**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Flaute called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 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, present; Mr. Schock, present; Mr. Smith, present; and Mayor Flaute, present.

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

**ITEM 3: EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** There were no absent members.

**ITEM 4: ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:** There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

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

**ITEM 6: WORK SESSION ITEMS:**

1. Aesthetic Improvement Plan

Mr. Chodkowski said city council passed as part of my evaluation earlier this year that we extrapolate from the Forest City Master Development Plan a comprehensive view of the major thoroughfares through the city to determine what elements we might be able to take and make uniform as opposed to some of the more non-unifying features. To that end, I asked Assistant City Manager Christian to go through and evaluate some of those components and put together a report in response to council’s request. That report was included in your packet but for the purposes of a presentation and question/answer, we thought it would be appropriate to give a PowerPoint Presentation on the matter.

Ms. Christian said we put together an aesthetic improvement study and this presentation will summarize that with some of the highlights and we will give you our recommendations for the 2013 budget. We focused on the main corridors of the city and for each project we identified we looked at cost, labor, planning, inter-organization coordination, feasibility, timeline, and potential impact.

Ms. Christian said getting into the projects we identified, one of the areas we looked at was street lighting and there was a few different projects we identified. The first one would to be to change the bulbs in the street lights from Mercury Vapor, which burns white, to High Pressure Sodium, which actually burns yellow and is more energy efficient. Miami Valley Lighting, our lighting provider has actually been changing Mercury Vapor bulbs as they went out but we would recommend escalating this process so when you look down a corridor all the lights are burning yellow as opposed to some burning white and some yellow. We also looked at street poles; in an area where wooden poles were the majority, we would recommend taking out the steel poles and replacing those with wooden; then in areas where we had more metal poles, we are recommending the aluminum poles which is Miami Valley Lighting’s standard that they use now when taking out the steel and wooden ones.

Ms. Christian said we looked at signage and we want to see that all of the city entrances and street names and all of that are in blue and white that we’ve had for a standard for several years now. We also looked at new entrance signage for the city parks. She displayed an example and said the signage at the city parks looks dated and this will add a little uniformity to that and visitors would know they are in a Riverside Park when they see this motif. We also looked at some directory type signage in the city parks; right now a lot of the parks have the rules and other information posted on metal signs on the fencing. She displayed another example and said this is something that’s a little bit nicer that would have the maps and the rules and point out items, such as at Community Park it would point out the bark park. You would see this kind of signage right now in Five Rivers Metro Parks for example. We looked at some of the roadway signage; she displayed a photo of the wayfinding sign on Springfield Street that points out different landmarks. We would recommend putting that kind of signage in a lot of other areas throughout the city and she displayed photos of areas where the signs would be appropriate. We looked at the monument signage installed at some of the other places in the city and she displayed photos of the entryway signs. We would like to install more but we have some changes to it; we would do metal instead of brick for cost savings and that is an area where we can show visitors a little more of a welcome than the smaller signage we have right now. The final thing we looked at for signage is mast arm banners and she displayed some photos from West Carrolton. We can put those on utility poles and say “Welcome to Riverside” and it is something we could change out seasonally.

Ms. Christian said some other projects we looked at along roadways were landscaping and mast arm traffic signals, which we have at Woodman and Linden. It’s a huge cost so it would be something we recommend phasing in over several years so eventually all our traffic signals would be that style.

Ms. Christian said I’ve thrown quite a few projects at you and we recognize we can’t accomplish all of those in 2013 so we ranked our top five items we would like to see: street lighting bulbs changed to high pressure sodium for a cost of $744.00; wayfinding signage along roadways for a cost of $15,000.00; larger metal signage at city entrances for a cost of $2,506.40; mast arm traffic signals at a few intersections recommended to start at Harshman and Valley for a cost of $150,000.00; and new signage at entrances to city parks for a cost of $12,375.00. The total is $180,625.40; the mast arm makes up the biggest portion of the cost and we are looking at some options to lower that cost. Mr. Miller is working with the Village of Evandale that might have a donation that they are not using, so that price could go down.

Mr. Fullenkamp said back to the wayfinding sign photos; I know the one on the left looks much prettier than the one on the right but the one on the right is readable. What I’ve noticed about the sign on Springfield at Harshman is that it’s very difficult to read the information, so I wouldn’t recommend that approach unless we can increase the lettering size so people can read it while they are driving. Ms. Christian agreed. Mr. Smith said if you eliminated some of the wording you could make the letters bigger. Mayor Flaute said even then it would still be smaller than the Air Force Museum and Rohrer Park signs. Mr. Fullenkamp said for road signage, readability is critical; that’s my point. Deputy Mayor Denning said especially at the speeds of those roads. Mr. Fullenkamp agreed.

Mr. Smith said you mentioned in the report you are changing out the wooden poles to metal and some of the metal to wooden; going green and thinking along those lines, what about painting the metal poles brown similar in color to the wooden poles. Ms. Christian said that’s an option we could look at. Mayor Flaute said that might be good in the beginning but in a few years the poles will become weathered.

Mr. Smith said the report says to make the city more attractive and more appealing for businesses to move into our city; do you think making these improvements will entice businesses to want to come to Riverside. Ms. Christian said that would be our hope; you would hope that when potential business comes to the city, they are going to come to the city before they make the decision to locate in our city and our hope is that they see the aesthetic improvement and that we have our act together. Mr. Smith said with the road projects we have proposed, Harshman and Valley, you mentioned putting the mast arm signal there which would make sense while we are changing that out; we are going to be doing Woodman at Rt. 35 so that would be a good time to do that intersection instead of doing this all at once. Ms. Christian said right.

Mr. Schock said one of the things that will help since we are talking about the aesthetics and appearance, one of the things I’ve complained about before is forgotten-about telephone poles that have been left and have wires hanging down. Most of the wire I see hanging down is television cable wire. Make these telephone and cable companies responsible for their equipment, wiring and poles, and when they are done with it, they must remove it. That’s something we need to work on now and that would help a lot with the aesthetics. We never send rules to these companies on how things should be maintained aesthetic-wise and we should look at that now; legislation or whatever we can do to force them to clean up their mess. I don’t know how far we can go to do that but the poles I’m thinking about on Old Harshman have been abandoned for 5 years now; they put new poles up and never took the old ones down. I don’t know how council feels about that but I think we should have our Law Director look into that to see what we can do as a council and city to force them to clean it up. It’s terrible we have to force somebody to clean up their backyard but its something we have to look into.

