that we are not getting more people but we are building further and further out which taxes our resources in terms of infrastructure; money spent on roadways and those types of things. He said as a region, he thought our group was looking to figure out how do we curb that developed growth boundary amongst communities to see if we can utilize the very small resources we get from the State and utilize them better.

Mr. Byington said also the concepts of redevelopment and existing small businesses; he thinks we all see a definite push by communities to bring in new businesses to the area. He said a lot of money is spent economic development wise to draw in new businesses from outside of our region and one of the things he doesn’t think is addressed as much are the businesses that are right here, the ones that have been here 20 or 30 years and are going through tough economic times; how do we help those businesses as well. He said it’s great to have new people come in, its great to bring in new businesses but we can’t forget about or neglect the businesses that basically have been our backbone for a long time. He said there are also the concepts of smart growth and urban growth boundaries; those types of things.

Mr. Byington said some of the accomplishments we have made over the last couple years is we developed a video project that encourages people to understand that if you live in a community that you really love and it has the characteristics that you like but your house suddenly becomes too small; in the past the thought has been let’s just move out to a new development where’s there’s more house – bigger and better. He said we developed this video series to encourage people to fix up their houses and see what kinds of things they can do in their own communities; thinking about staying in their own community first rather than thinking about moving elsewhere. He said those videos have been done on everything from kitchen remodeling to family room remodeling to bathrooms, exterior spaces, and whole house renovations. He said we’ve also been very active with the University of Dayton and their center for public policy. He said we work with the students every year in terms of developing some sort of project for them to work on that relates to first tier suburbs; it gives them the opportunity to get real world experience and it allows us to get valuable research that helps us in our efforts.

Mr. Byington said basically that is his presentation and as he mentioned before, he is making a whirlwind tour of all the communities; we’ve been in the area since 2004, we have representatives from all the communities, and hopefully your members, Mr. Smith, Mr. Schock at one time, and Mayor Flaute was our Chairman last year, have brought information back to your work sessions but he decided to go out to each individual community and raise the awareness of what we are trying to do and encourage you if you have any topics or specific things you would like to see first tiers work on, bring those to your representative so they can bring those to our meetings.

Mayor Flaute said at the next meeting we will be having the three County Commissioners coming in. He said the meeting will be at Moraine and he hopes that folks that come to council will feel welcome to attend because it is going to be a very good meeting. Mr. Byington said if you follow things going on in the news right now, the county has developed a program called MCO Futures, Montgomery County Ohio Futures, and it is an opportunity for people throughout the county to give input on where the county needs to go in the future in terms of shared services; everywhere from education to a lot of other different things. He said one of the things we’ve been interested in at the first tier suburbs group is exactly what their goal is. He said he has been to both the sessions they’ve had at this point and they have been very informative in the topics they’ve talked about but they have been sort of light on what they are trying to achieve. He said using the little pull that we have, we got all three county commissioners to agree to come to speak at our next meeting and that will be the opportunity for us as elected officials to sort of grill them on exactly what it is they are trying to achieve; ask them specific questions on what they see as their methodology for the future. He said he encourages anyone who wants to attend to come. Deputy Mayor Denning said we need them to define identifiable and measureable goals; not just that they what it to be better. Mr. Byington said right; there’s a lot of ways to work together and we are looking for specifics and actionable items that they can tell us this is where we are going in the next two years and this is what we want to try achieve in the next five years. He said he thought those were very realistic things for them to ask of our county officials.

Mr. Schock said also you can make the county officials aware that most the cities in first tiers are already working together and sharing resources. He said we are already doing it but you and I have an idea of where they want to go and it’s not something that is all favorable to us cities as individuals. Mr. Byington said right; as he mentioned before, the concept of regionalism vs. home rule – he thinks they are going down a certain path and he thinks a lot of our individual communities are thinking we need to understand exactly why they are going down that path when, as you said before, a lot of the benefits that go along with regionalism are already being done – shared services, discussion amongst communities looking for every opportunity to come up with something that will decrease our costs while still maintaining the high level of service that we like to give to our citizens.

Mayor Flaute said one of the other advantages of first suburbs is as Mr. Byington said, I was the chair for the last two years and prior to that it was Peggy Lehner who is an Ohio Senator now and the Mayor of Oakwood, Judy Cook, was prior to that. He said Peggy Lehner had a really positive experience being on the Kettering Council and being part of first suburbs. He said she really is a good person to go to and she’s really fighting for what she can in Columbus at this point because she does understand what we are doing. He said a lot of that understanding comes from her being chair of first suburbs. He said she is working really hard for us but it is a tough time right now.

