

Minutes of the Syracuse City Council Regular Meeting, August 9, 2011.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse City Council held on August 9, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 1979 West 1900 South, Syracuse City, Davis County, Utah.

Present: Councilmembers: Alan Clark  
D. Matthew Kimmel  
Matthew Ocaña  
Douglas Peterson  
Larry D. Shingleton

Mayor Jamie Nagle  
City Manager Robert Rice  
City Recorder Cassie Z. Brown

City Employees Present:

Public Works Director Mike Waite  
Police Chief Brian Wallace  
Information Technologies Director TJ Peace  
Finance Manager Steve Marshall  
Recreation Director Kresta Robinson  
Police Lieutenant Tracy Jensen  
Recreation Superintendent Chad Smout  
Recreation Program Coordinator Holly Thurgood  
Administrative Assistant Monica Whitaker

Visitors Present:	Kriste Miles	Craig Johnson	Karianne Lisonbee
	Amy DeVries	Al Collins	Kelly Anderson
	Terry Palmer	Laurie Reefs	Brian Duncan
	Chris Lessig	Pat Zaugg	Ray Zaugg
	Braxton Schenk	Cynthia Beene	Lurlen Knight
	Austin Barber	Carolyn Beeston	Andrew Beeston
	Peggy Ornelas	Doug Edwards	Beverly Hurd
	Mike Norton	Alex Nay	Neca Allgood
	David Moore	Kim Call	William Backus
	Jolene Anderson	Marla Call	Michael Child
	Colleen Thurgood	Veronica Johnson	Chris Willie
	Alan Jensen	Annette Penrod	Dale Penrod
	Karen West	Andrea Montierth	Greg Wetzel
	Jim Reef	Kyle Barber	Alan Norton
	Rodney Austin	Bud Miller	Dennis Boyer
	Robert Young	Heidi McCowen	Joan DellaSilva
	Edith Reniker	Shelly Thorne	Thomas Mellars
	Sandy Jensen	June Thurgood	Charlie Aola
	William West	Scott Thorne	Clifford Montierth
	Shellie Alvord	Greg Day	Mindy Talbot
	Don Kingsley	Brad Wilcox	Travis Shingleton
	John Showman	Brock Anderson	Joannie Panucci
	Cheri Mayer	Sig Mayer	Jessy Jeffers
	Kim Schuler	Scott Barbieri	

1. Meeting Called to Order/Adopt Agenda

Mayor Nagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. as a regularly scheduled meeting, with notice of time, place, and agenda provided 24 hours in advance to the newspaper and each Councilmember. She asked all visitors present if any wished to provide an invocation or thought; Councilmember Clark provided an invocation. Councilmember Kimmel then led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCILMEMBER CLARK MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA. COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Work Session Meeting of May 31, 2011 were reviewed.

Councilmember Kimmel stated he found a couple of typographical errors in the minutes. He stated page 22, line seven includes the word guild and it should be changed to guilt. He added that page 23, line 22 includes a reference to the sewer board, but it only includes the word "sewer".

COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF MAY 31, 2011 AS AMENDED. COUNCILMEMBER OCAÑA SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

### 3. Public Comments

Amy Devries, 2433 W. 1425 S., stated that she is here tonight to discuss the City's recreation program. She stated she is speaking for herself, but she also feels she is representing several football coaches that can not be in attendance this evening because they are practicing with their teams. She stated that she recently wrote a letter to the editor of the Standard-Examiner and her comments are similar to the information she included in the letter. She stated that she feels very strongly that the City needs a recreation program. She stated there are a lot of kids living in Syracuse City; so many that it is necessary to have year round school to accommodate them. She stated it may not be the City's responsibility to offer recreation, but every other city in the area offers recreation. She stated there are many reasons to offer recreation including keeping kids off the streets, keeping them out of trouble, keeping them busy, and helping them to be proud of where they are from. She stated there are many more reasons that she could provide if given the time. She stated she feels it would be a disservice to a growing community to eliminate recreation. She stated she heard today that there is talk of selling the Community Center. She stated the Center offers arts programs and senior citizen programs and she hopes that the Council, Mayor, and people of Syracuse would think long and hard before letting that happen. She stated that in the long run the City will notice children causing trouble and no where to go after school. She stated that the City will lose the sense of community and children will not want to give back to the community in which they grew up. She stated that recreation is more than football; it is basketball, volleyball, tennis, karate, and golf. She explained the City has done a fantastic job of encompassing almost any recreational interest that one can think of. She stated there are programs offered to kids and senior citizens alike and it is her understanding that the programs virtually pay for themselves; the fees are used to pay for the program and portion of Recreation Department staff salaries. She stated the entire recreation staff does a great job. She stated that any Councilmember is welcome to call or email her if they want more information from her. She stated she feels strongly that recreation should not be eliminated from the City.