Mr. Smith said you bring up a good point and several years from now we are going to be faced with cell towers when we go to satellite phones. Mr. Schock said we have addressed that so you are on the right track but this is telephone wires that have been around since the turn of the century – 18th century. Mayor Flaute said I haven’t noticed that many of them but I don’t look up. Mr. Schock said you don’t see much up where you live because it’s all under ground but in the plats where all the service is above ground, you’ll see abandoned lines dangling. The city doing the part with putting poles up is going to help but if the service companies don’t come back and police up their areas, it’s not going to look any better.

Mr. Chodkowski said one of the things we had talked about was co-location; for example the southeast corner of Airway and Woodman there is a telephone pole there within 3 feet of the electrical. So there is telephone and cable wire there that can be taken out and attached to the electrical. Mayor Flaute said DP&L allows that. Mr. Chodkowski said it depends on the particular utility, the utility provider, and the franchise agreement; for instance, we are charged an annual fee to rent space on the poles for the solar power systems at the bus shelters. So depending on how DP&L applies that policy, there are instances where we may want utilities to co-locate but if they have to lease space on someone else’s pole, then maybe it is cheaper for them to just stick a pole in the ground. That’s where we have to go back and look at the franchise agreements to determine what rights and privileges these companies have and at what time do these rights and privileges expire or are up for renegotiations. I don’t disagree Mr. Schock when you say there are utility systems that are very visible in the city that aren’t utilized to the extent that they once were but whether or not we simply have the ability to pick up the phone and call SBC or Ameritech or whoever it is and say come out here and move your poles, that’s another issue we can look at. I don’t disagree there are opportunities to improve the appearance of the city by addressing those underutilized utility systems.

Mr. Schock said there are abandoned poles and we can start there, and then work on to your project of combining utilities on one pole. Mr. Chodkowski said if the county or township in whatever capacity granted a carte blanche utility easement to AT&T who owns the infrastructure for 50 years then AT&T has the right to put their stuff where they put their stuff. Mr. Schock said yea but when it’s abandoned and not being used, have it cut down. Mr. Chodkowski said that depends on what’s in the franchise agreement; I agree with you but am not prepared to say definitively yes we can or no we can’t, we have to do other research to determine if we have the ability to do that if that’s a priority you want us to address. Mr. Schock said if you plan on doing these projects, first you have to clean up the existing. This is an excellent plan, there’s nothing wrong with it but let’s clean up what we got then dress it up.

Mayor Flaute said in the recommendations, the last one you have is new signage at the entrances to the city parks for $12,000.00. One of the issues that has come up is the Bark Park; there no signage to the Bark Park and now I’m seeing this as the very last thing you want to do so that means there won’t be any signage to the Bark Park until 2014 or 2015, is that fair to say? Mr. Chodkowski said no, those are the 5 projects we want to do in 2013; these signs were just last on the pricing list. If you want them first on the pricing list then they’ll be first on the pricing list. Mayor Flaute said for $12,000.00 it’s not a lot of money and we can get the parks looking good and at least put a sign up that the Bark Park is back there. Mr. Chodkowski said we would schedule all 5 of those projects you saw on the chart. Mayor Flaute said we can’t do the $150,000 one; we would do that slowly.

Mr. Chodkowski said what would happen is on the mast arm traffic signals, we would list this as an add/alternate in the bid specifications for the project. We would ask every contractor to tell us what it would cost to put this in and it might not be $150,000, it could be less and it could be more or it could come in at $150,000 but if the Re-HEAT technology comes in at a price we believe is appropriate and less than traditional paving methods, it’s possible enough dollars would be freed to include this add/alternate without exceeding our total budget of $3.5 Million. So, is it more likely that street lighting, wayfinding, metal signage, and the park entrance signs will be a reality at the end of 2013 – yes. There’s no priority, we are just simply saying out of all the projects included in the plan, and there were several, those would be the ones we would want to start with in 2013.

Mr. Smith said you mentioned something about Evandale and a possible mast arm there. Mr. Chodkowski said yes; the Village of Evandale is in receipt of a grant from the state and they are cycling out several mast arm traffic signals for decorative mast arm traffic signals that are 15 years old or so. There’s nothing structurally wrong with them; they are only being cycled out for appearance’s sake. Mr. Miller has done some horse trading and the Mayor of Evandale has agreed to sell those mast arms that are coming out to Riverside for scrap value. We are in the process of trying to determine exactly what the weight of those systems are so we can make a determination on exactly how much money we would need to acquire several systems. We would utilize those for the traffic signal at Woodman and Burkhardt, in front of St. Helens, in front of City Hall, as well as the signal in front of Mad River Middle School. It’s highly unlikely the majority of those projects would be done in 2013 but for relatively nominal expense compared to the figure shown, those could be done in 2014. Our only issue would be transport to here from Evandale and then storage until such a time the units were installed. Mr. Smith asked how you would ship something like that; it’s welded together isn’t it. Mr. Chodkowski said they are modular components that are bolted together. Mayor Flaute asked if we could haul them in our trucks. Mr. Chodkowski said no, we would have to rent a flat bed. Deputy Mayor Denning suggested a reality show like Shipping Wars.

Mr. Curp said I think this is a good start; one of the items we talked about back in March was landscaping, streetscaping, that sort of thing, and I’d like to see us stretch ourselves a little bit more and see if we can come up with things in that area. For example, if we had somebody looking at locating in the Riverside area and they were downtown and coming out to see what we had to offer here, chances are they would come out Springfield Street instead of coming out Rt. 35. When you take a look at the entryway at Smithville and Springfield, it seems to me there are things we could do to make that area more presentable for a good stretch of that area. We already talked about the TIF program for streetscapes around Airway Shopping Center and there are things we can do there with assessments to speed that along so we can get something with a little kinder look and more pleasing than the sea of asphalt. I’m sure the Shopping Center has some plans to do some things but those might be some areas we could look at to deal with aesthetics and to spruce up some of these key areas.