Mr. Byington said another thing he always ends these meetings with is encouragement. He said at one of our meetings a while back he mentioned the fact that at the Oakwood City Council meetings, during the work sessions, they spend a small portion of each meeting talking about issues that go on beyond our own borders. He said he thinks that’s really important that as a council you remember that the first and foremost priority is your own constituents but that we all are part of a bigger region and we need to make sure we discuss those issues. He said if there are things that concern you, bring those up with your representative to the first tiers, so we can take those on as well. He said we really have to raise all votes at the same time and he was surprised that is something some Councils said they don’t do. He said it is something he tries to encourage more and more Councils to do just because he thinks it’s important not only for your own citizens but everybody in the whole region. Mayor Flaute said it’s tough; that was one of the major criticisms he got from Council Member Hankins from Trotwood – he would say “Bill, there is more than just Riverside out there”. He said it’s hard sometimes because you want to think about your own community and work hard for that, but it is harder to think bigger and it teaches you to do that. Mr. Byington said it is a challenge.

Mr. Chodkowski said just out of curiousity, has there been any discussion amongst the first tiers group, perhaps at one of the MCO Future meetings, about balancing that home rule aspect with the regional component on matters that are not judicial. He said for example there is the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission which impacts all the communities in the area; there is the Animal Resource Center which is a benefit to all the communities; there is the Library System; there is Metro Parks; etc. He said all of those have their own umbrella of administration and they have their own organizational set up. He said the talk of regionalism is quick to say that it seems if there was a regional fire department, there would be fewer chiefs and fewer battalion chiefs and if cities had a regional police department there would be fewer chiefs and fewer deputy chiefs and that would save costs. He said wouldn’t it also be true that you could combine all those organizations within a council of governments and knowing that those are all organizations that concern us, has first tiers thought about trying to address the regional component as to how to mold those organizations together in a big council of governments where in most of those instances we have a voice on those boards. He said to be able to combine those together to bring about that regionalism but yet protect home rule at least in this stage of the game. Mr. Byington said to be completely blunt, he thought the difficulties with some of the organizations mentioned is that they are more types of organizations that have a set agenda and don’t deviate much from the specific things they are trying to achieve. He said that’s just sort of a truth; in the case of MVRPC, they are focused on transportation issues. He said he serves on that group so he is guilty as well, but it would be good if they could pull back and say what is it we need to be doing as this group in working with other folks. He said unfortunately because of some of the financial issues at the State, we are trying to solve the nuts and bolts of how to keep all of our roads up and running, our bridges, everything else, that is makes it difficult sometimes to do a lot of the planning he thinks is very important. He said it is something that our group is trying to push and encourage other groups to do.

Mr. Byington said also when you look at the MCO Futures; one of the things he has been disappointed in with that particular group is that they have circumvented the elected officials in that process. He said when they decided they needed to look at a regional approach, it made sense to him that they talk to all the parties that are actually going to be affected by it – the elected officials, the planning organizations, and various different service groups but that didn’t take place; what they have done is they have gone to the citizens and opened it up to everybody to do those things. He said that is question number one that he has for them next week at our meeting; why they have circumvented the public officials and gone straight to the public. He said he thinks all of us have enough experience in the region to understand what kind of shared services are taking place right now and what opportunities are available. He said he could guarantee his City Manager had a whole checklist of ideas of things he would like to see if it was possible and he’s sure Mr. Chodkowski was in the same boat. He said it’s something where we just need to get in front of the right people and make our case. Mayor Flaute said it would be an interesting meeting to have all those folks in one room; it might not be a bad idea. Mr. Byington said the reason he’s guessing that it has to happen is just think about your own group and how many contentious issues you’ve had where you only had this number of folks. He said try getting a group together looking at every single municipality in the area, you are talking 60 to 70 people in a room all with their own individual ideas and their own areas they need to protect – it can be very tough. He said just serving on MVRPC, he’s seen that.

Mayor Flaute said there was a discussion at a first suburbs meeting, one of the national ones, where we talked about trying to get MVRPC to instead of having 78 people on the board – get it down to 6 or 7 so we can really get something done. He said the discussion was had but never really moved forward. He said it is very awkward to have an organization that has 78 people trying to make a decision and if we could get it down to a reasonable number of folks, then he thinks it would not be a rubber stamping group as it is now.

Mr. Byington said one of the benefits of serving on the national committee is we do get to share ideas with groups such as Portland, Minneapolis, Louisville, and Indianapolis that implemented certain aspects of regionalism. He said the key he always tries to stress when he speaks about it is that it is not some great panacea and it is not something you can just pull off the self and say, let’s do exactly what another city did. He said regionalism works when it’s specifically done for the constituents that are being served. He said that means we have to get all of our groups together and identify the issues that are important to us and solve those. He said he can’t rely on some sort of plan that somebody else managed to pull off because it just doesn’t work that way. He said it would be nice if it did but it just doesn’t work that way; it’s going to be a lot of hard work.

With no further questions, Mayor Flaute thanked Mr. Byington for coming in.

b. Joint Session: Health & Safety Commission / Parks & Recreation Commission

Mr. Chodkowski said this is an annual recurring event and this particular work session is with both the Health & Safety Commission and the Parks & Recreation Commission. He said there are representatives from both commissions and he turned the floor back over to Mayor Flaute. Mayor Flaute said we will start with the Health & Safety Commission.