Heidi McCowan, 3235 W. 2700 S., stated she is also present this evening to discuss the recreation program. She explained that she has been a resident for 15 years and has actively participated as a volunteer coach for seven years, during which time she has coached over 18 different sports teams. She stated that this year she was inducted into the Syracuse City Recreation Hall of Fame. She stated she is very proud to be part of such an outstanding organization. She stated it was recently brought to her attention that the Recreation Department may be eliminated and her objective tonight is to express the importance of the recreation program and what it means to the youth of the City. She stated that offering our children a safe place to entertain themselves through sports is absolutely the most positive thing that "we" can do for them. She stated that a child that is bored often ends up in trouble and the Police Department could testify to that. She stated that keeping a child involved in sports not only teaches them to grow physically, it also teaches them to get along with their peers, which is an every day requirement as they grow into adults. She stated that coaches become their role models and give each child constant encouragement and a sense of accomplishment; their coaches impress upon them that no matter how big or small they are, they are important, which increases a child's self worth. She stated that participating in competitive team sports also gives children the opportunity to understand the healthy aspects of competition in a friendly environment. She explained that the Recreation Department has been successful in their program as many children continue playing sports in high school and beyond. She stated that Syracuse High School has had many successful athletes that have been offered scholarships due to their athletic abilities, such as Hunter Dimmick, AJ Wilcox, Zach Eaton, Rush Burrell, Braxton Lucero, Cole Ogden, and Sasha Lucero. She stated these young hopefuls would not be where they are today without the childhood years of sports within their City. She stated if anyone were to ask any of the children that have played or currently play on a recreation team they would all tell you that playing sports is a very big part of who they are and who they want to be some day. She stated that as a coach there are not enough words to express her respect and gratitude for the dedication, love, and patience the Recreation Department and its employees have shown each one of the children. She stated each employee is important and their priority is to make each year a success. She stated she has coached youth sports in one other city, which lacked organization skills and expertise; the Syracuse Recreation Department possesses both of these skills. She closed by stating that playing team sports offers numerous opportunities for children and teenagers to grow socially, emotionally, and physically; team sports participation is an amazing tool that helps children grow and succeed in their every day lives and taking this tool away from them would be a tremendous mistake.

Karianne Lisonbee, 4334 W. 1700 S., stated that she wanted to talk about the Recreation Department because she too feels strongly about it. She stated that she was contacted by a friend today and she wanted to read the response that she provided that friend with as follows:

“An anonymous citizen or group of citizens has created a media piece that they are disseminating through email. They assert that I will most certainly destroy Syracuse if I am elected to office. The piece contains a lot of false information including the quote “never think your vote does not count: Hitler gained power by one vote”. If they are trying to hint that I am like Hitler, I find that extremely offensive. Next to a picture of a child with a dunce cap on, it says that I am a village idiot. At the same time it unabashedly supports the three incumbent City Councilmen. I am working on an editorial to more fully address the claims of the media piece, but I do want to say that the piece claims my main vehicle for accomplishing the destruction of Syracuse will be to abolish the Recreation Department, the pumpkin walk, the senior citizen activities, Heritage Days, the parade, carnival, and fireworks as soon as I am elected. If that truly were my plan I would ask you not to vote for me. A plan that seeks to balance a budget based on one department is short sided and lacking true depth and leadership. I have looked at all the departments in Syracuse; there are many reforms that can be made across the board to save the citizens money and preclude the need for increased taxes and fees while including the necessary funds for much needed road repairs and other City needs. Our property values are plummeting and many are seeing lower incomes or unemployment and the City is seeing flat revenues. Even if the bond were to pass and the fee is assessed to make the payment the generated funds would not even touch the projected cost for the ten-year plan for road repairs. As a nation, state, and community we are transitioning into a time when leadership will require more than political expediency and short term solutions. We need to think more forward. We need to look at all of our options and certainly abolishing the Recreation Department would not help and is not something I would suggest happen.”

Don Kingsley, 1813 W. 2250 S., said he is 77 years old and he sees that the Council has decided to increase property taxes by over 25 percent. He stated he owns his home, except for what the government owns. He stated he married a young gal; she is only 70. He stated that a lot of his retirement pay will dry up when he dies. He stated he and his wife knew that was going to happen so they started putting money away for her. He stated that he did not see the downturn in the economy coming, but he does know that if he continues to see a 25 percent tax increase on his home each year his wife will only be able to stay in their home for about seven years after his passing; she will be “booted out” to pay City taxes. He stated that is considering the economy does not get any worse. He stated a 25 percent increase is ridiculous and he asked the Council to think about it further because everyone is hurting.