Mr. Smith said adding to that, we could buy up some of those houses along Springfield Street on the south side and clean up the area to make it more aesthetically pleasing as you drive down through there; maybe some incentives for the business owners to improve the exterior of their buildings. Deputy Mayor Denning said we need to figure out a way, if we can, to incentivize the folks but if we just put nice new curbs and sidewalks down through there it would be tremendous. I don’t know if we can use CDBG money or if we can try to get grants to do some of that. Also nice new clean looking lighting – can we use CDBG money for that? Mr. Chodkowski said there are a couple different things you can do; one of the things we’ve been cognizant of is cost for example, we identified the median of Woodman Drive from Rt. 35 North to Burkhardt. You have the grass median inverted dish line there and that presented itself for some street tree opportunities so we spent some time researching if there were funds available such as Arbor Grants and we even went to far as to reach out to the 1.000 Cherry Tree project to see if they would make plantings available for us to place at those locations. Unfortunately that didn’t quite turn out to work in the way we wanted but we were already thinking along those lines. Our greatest hurdle is resources but if council wants to make those resources more readily available that would free us up to work at a greater rate to address some of those items.

Mr. Chodkowski said on Springfield Street for instance, we actually approached the City of Dayton with a joint jurisdictional improvement project. The south side of Springfield which is in Riverside is also within the flood plain; the north side of Springfield is within the City of Dayton and to the best of our knowledge at that time all those industries along the north side of Springfield wanted to expand but were bound by parking requirements and other zoning constraints put on them by the City of Dayton which is not untypical of what we do. We had proposed to work with the City of Dayton utilizing FEMA to acquire properties located within the flood plains through hazardous mitigation and the plan was we would contact property owners immediately abutting Springfield Street, utilize FEMA dollars to purchase their properties at market value, and then we would demolish those properties and create a streetscape with parking on the south side of Springfield to allow for 100% lot coverage on the north side for those businesses to expand. The City of Riverside and the City of Dayton would cooperatively pay for the streetscape improvement and then the expanded businesses would eventually come forward and pay off the debt for those streetscape improvements. Unfortunately the City of Dayton did not want to participate in that project nor did they want to participate in a corridor study we had proposed. Several years later they did undertake a small corridor study themselves of that very same area.

Mr. Chodkowski said we’ve done our best to look at ways to improve where we can, unfortunately with the make up of our community and with who our neighbors are and what other capital responsibilities we have, sometimes these issues are a little more complicated than we would like but we remain ever conscientious of the fact that we need to find ways to, as Mr. Murray puts it – improve cute, because cute sells. Mr. Smith asked if the FEMA dollars are still available. Mr. Chodkowski said yes. Mr. Smith asked if there was a restriction on what we have to do with the properties. Mr. Chodkowski said basically you would have to upgrade the property to insure that it no longer would be subject to damage from a flood. You would literally have to elevate all the first floors or significantly increase the grade of all those properties if you were to put structures back on them to begin with, which was why the parking lot scenario made the best sense and to have that trade off there. Effectively the entire Floral Park neighborhood, if you wanted to mitigate it from the flood plain, you would have to acquire every parcel, raise about half and lower the other half; for every 1 cubic foot of flood plain you take up, you have to create 1 ½ cubic feet. The possibility is there to do something unique with that area. Deputy Mayor Denning said it would make great soccer fields. Mr. Chodkowski said significantly time consuming project. Deputy Mayor Denning said the soccer people are asking for more soccer fields. Personally, I would prefer soccer fields to parking lots unless we have some way to get a positive cash flow out of it.

Mayor Flaute said before we go on to lighting do we want to pretty much agree this is what we should be working towards in 2013.

Mr. Smith said speaking about the lighting, with the Center of Flight up in the air on how we are going to redesign that and build that out, is it wise for us to go in there and change out those light bulbs. I know it’s a minimal cost.

Mr. Fullenkamp said lets talk about lighting; explain to me this contract that will give the city favorable pricing for making changes and updates. What is the length of our current contract because they talk later on that they don’t want to talk about LED lights unless you have a 10 year contract. Mr. Chodkowski said effective January 1, 2013 we will be rolled into the Miami Valley Communication Council’s group contract which is set to expire December 31, 2014. Mr. Fullenkamp said a one year contract, no 2 years. Mr. Chodkowski said 2 years and we will be part of a 25 or 26 community negotiated contract that comes thereafter. Specific to the Center of Flight the actual lighting is a specially contracted lighting system which was agreed to between the City and DPLER at the time the Center of Flight was constructed. We selected the poles, those poles were confirmed as acceptable by DPLER, they were installed, we sub-leased the poles from DPL and then they power and light the poles through Miami Valley Lighting and provide maintenance as well. Admittedly, that lighting system has not worked out to the benefit of DP&L and they have spent significantly more time, dollars, and maintenance to keep the system operational than they actually make from the system; so there will be a time when DP&L will be more willing and wanting to upgrade and change that lighting at least specific to the Center of Flight. Based on how I have taken the contents of the Aesthetic Improvement Study, the recommendation to make the change to the high pressure sodium bulbs is to those areas excluding the Center of Flight and the Center of Flight area at some point in time would have its own lighting system apart from that which we are looking at in this study.

Mr. Fullenkamp said I’m concerned about assuming the high pressure sodium is the right choice and I think it’s something we should think about a little bit more. There are other approaches; we know there is mercury vapor, high pressure sodium, metal halite, LED; and there’s another one called induction lighting with similar characteristics as LED in terms of longevity and they are actually better than LED in terms of these problems that crop up with LEDs, the efficiency is almost equivalent, and they tend to offer a wider range in lighting color. So I think before we go and shift everything to yellow lighting in our thoroughfares, we should think about it a little bit and as part of the long term plan in where we want to be in 5 years. I know there will be lots of changes because it’s in their best interest to change it; I’m assuming now when a light system fails and they change it to high pressure sodium, they don’t charge us. Mayor Flaute said I assume they are working in our best interest also; I would hope so. Mr. Fullenkamp said I’m concerned about the look of HPS especially at Center of Flight that would be terrible with that yellow hue and I’m not sure it would be good for any of our thoroughfares.

Mr. Chodkowski said would it be more appropriate for staff to look at perhaps the bottom 4 recommendations as it relates to 2013; those seem to be relatively germane, some of the concerns council has had, and then just after the end of the year, we can come back with and amended improvement study which would include comments to address Mr. Schock’s suggestion as well as some of the more landscape related items referenced by Mr. Curp as well as follow up with DP&L on some of the other lighting.

Mr. Fullenkamp said I would really be interested in talking to a couple vendors regarding this induction lighting; it’s something that’s not talked about right now because LEDs are the hot thing but induction lighting is supposed to be very efficient and maybe up front, a little lower in cost.