Mr. David Browne of the Health & Safety Commission said our chair, Mr. Tim Schneider, is on official business out of town but there were a couple topics he wanted to address. He said the first item is our dog park; we had our grand opening this year – terrible weather but even with that we had about 15 dogs and 20 people show up. He said we had a guest speaker, Dr. Jeff Shuman from the Beavercreek Animal Hospital, who addressed the primary issues to do with feces and why it is so important to have your dog annually taken care of through your vet to make sure they have their shots and are well protected. He said dogs can pass illness on to other dogs or pass on to humans and we do the same thing with dogs. He said he really gave a good pitch. He said in addition to that Dr. Shuman is going to provide an article we can put in our local newspaper and our city newsletter to cover some of the same things he addressed before. He said if we have another event at the park later this year, Dr. Shuman has offered to come back with his presentation and reach a bigger group.

Mr. Browne said he checks the park on occasion and he has not seen feces anywhere in the park. He said the Service Department may have other comment but he has not seen anything. He said relationship with the people who use the park has been excellent in the evenings and on the weekends. He said the families and residents that back up to that park have been very pleased with what we did with that piece of ground; it was all done with volunteer work and it is being utilized. He said they have dogs that come up to the fence and actually enjoy the company. He said the Service Department brought in some dirt, a recommendation given to him where there was a gravel area with holes here and there, and they filled all that in. He said he also spent some time there on his own lowering the chain fence on the gate because it was up too high for the little dogs. He said he also closed some gaps in the service area just by adjusting things.

Mayor Flaute said one of the things he thought of for the bark park was maybe a bench for people to sit and watch the dogs. He said maybe the Health & Safety Commission would want to do a fundraiser or maybe somebody could pay for a bench out there in memory of someone or something like that. Mr. Chodkowski said that’s an issue that’s already been discussed; when we first talked about this it was a pilot project so we have utilized resources from the city’s inventory. He said right now there is a picket bench that is within the fenced in area; that’s not something we would want in there long term but we didn’t want to invest the labor, materials, and the cost to permanently place some of these items and then find out it was not a success. He said right now this is the test phase and maybe once we get through a season, if it is still well used and well liked by the community we will begin making more permanent adjustments such as permanent benches and extending water service. He said those are things we would upgrade in time once we knew it was being used appropriately and on a regular basis. Mayor Flaute said he didn’t think the city would have to pay for a bench; he has a couple people in his own mind that might be willing to donate a bench.

Deputy Mayor Denning suggested that was something the Stebbins building/construction crew might be able to build. He said that’s a fairly simple project they could possibly be interested in. Mr. Browne said that was an area they tried but it didn’t work at the time. He said as we agreed upon in the beginning when we took this on is that it would be a next to no cost to the city and so far it has been that way. He said he did address exactly what was just brought up and if money is an issue to build some things in there then he is willing to take the challenge and go out and get the money. He said it is something we have discussed.

Mr. Browne said everybody he has talked to that uses the park is tickled. He said he has asked them for the pros and cons and everything has been positive. He said the only negative thing he has seen that could be common to the city parks in general is that those that don’t follow the rule and use the park off-leash; too many people are using Community Park off-leash. He said that’s the one complaint, so people come in being honest and somebody’s attacking their dogs. He said there have been several incidents like that; they do the same thing at Shellabarger Park – open the car and the dogs just run out; we are not supposed to let people do that. He said that is the only negative he has heard.

Mr. Browne said the only other item is our biggest event, the Bike Rodeo. He said that kicks off this Saturday at Rohrer Park, May 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He said the second Bike Rodeo will be on June 9th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Beverly Gardens Elementary School.

Ms. Mary Kay Walters said the only thing regarding the bark park is there needs to be signs – if you don’t know where Community Park is, you don’t know where the bark park is. She said if we had a sign on how to get there and better rules about keeping your dogs on a leash would be the only two things she would address on that.

Ms. Walters said the Bike Rodeo is this weekend and all of you are more than welcome to come out and help in anyway you can. She said we’ve ordered helmets and we fit them, we do donate bikes to the kids so we can teach them to ride safely with their helmets on, we have the Police there to help us out and they run the kids through the course. She said AAA helps us with that also. She said we want our kids to be safe when riding the streets and the sidewalks where they live without any problems.