Pat Zaugg, 1593 W. 700 S., stated she wanted to make comments about the recreation program. She stated that no one should be considering eliminating it. She stated that she used to work for the City as the women’s sports director and she was paid \$600 per year for that work and even then people brought up eliminating the program. She stated this is not a new issue and it will continue to be raised. She stated that if recreation is eliminated it will be necessary to increase the City’s police force because there is a direct correlation between the two. She then stated that she wanted to comment on the local politics. She stated she hopes that there is not a smear campaign taking place. She encouraged everyone running for a City Council position to “clean it up”. She stated she does not want to read about Syracuse City politics in the newspaper every day. She stated she hoped campaigns can be run based on what the candidate believes should be happening rather than dragging someone else through the dirt. She stated that is now what the citizens want their leaders to be doing. She reiterated her request that each candidate run a clean campaign and discourage the negative things that are happening.

Mike Norton, 2615 W. 1300 S., stated he has lived in Syracuse for 15 years. He stated his first comment is that there is a need for a traffic signal at the intersection of Bluff Road and Antelope Drive. He then stated that he had the opportunity when he was a child to grow and be instructed by coaches and people that care. He stated they were volunteers, but a City needs a funded Recreation Program to manage all volunteer efforts. He stated otherwise the volunteer efforts would not be as efficient.

Craig Johnson, 2148 W. 2375 S., stated that he has attended several City Council meetings and he wanted to echo some comments that have been made this evening. He stated he does not want to eliminate the Recreation Department and sports. He stated those are safety issues and something the City needs to have. He stated he has talked to citizens and they want to see the recreation program continue and it is not something he would eliminate. He stated, however, that “we” need to look at efficiencies in all departments in the City. He stated he wanted to make sure that people understand that he does not want to eliminate the Recreation Department and sports. He stated it is not the way to go and “we” need to keep the programs running. He thanked the Council for their time and efforts.

#### 4. Public recognition of the volunteers for the Miss Syracuse Pageant.

Mayor Nagle stated that she had the opportunity last year and this year to attend the Pageant and she was amazed by the amount of work that the volunteers put in to making the event a success. She stated that it was great to see the Pageant from behind the scenes to see the self confidence that the participants gain. She stated that some of the volunteers do not have daughters participating in the event; they volunteer because of their commitment to the community. She invited

Recreation Director Robinson to introduce each of the volunteers and she asked Councilmember Clark to present each volunteer with a certificate from the City thanking them for their service.

Ms. Robinson stated that she has had the opportunity to work with the Pageant organizers. She stated that she herself is not a "pageant girl", but the committee has always made her feel like on. She stated this is a great group to work with and she appreciates them so much. She explained that they work year round to plan the event and what they do for each participant is invaluable. She stated that she is grateful that she has been given the opportunity to get to know them and participate with them in producing the Pageant.

Those volunteers recognized by the Council were Christy Miles, Shar Stoker, Shelly Thorne, Veronica Johnson, Mindy Talbot, and Marla Call.

She then stated she is sad to say that this is the last year that Marla Call will oversee the Pageant; she will still assist the committee, but she will no longer be the Director. She stated that Mindy Talbot will serve as the Director for next year's Pageant.

Mayor Nagle stated they all do a wonderful job. She stated this year she enjoyed watching the Pageant and seeing the talents of all the girls.

#### 5. Public Hearing – Proposed Resolution R11-26 adopting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-2012 budget.

Finance Director Steve Marshall approached the Council and stated that now is the time to hold a public hearing for the Council to consider adoption of the final budget to be administered during the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year (FY). He stated that the operating budget that was adopted by the Council in June includes revenues of \$450,000 to be generated by a property tax increase. He explained the City's tax rate would be increased to .002336. He stated this tax increase would provide needed funding for maintenance of the City's roads. He explained that there has been ongoing discussion between the Administration and the Council since the adoption of the operating budget and recent discussions centered on foregoing a property tax increase this year and instead adding a proposition to the General Election ballot asking the voters to vote upon issuing a bond to provide funds to address the most critical road needs. He stated this would allow the citizens to decide upon the issue, but it is important to note that the bond would not provide funding for ongoing maintenance and he reiterated it would only provide funding for the City's most critical needs. He stated that the operating budget would be amended by decreasing property tax revenues by \$450,000 as well as decreasing salaries by \$311,000 and increasing the general fund balance by \$138,000. He stated that staff has done additional work to reduce expenditures and any savings are being put towards the needed road projects. He stated that the amount now needed to complete the road projects that must be completed this year is \$311,000 rather than \$450,000. He stated that the City's certified tax rate will be .001821 upon final Council approval of the budget.