Ms. Campbell asked if the yellow lighting was less expensive. Ms. Christian said actually it would be an increase in cost for us just because we are escalating it, but over time it’s supposed to be more energy efficient so over time we will pay less on our lighting. Deputy Mayor Denning said and the bulbs last longer. Do they use the same fixture so it’s just a bulb change? Mr. Fullenkamp said it’s a ballast change too. Deputy Mayor Denning said so they are replacing everything inside the head of the fixture.

Mr. Curp said if you’ve been past the new entryway at Airway and InfoCision, you see metal poles that are there holding the traffic lights and that sort of stuff; you see how much better the metal poles look than the wooden poles. I can see us taking a look at on major thoroughfares, Woodman, Airway, Springfield, Harshman, Linden, and swapping out all the wooden poles for metal poles. I think that would be another improvement in appearance. The priority is set with recommendations to put metal poles in some places and wooden poles in other places but I would like to see us swap out the wooden ones to get metal poles; maybe get a cost on that. I’m not opposed to doing this it would be fine; when we take a look at the dollar cost we are only talking about $30,000 and most that stuff is contracted out. If we exclude the mast arm, I think we can get that done this year; why would we want to wait until next year. There are some budget resources where $30,000 is not being spent; it’s just the way we are budgeting. We’ve got 4 items and we can make some quick aesthetic improvements; it’s all contracted out and we don’t have to use our in-house resources to do that.

Mr. Smith said in reference to the metal poles vs. the wooden poles; I know in a crash, the wooden pole will break away and absorb some of that shock. What about the metal pole. Mr. Chodkowski said typically they are bolted on to a foundation; if it is hit by a car it probably won’t break off, if it is hit by a semi truck it probably will, but a lot of that has to do with physics. They are specifically designed to be break-away systems.

Deputy Mayor Denning said I agree with Mr. Curp; I think the aluminum or metal pole is going to make the city look much nicer and they stay looking nicer a lot longer than the wooden poles. The wooden poles look good for 5 years but then they deteriorate and weather and I think in the long run, it may be a little more up front cost or it may take us a little longer to do it but I think the metal poles are going to make us, as a city, look more modern and less township like, less rural. Mr. Smith said with the technology they have today the paint on those metal poles lasts a lot longer than it did with the street lights. I agree it would be more aesthetically pleasing to have the metal poles as opposed to the wooden poles.

Ms. Christian said we do have the cost per pole but we need to find out how many poles we need.

Mayor Flaute said okay then we’ll go ahead with it; there’s not a lot of time left this year as far as weather and those kinds of things.

Deputy Mayor Denning said did we look at the fences at the parks; to me, especially the 6 foot fences that may or may not have barbed wire on top are not user friendly or inviting. Did we look at that and some way to fix that? I know at Community Park we need some sort of barrier along Harshman but I don’t know that a 6 foot fence with barbed wire on top is the most inviting thing for the city to put its best face forward. Mr. Chodkowski said we did look at decorative guard rail but unfortunately, typically here in America – what you see is what you get; so almost every manufacturer that produces guard rail for use in the United States produces that corrugated tri-fold stuff that’s already out there. We were able to locate some decorative guard rails but they were European or South American manufactured; we printed out the specifications and we are trying to run those specifications against ODOT specifications and other state specifications to guarantee that it will hold up to what it needs to hold up to here in the event we want to be able to utilize it. We are already aware of the fact that the old military fencing that borders Harshman at Community Park serves a purpose but we need something new and we need something different there and there are several other areas where we have very expansive sections of guard rail that we could definitely improve the look of the city if we could swap those out; so we are very much aware and we are looking into it but unfortunately you would be amazed at what you can’t find when type in guard rails. Deputy Mayor Denning said even around Shellabarger, basically there’s 6 foot fence there but it’s all full of honeysuckle and all that so if we would take that down and clean that area up it would make that whole park more inviting. That throws in a whole other game of people running through from the neighborhoods and maybe its not necessarily a positive thing but we need to weigh those two things – inviting and openness vs. a fenced in this is ours type thing; for Rohrer Park too.

Mr. Fullenkamp said maybe that’s an idea; right now it’s honeysuckle but maybe planting something like ivy on those fences would soften that.

Mr. Smith said then you would restrict the view into the park; the residents that back up to the park may not want the honeysuckle removed. You may upset their privacy. Deputy Mayor Denning said is it on our property? I understand what you are saying but to me honeysuckle is an invasive plant and it’s not a positive thing, just like the honeysuckle along the entrance ramp from Springfield Street to Harshman coming this direction – it’s green but to me it’s a negative thing for us as a city for that to be there. Honeysuckle is listed as an invasive plant by ODNR and they are taking it all down along the Mad River because it’s not a positive thing. It’s just something to think about.

Mr. Smith said so when we say go forward, are we talking about doing it this year. Mayor Flaute said this year has 3 months left and 2 of the months aren’t really working months. Mr. Chodkowski said we are in the process of going through and evaluating the funds from 2012; a lot of that money we are probably going to spend, a prime example is we actually received bids today to paint city hall, the service building, and the sign shop. Take a look out front – you can see the paint peeling off the building and all that needs to be done. Understanding that some things we had in the budget weren’t going to occur, this is a good opportunity for us to utilize these funds. We were recently notified that the in-car cameras for the cruisers, the company is no longer going to offer extended warranties so we have to upgrade to an entire digital system somewhere in the ballpark of $70,000; we are also looking at utilizing excess funds on the fire side – we have cardiac monitors in need of replacement. We are trying to make sure that every dollar that’s been appropriated, if the product that’s assigned to it didn’t go forward that we are doing the best we can to utilize those dollars in a positive way. In the event we can get some of this work contracted or these signs ordered or whatever particular item we can with the dollars that are available we’ll do that but we do plan on bringing forward some final supplemental appropriations and one of those will be to help account for some of the work we need to have done and would like to have done by the end of this year. If not it will have to be done next year.