Deputy Mayor Denning asked if they needed help cooking hot dogs. Ms. Walters said she believed the Mayor was going to be our cook this year and the City Manager is picking our food up for us. Mayor Flaute said he has another commitment later that morning but he can get things started. Ms. Walters said Deputy Mayor Denning can come out and she passed out flyers for the event. She said usually we pass out about 500 helmets between the two events; we start at Rohrer Park because the kids seem to need the helmets more than some of the other areas of the city. She said we do Beverly Gardens on the other one because some of the Airmen don’t make the money everybody seems to think they do and we want their kids just as safe. She said a lot of times if we pick the right weekend the MP’s will come over and help us there. She said we try to get to where the kids are and we can actually speak to the parents to let them know the importance of this. She said we’ve had parents come back to us and ask for another helmet because their child had been in an accident and the only thing that saved them from being hurt was they had the helmet on. Mayor Flaute said we need to collect those stories; it’s amazing. Ms. Walters said we are working on that now. Mayor Flaute said good, because it is so important for people to hear those stories. Ms. Walters said we want the helmets back now because they would like to be able to display the helmets at the Bike Rodeos and be able to say the child is alive because they had on the helmet and it saved them from having any serious head injuries. She said visual means make a bigger impact than just talking to someone. She said we are going to get the helmets back and we will be more than happy to give them blinkers for their bikes so if they are riding at dusk they can turn the blinkers on so drivers will see them. She said if anyone has any suggestions, please come out and see how the rodeos are run, volunteer to help, and if you have some suggestions, we are more than happy to listen. She said you might see something that can be improved or you might like what you see.

Mayor Flaute thanked the Health & Safety Commission members and said we appreciate your work very much.

An audience member asked who pays for what you are doing. Mayor Flaute said we do. Ms. Walters said we have a budget but we also take donations; Ponderosa donates a bike; BMW gives money for stuff like that; and the helmets come out of our budget. She said if we don’t have enough money in our budget, we see if we can’t get someone else to donate. She said we don’t put a strain on the city. Mayor Flaute said they get the helmets at a dirt cheap price. Deputy Mayor Denning asked if Children’s Medical Center donated. Ms. Walters said they used to donate 50 helmets but they have dropped down to 25 and the helmets they donate are toddler helmets. She said it’s a big help to us and the people she goes through are a non-profit so we are able to get them for $5 to $6 per helmet. She said if you go to the store the helmets are $20 to $25 apiece but they don’t have toddler helmets. She said your child has to be fitted because an ill-fitting helmet is worse than having no helmet on at all.

Ms. Walters said there is other information as well; a little girl should never have a ponytail underneath the helmet. She said it’s like having a big rock under your helmet and if you hit it will shove it into your skull and it will crack your skull. She said you wouldn’t think that but it’s a big mass that has no where to go. She said we like to be able to talk to the kids, talk to the parents and explain to them what they need to do; if you are going to wear a ponytail it needs to be at the base of the helmet not underneath the helmet. She said Beavercreek also does a Bike Rodeo and they also get 25 helmets from Children’s but those are the only helmets they give away. She said she likes to rub it in that Riverside does better.

Mr. Fullenkamp asked if after the helmet is fitted do they get a handout to remind them of what they’ve just been told. Ms. Walters said we talk to the parents and then the kids are supposed to sign that they will wear their helmets. She said Mrs. Reynolds, who has been a wonderful Council Member before, has always come to the rodeos and we bought stickers which Mrs. Reynolds helps the kids decorate their helmets. Mr. Fullenkamp said the reason he asked the question is that sometimes people forget. Ms. Walters said we stress to the parents just how important it is to wear the helmets and that they wear them properly. She said once your child grows a little then they can come back the following year or the year after and get another. She said we used to so this in the fall but we realized through some of the feedback that doing it in the spring was better because the kids could wear the helmets all summer long so we changed it up. She said we appreciate feedback from the community because sometimes they can tell us things we are too close to see.

Mayor Flaute asked if it would be appropriate to put up a sign that says if you’ve outgrown your helmet – would you be willing to take them back. Ms. Walters said we were told no. Mayor Flaute asked why. Ms. Walters said it is a health issue; there’s no way we can sanitize the helmets and there are health issues that can be passed to the next child. She said the big thing was head lice. She said the second thing is you don’t know if the helmet has been taken care of and if the straps are secure. She said we will take them back and dispose of them but we can’t retry helmets on. She said the first one was the health issue and the second was the safety and that was from Children’s Medical Center.

Mr. Schock said helmets have a shelf life; after a certain amount of time they are no good. Mayor Flaute said you would think it would be a long time. Mr. Schock said it’s not. Ms. Walter said it’s because you are looking at the attachments to the straps that are holding the helmet to your head; if it’s been in the rain it can weaken the support system. She said she would never want to put something on a child’s head that she didn’t think was safe; if she found out later that the child had been in an accident and the helmet did no good at all, she would feel some responsibility for it.

Mr. Fullenkamp asked if they were discouraging people from handing the helmets down to other kids. Ms. Walters said if you are handing them down to your kids, you aren’t going to hand them down a helmet that isn’t right. Ms. Mitchell said most likely they will come and get refitted for another helmet.

Mayor Flaute asked how many helmets they gave away last year. Ms. Walters said approximately 500; we’ve been keeping better records of that so we know how many we have to order. Mr. Browne said it’s quite an event.

Mayor Flaute asked if there were any further questions for the Health & Safety Commission. Being none, he said they would move on to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Mr. Chodkowski said Mr. McKenzie is the lucky spokesman tonight.

Mr. McKenzie said we really don’t have anything going on but he will entertain any questions. Mayor Flaute asked Mr. McKenzie how long he had been on the commission. Mr. McKenzie said about 6 months. Mayor Flaute asked if things were working out okay. Mr. McKenzie said yes; he was learning as they go along. Mayor Flaute said he was glad Mr. McKenzie was enjoying it and we appreciate his work. Mr. McKenzie added that his dog does enjoy the bark park.

Mayor Flaute asked if the Parks & Recreation Commission was working on any projects. Mr. Chodkowski said he could address that and explain why the commission hasn’t met nearly as frequently. He said you have the Parks & Recreation Commission and you have a budget, account 140 is our parks fund, and largely that is used by city staff to replace broken swings or slides or to put down fresh mulch every year in play areas, those types of things. He said there is $15,000 we budget every year for beautification and in this instance it has been earmarked the last several years as a match to a ODNR Nature Works Grant for the Glendean property. He said in recent discussions with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, they are holding off on making announcements on the grants pending the halfway point of the budget which will be October. He said in subsequent discussions with the Parks & Recreation Commission late last year, first part of this year, one of the things they talked about was partnering with the construction trades program over at Stebbins High School. He said several ideas were discussed at the Parks & Recreation Commission, one of them being some items for the bark park and items that were supposed to be covered under the ODNR Grant over at Glendean and another suggestion was rehabilitation of the picnic shelters. He said in review of ODNR’s delay and consideration that the bark park is in test phase; the construction trades group has agreed to rehabilitate the picnic shelter in Rohrer Park. He said we did just get confirmation of that last week and he has not had the opportunity to brief the commission on that because they have not met yet. He said the construction trade folks are in the process of acquiring an estimate to do the necessary rehabilitation and improvements at Rohrer Park. He said once we have that information it will be ample opportunity for the Parks & Recreation Commission to get back together. He said it is not for lack of want or lack of try by these folks it’s just their ability to make improvements or make changes to the parks is limited because we are financially limited.

Mr. Schock said what got him thinking about the dog park over in the Parks & Recreation area, he got to thinking about pit bulls. He asked if we had anything on the books about pit bulls and if they had to be insured in our city. Deputy Mayor Denning said it’s actually a vicious dog ordinance.

Ms. Walters said it doesn’t make any difference what size they are, if it is reported they are declared a vicious dog. Mr. Schock asked if there was a list of vicious dogs. Ms. Walters said not all pit bulls are vicious. Deputy Mayor Denning said the number one dog that bites is a cocker spaniel; it may not be as bad as a bite from a bigger dog but they bite more often. He said you have to be careful on how you define what it is. Mr. Schock said he thought they were on a list.

Mr. Chodkowski said there is a generic definition which is any dog that is aggressive and it also goes on to define American Pit Bull Terrier, any Pit Bull Terrier mix, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, and the American Staffordshire Bull Terrier are all specifically listed. He said there are the two definitions. Mayor Flaute asked if that was in our code or in the state code. Mr. Chodkowski said our code. Someone said the state just revised theirs. Mayor Flaute agreed and said he thinks we ought to look at that. Mr. Chodkowski said that is part of the codified code that is updated annually.

Mayor Flaute said Mr. Thompson from the Parks & Recreation Commission just came in and he asked Mr. Thompson if there was anything he wanted to add to the discussion. Mr. Thompson said he was running a little late from work but the Parks & Recreation Commission is currently working with the school district hopefully to get some things done in the parks a lot cheaper than what it might cost if done by a company. He said we are looking at something for Glendean or rehabbing shelters at Shellabarger. Mr. Chodkowski said they opted for Rohrer which was briefed right before you walked in the door. Mr. Thompson said everything is going good with the parks other than that; they are getting into full swing. He said we have football getting ready to start and soccer is going strong.

**ITEM 7: RECESS:** The Council took a recess at 6:58 p.m.

**ITEM 8: RECONVENE:** The meeting was reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

**ITEM 9: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**  City Manager Bryan Chodkowski led all those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Flaute said he attended the Montgomery County Law Enforcement Memorial which was for all the Officers in the Miami Valley that had their last day of watch starting in 1980. He said on October 2, 1984 the Village of Riverside’s Larry Siegfried had his last day of watch; he asked for a moment of silence for Officer Siegfried.

**ITEM 10: MINUTES: Consider approval of the minutes of the May 3, 2012 council meeting.** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. Five were in favor; one abstention – Mr. Schock. **Motion passed.**

**ITEM 11: ACCEPTANCE OF WRITTEN CITIZENS PETITIONS:** Mayor Flaute advised citizens to fill out a form if they wished to speak about agenda or non-agenda items.

**ITEM 12: CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:**

1. FYI Items
2. Council Request Sheets.
3. Code Rewrite Request Sheet.
4. Council Agenda Calendar.
5. Weekly City Manager’s Report.
6. Monthly Reports
   1. Fire Department
   2. Police Department
   3. Service Department
   4. Planning and Economic Development
   5. Finance Department

Mr. Chodkowski said you have my report as well as monthly supplemental reports from staff and we would be happy to answer any questions. He said Mr. Murray has an official announcement to make as far as his report.