Deputy Mayor Denning said I know we put in for an ODNR grant for the Glendean property again which is $15,000 in the parks budget and the signs are $12,375; if we don’t get the grant, I know signs for the parks has been on the hit list for the Parks and Recreation Commission for at least 5 years. Mr. Chodkowski said they lost our ODNR Grant as well as 35 other community’s so they called and asked us to resubmit our information and as a result of the misplacement of 36 applications, they had originally delayed determinations until October but because of this new discovery they will delay the determinations until November. We will not know whether or not we are a 2012 recipient until 2013. In the interim, one of the things we did do was we did establish a relationship with the construction trades program over at Stebbins High School who will be reroofing and improving the Rohrer Park Shelter. About $8,000 of the $15,000 will be dedicated to the roof; they will be placing some faux stonework on the pillar base on the lower side of the structure and I’m not sure what that cost will be yet. The roof has been leaking for quite some time so all of the sub-structure needs replaced. Mr. Fullenkamp asked how big it was. Mr. Chodkowski said maybe 20 foot wide; I’m assuming each pylon is 10 feet apart and there might be 6 pylons on the long side; I can’t recall off the top of my head. Deputy Mayor Denning said it’s probably 30’ x 60’ – it’s pretty big.

Mr. Smith said so we are going to pursue a deal Evandale. Mr. Chodkowski said yes; Mr. Miller has done quite a bit of horse trading so ODOT gave us four 30’ poles that was surplus and they were just going to throw away. Those are too tall to be used at any location we want and they can’t support mast arms by design so we are going to trade those for scrap so we can take that plus whatever else we need to get mast arms from Evandale.

Mayor Flaute thanked Ms. Christian for the presentation and said we look forward to seeing those improvements as soon as possible.

b. Employee Health Insurance Plan

Mr. Chodkowski said as I have notified you all previously through my weekly manager reports this city was actually notified 2 years ago that because of its size of group in the pool that Anthem and eventually United Health Car would no longer be offering the traditional low deductable PPO program that we currently utilize now. Anthem was kind enough to extend for this year our current plan because we were under contract with the four labor units regarding health insurance so as a result we are required to change to a high deductable PPO plan starting in 2013 or change to a high deductable health savings account plan. The city administration as well as our insurance broker, Brower Insurance, has gotten together with each of the units and at the end of the day has made a determination that in the best interest of the city and its employees the transition from the low deductable PPO program to the high deductable HSA program is most appropriate. As a result of this program what will happen is the traditional health insurance premium will come down by several hundred dollars per month; in exchange for that, prior having conditions cover 100% of our health insurance, the employee is required to pay a significant amount out of pocket up front. So what happens is we, the employer, want to help our employee get started in making this transition but at the end of the day we also want to make sure that the employee is contributing a fair and equal amount so that they are making the right choices on how they spend money towards their health care. What we would like to do today is to explain how an HSA works, exactly why we need to make this change, how we plan on accommodating this change for the deductable as well as the premium, and what that means to the city, long term and the first 5 years compared to current rates and what we are about to show you has a projected cost reduction of approximately $500,000 over the next 5 years. Ms. Christian said $600,000. Mr. Chodkowski said there is a positive to the city in respect to this program and there are positives to the employee with respect to this program.

Ms. Christian said as the city manager was explaining we have a relatively small group size in the insurance world and they have been cutting the traditional plan for larger sizes as well but we cannot offer the traditional low deductable PPO to our employees in 2013 or beyond that. The health insurance committee got together this summer and we discussed different plans that were available to us and decided on a recommendation.

Ms. Christian said the recommendation is the High Deductable Health Plan with a Health Savings Account. A High Deductable Health Plan is a plan that has a minimum annual deductable which is actually set by the IRS. In conjunction with the High Deductable Health Plan there’s a Health Savings Account and that is the account employees and employers make deposits into to pay for medical expenses towards whatever that deductable is. The IRS sets a minimum deductable then insurance companies have different plans with different deductibles that are at that minimum or higher. We looked at some different plans that Brower and Anthem had for us with the understanding we will get concrete plans and costs later on this year; we would recommend the $2,500 single and the $5,000 family deductable. Basically you would use the money in your HSA to pay for medical expenses until that deductable is met. After the deductable is met in any given calendar year, the insurance company will pay for any remaining medical expenses.

Mr. Fullenkamp asked what the minimum deductable was with the IRS. Ms. Christian said they change it every year but it is somewhere around $2,000 for single and $4,000 for family. We’re a little above it but not hugely above it.

Ms. Christian said another point is HSAs are not a use-it-or-lose it type thing, so if you do have money in your account and you don’t meet the deductable for any given year that stays in the individuals account. As the city manager was explaining the premium is quite a bit lower for the High Deductable Health Plan and in addition to that; the employees would be contributing at the levels that they are required in the Personnel Policies Manual or their collective bargaining agreements for the premium. Then our recommended contributions are: 80% of the deductable for the first 2 years, 50% of the deductable for the 3rd year, and then 20% of the deductable for the 4th year and subsequent years. We did look at what the typical spending is out of HSA accounts and all of that and you would think this would be very adequate for employees to get their HSAs started and be able to fund their medical expenses.

Mr. Curp said in your comments, did I hear you say if they don’t use all the money in their HSA for one year they can roll it to the next year. Ms. Christian said yes, it rolls over. Mr. Curp said are we contributing 80% right off the top or are we paying 80% against any actual claims. Ms. Christian said it will be 80% and we are going to divide it quarterly but it will be 80% of the deductable at the beginning. Mr. Curp said so for a $5,000 family plan, 80% of that would be $4,000 and if they only have $1,000 in claims in year 1, then they are getting $3,000 from the city rolled into the next year along with another 80%. Ms. Christian said yes for the first 2 years, that is why we are recommending the de-escalation of contributions because we recognize for a lot of people, they will not use that whole amount.

Mr. Smith said I think part of the reason for that was to take the burden off the employee. Mr. Curp said I understand that but if an employee only uses $1,000 in year one, the city is committing $4,000, then going into the next year there is $7,000 with the city contribution going into their account as opposed to only the $4,000 for that year. Does that continue to aggregate year after year after year; is there some point in time it is reset to zero or whatever that year’s contribution is or do we continue to accumulate money in each person’s account over the life of their employment here? Mr. Fullenkamp asked if they walked away with this money if they leave employment with the city. Mr. Chodkowski said yes, the money is transported. Related to the information that you see, Ms. Christian had talked about the fact that we had run statistical information on what an average person will expense to their HSA annually. Based on that information, typical use is somewhere between $1,200 and $1,500 so keep in mind at the start of this program we are putting in 80% which is $4,000; 20% is barely enough to cover the average expense. So to make it palatable to the employee related to how they have to invest their money, ultimately at the end of the day the purpose of this plan is to ensure that the vast majority of funds deposited to the HSA to cover the deductable actually come from the employee and not the employer. We do acknowledge the fact that to start this program, we are recommending this policy you see before you and that is to allow and enable the employees to make the transition from what is a typical traditional PPO plan with no deductable to a HSA. The trade off is deductable rates rise at a higher rate when the insurance company is aware of the fact that the employer is paying the vast majority of the expense for the employee. The employee has to make no conscience decision about I’m not feeling good I’m just going to go to the doctor. The point of the program is to be able to drive the end use behavior and if the program is affective it drives down the increase in the premium costs. There’s a very fine balance you have to have to make this transition and do so in a way that is palatable to the employee but still ultimately works to the benefit of the city.