Mr. Murray said we were awarded the Safe Routes to Schools Grants. He said the award was $280,000 for infrastructure and $25,000 in non infrastructure.

Mayor Flaute said the Fire Department had only 4.5 hours of overtime for the month of April which is pretty darn good. He thanked all the departments for keeping the overtime down and said they were doing a great job.

Mr. Chodkowski said for future reference the Police Department is being contracted to provide safety support to the Route 35 Project so next month you will notice a spike in that department’s overtime, but that is all being paid directly by the contractor. He said while you will see that rise, the city will be receiving compensation for that.

**ITEM 13: PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**  There were no public comments on agenda items.

**ITEM 14: NEW BUSINESS:**

**I. ORDINANCES**

**a. Ordinance No. 12-O-490 declaring improvements to certain parcels of real property located in the City of Riverside, Ohio to be a public purpose under Section 5709.40 (B) of the Ohio Revised Code, exempting such improvements from real property taxation, requiring the owners of such parcels to make service payments in lieu of taxes and establishing a Municipal Public Improvement Tax Increment Equivalent Fund. (FIRST READING)**

Mr. Chodkowski said this ordinance is to establish the Airway TIF District as council was briefed at its last meeting by Mr. Murray. He said he or Mr. Murray would be happy to answer any questions.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to read Ordinance No. 12-O-490 for the first time in its entirety and approve its first reading. Mr. Schock seconded the motion.

Ms. Glaser-Rice read Ordinance No. 12-O-490 for the first time in its entirety and Mayor Flaute asked if there were any comments or questions from members of council.

Being none, all were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**b. Ordinance No. 12-O-491 authorizing the City Manager to execute a sales agreement with the owner of land located at 2713 Troy Pike in Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio and being Parcels R72 17002 0037 for the amount of Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars ($22,000.00) in furtherance of the Eintracht Recreational Project. (FIRST READING)**

Mr. Chodkowski said this council previously agreed with respect to the Eintracht Recreational Project that this ordinance authorizes the purchase of 2713 Troy Pike.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to read Ordinance No. 12-O-491 for the first time in its entirety and approve its first reading. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion.

Ms. Glaser-Rice read Ordinance No. 12-O-491 for the first time in its entirety and Mayor Flaute asked if there were any comments or questions from members of council.

Being none, all were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**c. Ordinance No. 12-O-492 authorizing the City Manager to execute a sales agreement with the owner of land located at 2703 Old Troy Pike in Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio and being Parcels I39 100525 0031 and R72 17002 0045 in the City of Dayton for the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) in furtherance of the Eintracht Recreational Project. (FIRST READING)**

Mr. Chodkowski said with respect to council previously being briefed on the Eintracht Recreational Project, this ordinance authorizes the purchase of property at 2703 Troy Pike.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to read Ordinance No. 12-O-492 for the first time in its entirety and approve its first reading. Mr. Schock seconded the motion.

Ms. Glaser-Rice read Ordinance No. 12-O-492 for the first time in its entirety and Mayor Flaute asked if there were any comments or questions from members of council.

Deputy Mayor Denning asked if the property address was 2707 or 2703 because it states both in the ordinance. Mr. Murray said 2707 is the Eintracht Club itself; 2703 would be someone else’s property. Deputy Mayor Denning said so we are buying the additional property but the project is listed as 2707. Mr. Murray said correct. Mayor Flaute asked what property 2713 was. Mr. Murray said that is the house in the City of Dayton; both purchases get us all the private property around the Eintracht property.

With no further discussion, all were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**II. RESOLUTIONS**

* + 1. **Resolution No. 12-R-1668 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Aero-Mark Pavement Marking Specialists, as the lowest and best bidder for the 2012 Pavement Striping Program.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the city to enter into a contract with Aero-Mark Pavement Marking Specialists for our 2012 Pavement Striping Program.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1668. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Flaute said he wanted to just go back to the ordinances for a moment and thank everyone for the work they have done. He said he knows it has not been an easy project and he just wants to say thanks to staff, especially Bob Murray, for all their hard work on this. He said it’s going to be a great thing for our city.

**b. Resolution No. 12-R-1669 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Booher Blacktop, the lowest and best bidder for the 2012 Mill & Fill Repair Project.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the city to enter into a contract with Booher Blacktop who was the lowest, best, responsive bidder for the 2012 Mill & Fill Repair Project.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1669. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**c. Resolution No. 12-R-1670 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Booher Blacktop the lowest and best bidder for the 2012 Water Main Break Repairs.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the city to enter into a contract with Booher Blacktop with respect to the Water Main Break Repair contract for 2012.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1670. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**d. Resolution No. 12-R-1671 initiating text amendments to the Codified Ordinances of Riverside, Part Eleven – Planning and Zoning Code, Section 1181.15 (b) Prohibited Signs.**