Mr. Fullenkamp said that’s the point but what are the premium differences going to be and shouldn’t the employees be encouraged to take that premium difference and throw it in their HSA. Mr. Chodkowski said that’s exactly what we encourage them to do; so right now based on the numbers we know today the current family premium is $1,210 per month; under the HSA the current rate for the program we just pitched is $850. Mr. Fullenkamp said $400 per month savings. Mr. Chodkowski said correct; we have told every employee and we did at the time we negotiated all the labor contracts that this was coming – either a HSA or a High Deductable PPO, that because of the premium change and their contribution in their premium, if they simply diverted – right now labor unions are paying 15% of the $1,210, next year they will be paying 15% of $800 – so if they take that difference and throw it in the HSA, they’ve got to come up with an extra $50 per year.

Mr. Fullenkamp said so why are we cutting another check for 80% for the deductable, so the 2 added together is effectively 70% to 80% more. Mr. Chodkowski said our 80% plus what they put in comes close to covering the deductable. Mr. Fullenkamp said they are saving $400 per month. Mr. Chodkowski said no, they are saving 15% of $400. Deputy Mayor Denning said the city is saving $400 per month per employee.

Mr. Chodkowski said keep in mind that as proposed, assuming all rates remain the same, total savings to the city under this proposal over the next 5 years is half a million dollars. Mr. Smith said for years we have been paying 85% of the employee’s premium and in 4 years we are only going to be paying 20% which is a tremendous savings. Mr. Fullenkamp said we are going from no deductable to high deductable.

Deputy Mayor Denning said they can’t use that money on anything other than health care. Mr. Chodkowski said they can but they pay a penalty. Ms. Christian said that’s on them when they do their taxes. Mayor Flaute said what if they walk away from the city and take that with them. Ms. Christian said they still need to use it on health care costs. Mr. Chodkowski said it’s not free money, you can’t just say since I left the City of Riverside I’m going to go buy myself a Mercedes; you can only use that money for medical related expenses, for instance, we don’t have a traditional dental plan here, we have a discount plan that we have to pay 100% out of pocket, you can use the money in the HSA towards dental or eyeglasses. There becomes more uses for the dollar that’s put aside and you are increasing the benefit to the employee at the same time you are reducing your own costs overall.

Deputy Mayor Denning said we aggregate a lot of other stuff such as the electric with other municipalities; is there a way for us to aggregate our insurance so we could become part of a larger group and save possibly more. Mr. Chodkowski said you don’t want to do that because your insurance premium is not based on the size of your group, it’s based on the total number of claims and value of said claims of your group. Deputy Mayor Denning said so the older your group, the worse it is than if you had a lot of younger people. Mr. Chodkowski said yes; in our instance we typically have a negative major medical claim every year within our pool – a cancer or a heart issue or something along those lines; we typically tend to have 2 to 3 positive large health care claims such as a baby; but the vast majority of our claims tend to be maintenance claims and those tend to be relatively minor. Huber Heights as a larger pool had a 40% to 50% increase last year and this year will be between 30% and 40% increase. They have an HSA, their pool is twice the size of ours, and the reason for that is they’ve had such large and significant negative claims. Deputy Mayor Denning said so in theory it sounds good but in practicality, it’s not so great because there are other rules. Mr. Chodkowski said the theory was under a traditional PPO if you expanded your group especially with a younger group, you could drive your rates down because you had fewer high expense claims.

Mr. Smith said as far as the employee taking this health care plan, it’s no different than taking their PERS with them when they move on. Mr. Chodkowski said correct; that’s one way to look at it.

Ms. Christian said speaking of budget effects, I put together a table for the next 5 years but keep in mind these are all estimates; I don’t have official pricing from Brower or Anthem yet. She reviewed the table which details what they expect the savings to be. For the first year we are only at $5,000 but as the city’s contributions go down towards the deductable the third, fourth, and fifth years the city’s savings are pretty significant. As the city manager was explaining, $600,000 we will be saving over 5 years as opposed to a traditional plan premium where it’s $200,000 more. Mr. Fullenkamp asked what inflation factors are being built into this. Ms. Christian said 9.5% for both premiums.

Ms. Christian said our next steps for this if council feels this is a good way to go; we need to amend the Personnel Policies Manual with an ordinance, so we plan to have that on the October 4th agenda, then when we do have the actual pricing, we will have a resolution to approve that on the December 6th agenda. The amendment to the Personnel Policies Manual will basically be the slide showing the city’s contributions.

**ITEM 7: RECESS:** The Council took a recess at 7:18 p.m.

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

**ITEM 9: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Clerk of Council Mary Ann Brane led all those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

**ITEM 10: MINUTES: Consider approval of the minutes of the September 6, 2012 council meeting.** A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. Six were in favor; one abstained – Mr. Fullenkamp. **Motion passed.**

**ITEM 11: PRESENTATIONS:** Mayor Flaute said as many of you know the last couple years the First Lady of the United States has been pushing for the Worldwide Day of Play and she is asking that all cities have a proclamation recognizing that Saturday, October 6, 2012 is a Worldwide Day of Play. He read the proclamation. A motion was made by Mr. Schock to sign the proclamation. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

Mayor Flaute thanked council and said on that day we need to encourage our residents to enjoy our parks.

**ITEM 12: 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 13: CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:**

1. FYI Items
2. Council Request Sheets.

1. Council Agenda Calendar.
2. Weekly City Manager’s Report.

(2) 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 included in your packet as well as supplements from staff and we would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this information.

Mr. Smith said you mentioned something about a possible business park on the northeast corner of Valley and Harshman; whereabouts would that be. Mr. Chodkowski said Mr. Murray and his staff is working with the McMahan family; they own all of the property located behind the Speedway station all the way over to Spicewood Drive; so they are in the process of working with Mr. Murray and his staff to basically demolish all of those structures, extend a public road from Harshman between the Taco Bell and Akashi all the way through to Spicewood, creating 6 lots or so. Mr. Murray said 6 or 8 lots, 1 ½ to 2 acres. Mr. Smith said but they would leave the car wash alone. Mr. Chodkowski said yes.

Ms. Campbell asked who would be responsible for the upkeep. Mr. Chodkowski said the road being proposed would be a public street so Mr. McMahan would have to have that street constructed and then it would be turned over to the city.

Mayor Flaute said the water main breaks that were in Mr. Miller’s Service Department report; first round of repairs are complete and they are currently working on a list of repairs which developed after the proposal was let. Can we have a copy of where those are - which ones are done and which ones still need to be done? There were a lot of them out there and I want to make sure they were all on the list. Mr. Chodkowski said we can supply that information.

Mayor Flaute said Harshman and Valley Street, I’m glad to see that was approved; have we heard about Burkhardt yet? Mr. Chodkowski said no we have not; typically OPWC Regional meets about this time and we haven’t been noticed when the meeting is but they will meet prior to the end of the year and make a recommendation on which projects should be funded and which shouldn’t be funded. I can tell you that based on the information that was presented at the last Manager’s Round Table meeting, the OPWC received 10 less applications this year than it did last year, so while the dollar amounts in the requests remain about the same; the total number of requests has decreased. Hopefully that is good news for us but we will have to wait and see. Mayor Flaute asked if we would know before we get a budget. Mr. Chodkowski said we should know prior to the final approval of the budget; we won’t have the information when we present our first draft or two but when council goes to finalize it November or first part of December, we should have confirmation whether or not Burkhardt will be funded.

Mr. Fullenkamp said do we think we will know before we begin the Harshman Road project. Mr. Chodkowski said yes. Mr. Fullenkamp said so there is still an opportunity to piggy-back those 2 together and maybe have some savings. Mr. Chodkowski said that is correct; I believe the project on Harshman/Valley is scheduled to be let in January with an award in March, so the timing of that would be tricky because we cannot award a contract on Burkhardt until we receive notice on July 1st. Mr. Fullenkamp said so maybe it’s a little optimistic in terms of putting the two together and getting some of those savings. Mr. Chodkowski said it depends on if we are able to properly put them together; obviously there are price hold issues for contractors who are going to bid that early in the year for a project that is going to come that late. We’ll see how that goes.

Mayor Flaute said the new restaurant at 8815 Burkhardt Road, Asian Steakhouse Bistro, is that the Chinese place next to Clancy’s. Mr. Murray said yes. Mayor Flaute said when do you expect that to be open. Mr. Murray said they keep delaying that so I’m not sure; it’s still 2 months, it’s been 2 months for 4 months. It is looking good and it looks to be upscale. Mayor Flaute said very nice.

**ITEM 14: PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**  There were no public comments on agenda items.

**ITEM 15: NEW BUSINESS:**

**I. ORDINANCES**

**a. Ordinance No. 12-O-497 to amend the Codified Ordinances of Riverside, Part Nine – Streets, Utilities and Public Services Code, Section 931.01 (h) Definitions. (1st READING)**

Mr. Chodkowski said as we were proceeding earlier this year with the waste collection bid process, we noticed that in council’s current legislation, in Section 931, the legislation specifically cites Waste Management as the vendor. As we all know Waste Management is not our current vendor and they may not necessarily be our vendor in the future, so after discussion with the Law Director, she encouraged us to bring forward legislation to remove that specific reference. That’s what this legislation does and that’s why it is being presented to council this evening.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Denning to read Ordinance No. 12-O-497 for the first time in its entirety and to approve the first reading. Mr. Schock seconded the motion.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 12-O-497 for the first time in its entirety and Mayor Flaute asked if there were any questions or comments from members of council.

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

The second reading and consideration of adoption for Ordinance No. 12-O-497 will be October 4, 2012.

**II. RESOLUTIONS**

* + 1. **Resolution No. 12-R-1717 recognizing the Riverside Area Chamber of Commerce’s “Hometown Holiday in Riverside Ohio” as a function that promotes the public health, general welfare, and contentment of the Citizens of the City of Riverside.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution recognizes the Riverside Chamber of Commerce’s Hometown Holiday event as a function that promotes the public health, safety, and well being and as such, designates a contribution of $250 towards the event.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1717. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**b. Resolution No. 12-R-1718 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this resolution is to set the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission for collection by the County Auditor in fiscal year 2013.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to approve Resolution No. 12-R-1718. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion passed.**

**ITEM 16: PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**  Mr. Terry Hoskins of Mayville Drive said for years we have not had any playground equipment in Drennen Park. The Mayor and I had a discussion about this when he came through on Mayville and he said the city might not have the finances. Our kids up there cannot enjoy the park, they at least need a slide and a swing set.

Mayor Flaute said I was looking at getting playground equipment there and I was told there was playground equipment there. Mr. Chodkowski said I believe there is a play structure in the park right off of Penn. Mr. Miller said there used to be but I haven’t checked it lately.

Mr. Hoskins said there are no swings and there is no slide; there is just one built from the neighbors several years ago. They took it upon themselves to build it. The kids can’t even go to the park and enjoy it.

Mayor Flaute said we’ll have to look into that again because I had set up people to come and look at it and I was trying to get some funding for it and then I was told no, there is park equipment there already. Mr. Hoskins said we don’t have anything like Shellabarger Park has, we have nothing.

Mr. Curp said that park is on my walk and there is playground equipment in that park; what’s not there is the old metal slide that was taken out years ago because of safety issues and it no longer met the safety standards. The old swing set that was there was taken out years ago for the same reason; safety standards have changed. There is playground equipment in there as the manager says, it’s back towards the entrance off of Penn Avenue; it’s a nice piece of equipment. Mr. Hoskins said the only thing there is like you would buy and put in your backyard for your kids or grandkids – am I right? Mr. Curp said no, it’s commercial grade. Mr. Hoskins said commercial grade; did the neighbors put that in or did you put that in. Deputy Mayor Denning said we put it in. Mr. Hoskins said well you moved it to make it a little safer for the kids but we don’t have a slide or swings or anything like Shellabarger has got. Mayor Flaute said I’ll have to go check it. Mr. Hoskins said please, and come to my house and get me.