Mr. Chodkowski said pursuant to the request of council, this resolution is to authorize and direct the Planning Commission to evaluate a text amendment in Section 1181.15 (b) of the Zoning Code for the City of Riverside.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1671. Mr. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Schock, no; Ms. Campbell, no; Mr. Curp, yes; Deputy Mayor Denning, no; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; and Mayor Flaute, no. **Motion failed.**

**e. Resolution No. 12-R-1672 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with American Pavements, Inc. as the lowest and best bidder for the 2012 Crack Sealing Project.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the city to enter into a contract with American Pavements, Inc. for the 2012 Crack Sealing Project.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1672. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**f. Resolution No. 12-R-1673 declaring the necessity of improving certain streets between certain termini in the City of Riverside, Ohio, by lighting the same with electricity.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the assessment of street lighting for the Valley View Subdivision.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1673. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**g. Resolution No. 12-R-1674 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Ohio CAT of Troy, Ohio for the purchase of a new Caterpillar 420EST/GP Loader/backhoe with accessories, less the trade in value of a 2002 Case 580SM Loader/backhoe, for a total price of $70,000.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the purchase of a backhoe/loader for a value not to exceed $70,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1674. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Denning said we’ve needed this for a while – right? Mr. Chodkowski said yes; we have put as many Band-Aids on as we can with the existing backhoe.

With no further discussion, all were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**h. Resolution No. 12-R-1675 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible and best bidder, D & M Excavating, Inc., for the Brantwood Section One Project.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to authorize the city to enter into a contract with D & M Excavating for the Brantwood Section One Project.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1675. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**ITEM 15: PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Ms. Sally McCarthy of Barrett Drive said going into Eastwood Park there is a left turn lane at the first entrance but at the second entrance by the lake there is not a turn lane. She said it is a bad situation because cars are traveling at 45 MPH and suddenly there is a car that wants to turn left at the lake. She said possibly there isn’t anything the City of Riverside can do but it is an unsafe situation. Mayor Flaute said that is the City of Dayton but we can pass this on to them.

Ms. Edyth Ann Mitchell of Mayapple Ave. said when she was in high school there was a professor she remembers very well and one of his lectures was on the assets of our future and what they would be. She said his prediction was water was going to be valued higher than gold; we probably have not reached that point yet but someday, she believes he will be correct – water will be one of our most valuable assets. She said in Riverside we have liquid gold running underneath us, through our grounds, up in our basements and raining down upon us. She said one of our big problems is we do have a large source of underground water and it does come up in springs in various areas depending on who’s building what and where and when and they have changed over the years. She said various different neighbors have tried to come up with various solutions, especially when we were a township and the solutions may have helped them but created problems for others. She said she had a neighbor across the street from her who decided to fill in his ditch and everyone on her side of the street ended up with his mud and water to the point that one neighbor had sludge in his driveway. She said of course the neighbor across the street was made to dig it back out but most of the ditch doesn’t work anyway.

Ms. Mitchell said our biggest problem with the water is that in the past it has always been patch work here and there with everybody having their own idea of what to do and how to correct their problem. She said it is a virtual patchwork – we are not only a city of 7 islands but we are a patchwork city. She said we need to tie everything into a unified plan and right now the city doesn’t have the resources or the money and the citizens are the ones who will eventually pay for it in one form or the other. She said in today’s economy, they really don’t have the money. She said now would be a good time for us to plan for the future on how we are going to address this problem in a unified manner so that when we do something it is not going to solve a problem for one person and create a problem for another further down the road which is what has happened in the past mostly before we became a city – we inherited a lot of problems.

Ms. Mitchell said in researching our water assets, instead of letting the water manage us and becoming a liability, it would be wise on our part for us to manage our water and keep it as an asset so that in the future it can become our liquid gold.

Mayor Flaute thanked Ms. Mitchell and said we will keep your comments in mind as we continue to move forward. He said we are working on that as hard as we can.

**ITEM 16: COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:** Mr. Fullenkamp said he just wanted to recognize Mr. Joe Loy in the back being a good volunteer citizen and doing something he thinks is very important. He said he wanted to personally thank Joe and said he knew Joe will put a lot of work into this over the next years. He said what Mr. Loy is doing is very positive and he thanked him. He also thanked the audience members for coming tonight.

Deputy Mayor Denning said he attended the Stebbins Air Force Junior ROTC award ceremony and one of the awards they gave was a Certificate of Appreciation as well as a silver coin to the City Of Riverside. He passed the items to the City Manager and said it was quite enjoyable to see the young folks get their awards and the City gets a lot of recognition and he doesn’t think we seem to appreciate that enough. He said it was really good to be there.