Mr. Hoskins said we have had a lot of ill feelings about the zoning lady removing yard sale and garage sale signs; if it’s not right for those kinds of signs, why political signs and why real estate signs, and just driving over here, you have the Haunted House sign which is on the right of way. What’s the difference? Mayor Flaute said well garage sale signs are allowed. Mr. Hoskins said but not on the right of way, I understand that but why the real estate signs – you can put them on the right of way; why can’t you put the other signs on the right of way, people advertising. Mayor Flaute said we are right now looking at that for our code; it went to the Planning Board at the last meeting and the Planning Board recommendation was that it come back to council, so we are really studying that and working really hard on that, Planning Board has been working on that, so you will see something come out of this council in the next couple of weeks as to what kind of signs are going to be appropriate and what kind are not. That’s all in flux right now because this council is trying to figure out the best way to handle that situation. Be patient with us a little longer.

Mr. Hoskins said one more thing and I’ll sit down, I was coming up Spinning Road coming out of the Air Force Base there on Saturday and from the end of the housing where the service people live at up until Burkhardt Road there was 10 yard or garage sale signs on the right of way. Does the zoning lady work on Saturdays? Mayor Flaute said she does not work on Saturdays. Mr. Hoskins said well maybe it’s time to change her a little bit and start next year giving her some Saturday work to get the signs pulled up and give her a Sunday and Monday off. If you are going to clean it up, clean it up right, don’t be half-hearted about it. Mayor Flaute said you’ll be hearing about it in the next couple weeks. Mr. Hoskins said I hope so but also playground equipment for the kids. Mayor Flaute said I’m surprised about the playground equipment; I have to go check that out. Mr. Hoskins said come and get me, I’m retired and I’m home all the time.

**ITEM 17: COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:** Deputy Mayor Denning said 2 years ago a young man passed away that worked for the township for a time, his name was Darrin Bigby and we called him BA. He had issues with his heart and he passed away in his early 40s. He was a Volunteer Fireman for awhile, he was a dispatcher when the township had dispatch for the police department, and he was a full hearted Jaycee. Saturday the Jaycees started an account for a scholarship fund in his name that we will be giving away at Stebbins High School every year but we have to have a way to fund that. So the Jaycees combined with a motorcycle group called The Rascals and they are running a motorcycle ride from the Haunted House out and back on Saturday, registration starts at 10:00 until noon and it will be about a 4 hour ride of 61 miles. I just wanted folks to know and be a part of it if they would like to be; this was a young man whose heart was in the township. He graduated from Stebbins High School and his heart was here in this community – not this city, this community and I think it’s important that we support those kinds of things.

Deputy Mayor Denning said the other thing I wanted to mention is the Haunted House opens tomorrow night; come out and support that group also because the money they raise from that Haunted House goes to support this community – Easter Egg Hunts, needy food baskets at Thanksgiving, they also fund Christmas for the needy and we keep it in Riverside. I think it’s important that folks know that Haunted House supports this community, it doesn’t support somebody’s pocket, unlike most of the other haunted attractions in the area.

Mr. Schock said I have noticed that the cruisers have been at Stebbins High School during the 20 MPH times; do they do that at all the high traffic schools? Mr. Chodkowski said typically, I think Chief can answer more directly, but yes I am aware they will go sit on Spinning in front of East Dayton Christian, go sit in front of St. Helen’s, and sit is some other areas as well. Mayor Flaute said I’ve seen them in front of Carroll. Chief Reiss said we try to monitor the school zones and encourage them around the schools and grammar schools during opening and closing times to watch for speeders and suspicious people. Mr. Schock said keep it up, I enjoy that and it is a good way to keep the people down to 20 MPH and keep the people from running the red lights, especially at Valley and Harshman.

Mr. Smith said there is a lot of foot traffic there when school lets out. Mr. Schock said even when it starts; I’m surprised at how many children walk to school at Stebbins because we’ve talked about Safe Routes to School before and I was surprised how many actually walked; I walked to school but I thought that was a thing of the past. I was very impressed seeing the cruisers out there making sure everyone got there safely and they got home safely. I was very proud of the city for putting their foot forward to address that issue. Thank you.

Mayor Flaute said the National Aviation Hall of Fame - some of us will be going to that tomorrow night. Mrs. Brane said I think it’s October 5th, it’s a Friday night. Mr. Schock said right, it’s the Presidential one at the Air Force Museum, that’s the one he is going to. You usually go to the one downtown. Mayor Flaute said right but that’s $150 and I’m not sure anyone is going to that; I usually do but I didn’t know if I wanted to spend $150. I will be attending the International Ball also in October. The Ohio Municipal League is having their conference in Columbus on November 1st and 2nd; there are usually a lot of exhibits and a lot of workshops and if anyone didn’t get an invite to that, I have one here. I went and talked to some folks about the Victory Project which is in downtown Dayton; they are working with youth that are getting close to getting in trouble. They have education, entrepreneurship, and enlightenment, so they find jobs for these folks and anybody who’s interested in the Victory Project, I have information. I also have the annual report for the Juvenile Division of the Common Pleas Court for Montgomery County if anyone is interested in that. There is also information on a Light the Night Walk for Leukemia.

Mayor Flaute said I went to the Anniversary of the Battle of Britton which was also very interesting; it was the 30th time they’ve had this and the Battle of Britton was actually in 1945 where we helped Britton out. Deputy Mayor Denning said 1941. Mayor Flaute said we helped Britton and that changed a lot of things for them, so every year we celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Britton.

Mayor Flaute said I had a gathering with General Moore; keeping that relationship going.

Mayor Flaute said I only had 3 weddings in the last 2 weeks so it’s slowed down a little bit. The Dayton Daily News guy isn’t here but we do appreciate the positive news article and I’ve heard a lot of good comments from that. I’m very pleased Dayton Daily News is doing that positive stuff for us.

**ITEM 18: EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Mr. Schock to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Schock, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Curp, yes; Deputy Mayor Denning, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. The council entered into executive session at 8:00 p.m.

**ITEM 19: ADJOURNMENT:**  Council came out of executive session at 8:12 p.m. and a motion was made by Ms. Campbell to adjourn. Deputy Mayor Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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William R. Flaute, Mayor Clerk of Council