Deputy Mayor Denning said he has flyers for everyone called “Take a Pie for the Challenge” which is for the Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society’s fundraiser June 2nd and 3rd. He said if we sell 500 illuminaries at $10 a piece, the Mayor will take a whipped cream pie in the face. Mrs. Denning added that the Mayor agreed to take more if people really excelled. Deputy Mayor Denning said the City Manager is also going to take a pie if the departments raise $200 – Service Department $200, Fire Department $200, Administration $200, etc. He said if the department raises $200 to put a pie in the manager’s face and the department buys illuminaries with the $200, it will also go towards a pie in the Mayor’s face. He said we talked to some folks who wanted the Deputy Police Chief to take a pie and he has agreed if the Police Department raises $1,000. He said the Deputy Chief has also agreed to take an additional pie for every additional $200 they raise above the $1,000. He said if they take that $1,000 or $1,200 or whatever they raise and buy illuminaries with it, the Mayor will be taking more pie. He said the City Manager has stated if the Deputy Chief takes a pie then he will take an additional pie. He said those are the challenges for pies in the face which we will be doing on Saturday evening. He offered literature for the illuminaries as well as information on Relay for Life.

Mrs. Julie Denning, Chairman for Relay for Life Riverside/WPAFB Area, said the card the Deputy Mayor is talking about shows other services the American Cancer Society provides for cancer patients, caregivers, and survivors. She said there is an 800 number that is good for around the world and any one who has been diagnosed with cancer or has a family member who needs services, they can call this one number to the American Cancer Society and they will be hooked up with organizations as close to where they live as possible. She said if a cancer patient needs a ride to treatment, we have volunteers that will come and take them to treatment. She said it’s a lot for caregivers sometimes and those treatments can be everyday. She said its kind of limited respite care without respite care and it’s a way to give the caregivers a chance to find out what’s available in their area and what’s going on. She said that’s one of the many things the dollars raised through the relay pays for.

Mrs. Denning said if anyone is interested they can be part of a cancer study doing a CP3 where they take just a little bit of blood and you fill out a survey. She said she believed you had to be between the ages of 25 and 60 and every couple years you will get a survey that asks about your eating habits, your weight, illnesses, things of that nature and this is how they learn about certain cancers, finding treatments, and how to help people through their recovery. She said that’s the reason we are celebrating more birthdays.

Mrs. Denning said if you didn’t know there is also a chemotherapy drug the American Caner Society is working really hard on, another place the dollars go, and this is a drug that is taken orally with less side effects. She said now we have to work with our legislature to make sure our health care companies are allowing it because people can do this at home. She said they are finding that less people are losing hair with this drug and that’s one of the big things. She said she could go on but she would just ask for everyone to come out to the Relay – there’s a lot going on and the money is really needed so no one else has to hear the words “you have cancer”.

Deputy Mayor Denning said he apologized for high jacking the time but this is something that is near and dear to his heart and he really appreciates council and everyone’s participation. He said this is one of those projects that he believes could make this city into a community and he thought it would bring everyone together for a main cause. He said he believed this was a positive thing for the City of Riverside and also teams us up with WPAFB which is a good thing.

Deputy Mayor Denning said he wanted to thank staff for everything they do for us. He said he knew everything Mr. Murray did to get the Safe Routes to School grants and he thinks it very positive for the City to be working with the Board of Education; we are doing this project together which is another community as a whole project. He said the Eintracht is coming together and he really appreciates everything everyone does.

Mayor Flaute said the Bike Rodeo is coming up this weekend, May 19th from 11:00 to 1:00 at Rohrer Park. He also had the Air Force Magazine, the Vectren Foundation Report for anyone who wants to see those. He said Vectren did donate $4,000 for the Eintracht project. He said he also received our membership from the National League of Cities which has been good for us as we continue to work on many of the projects there. He said he did 10 weddings these past two weeks and those are really coming in fast and furious which is a good thing.

Mayor Flaute said we have the Unsung Hero Award Breakfast and as many of you have heard me talk in the past the Unsung Hero is a person who has Appalachian roots and have worked quietly in the community. He said Ms. Campbell was an Unsung Hero, Mr. Chodkowski was an Unsung Hero, and our former Mayor Johnie Doan was an Unsung Hero. He said we have another Riverside resident being added to that and her name is Brenda “Sissy” Long. He said if any of you know Brenda, she is president of the Festival Committee and she’s been very active in our community. He said she was recognized by the Appalachian Board and they keep getting the good people from Riverside. He said Ms. Campbell, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Schock helped in getting that nomination to the Board and it was greatly appreciated.

Mayor Flaute said he also went to a luncheon for the Ground Water Protection at the UD Campus along with the Children’s Water Festival and the City of Riverside was once again recognized as a ground water guardian. He said we are protecting the ground water and there are a lot of reasons for that including having the ordinances in place to protect our ground water because, believe it or not, all the ground water that goes to Dayton and surrounding areas comes from Riverside. He said we are the protectors of the groundwater and we were recognized for that.

Mr. Schock said this is the third largest aquifer in the United States.

**ITEM 17: EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Curp, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. The council entered into executive session at 8:17 p.m.

**ITEM 18: ADJOURNMENT:**  The council came out of executive session at 8:29 p.m. and a motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to adjourn. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

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William R. Flaute, Mayor Clerk of Council