Mayor Nagle stated that there was a comment made earlier in the meeting that the City should be forward thinking and budget for the future rather than the present. She stated that she wanted to commend staff for doing just that. She stated that since Mr. Rice began his employment with the City he has worked with staff to review each line of the budget and he has aided staff in finding incredible savings and efficiencies. She stated that staff has brought incredible transparency and integrity to the budget process. She stated that the City met with the auditors last week and got some of the best compliments that can be given by auditors. She stated they said that the City is on a sustainable track, which has not been the case for the last several years. She stated the City had previously been able to operate with one time monies and impact fees, but when that dried up the City was left in a difficult position and difficult decisions needed to be made. She stated the Council has tried to keep staff whole, but whenever they realized an efficiency could be made they made it and that is reflected in the decrease in the amount of B&C Road funds that is being used for wages. She stated those kinds of savings do not come from decisions like reducing office supply budgets; rather they are ongoing savings. She stated many new programs are being implemented, such as transitioning the City's Police vehicle fleet to "green" vehicles, and installing a centralized fueling station in the City. She stated she wants to assure the public that everyone on the Council – though they disagree at times – all agree that they need to be responsible stewards of the taxpayers' money. She stated she has not seen anyone back away from that commitment nor have an ulterior motive or agenda. She reiterated that all of them want to be responsible stewards and that is likely why emotions have been so high throughout budget discussions. She stated she would hope that tonight when citizens make their comments they can try to recognize that the staff and the Council have made considerable cuts and efficiencies as well as listen to the public. She stated the Council has always said that they do not have their minds made up and that they want to wait to make decisions until they hear from the public. She stated that should be obvious after hearing Mr. Marshall's presentation.

Mayor Nagle then convened the public hearing.

Alan Norton, no address given, stated that it seems that over the past few years every time the City "gets in trouble" the Council wants to raise taxes. He stated that has occurred over several years. He stated that he ran his own business for 40 years and he operated under budgets ranging from \$1 million to \$20 million and it seems like someone needs to take a

stand. He stated that in tough times he has called his employees together and cut overhead. He stated he has asked his employees to take a 20 percent cut in pay. He stated sometimes those types of actions are necessary. He added that the City is no different than any company. He stated he thinks that "we" really need to sit back and think about what has happened in this City over the past several years. He stated that there have been tax increases or increases to utility charges. He stated there are residents that are living on a fixed income and they can not afford increases. He stated the Council needs to sit down and really talk about things and go through the budget line by line; it is necessary to cut things out. He stated he knows that come cuts have been made, but he believes there are additional decreases that can be made and he said he would be more than glad to help the Council through that process.

Lurlen Knight, 400 S. 2000 W., stated that he appreciates the time tonight and he appreciates the work the Council does. He stated he thinks that a lot of cuts have been made. He stated that many people have made the comment that the City needs to run like a business. He stated that the business of Syracuse City has competitors including Layton, Clinton, Kaysville, and other surrounding cities. He stated when our competitors pay employee wages higher than the wages paid in Syracuse City and to rehire, retrain, and recertify a new employee costs more than a simple wage increase would have cost. He stated that people forget that fact sometimes. He stated that when he was on the City Council the City lost several firefighters to Layton City. He stated he attended a meeting where he was thanked by a Layton Councilmember for training their Fire Department; that year four Syracuse City fire fighters had accepted employment with Layton City. He stated that it becomes difficult to deal with that situation. He stated that the citizens need to be careful; the cost of not maintaining roads far exceeds the cost of maintaining them. He stated the Council talks about a tax increase every year, but never ends up passing it. He stated that several years ago the Council did pass a 48 percent tax increase, but they also reduced utility rates meaning that the overall increase for citizens was approximately 12 percent. He stated the City is running very efficiently and he would encourage the Council to do further investigation by riding along with Police Officers and Fire Fighters to get a grasp on the jobs they are doing for the City and the resources they have to do those jobs. He stated that information should be reported back to the constituents when these types of emotional issues arise. He stated it is his opinion that the option now before the Council is the least expensive option. He stated two years ago the Council talked about a tax increase and using the proceeds to maintain roads and that tax increase would have been half the amount of the tax increase that was proposed this year. He stated that the cost to maintain roads has the ability to grow exponentially; the replacement of a road can cost in the millions of dollars. He stated that as the Council considers all options before them he would ask them to have the strength and fortitude to do what needs to be done. He stated he is supportive of a maintenance plan and he would be fearful of bonding without a maintenance plan to support it. He stated the Council needs to be very, very careful with a bond so that the City does not get into trouble. He asked the Council to consider what is the least expensive option. He reiterated that the price to maintain or replace roads will only increase in the future. He added that he would also like to reiterate some of the comments that were made earlier this evening regarding the City's recreation program. He stated that he feels that it needs to be kept in tact.

Neca Allgood, 1996 Allison Way, stated that she is a 13-year resident of Syracuse City as well as a business owner. She stated that a couple of years ago due to the economic downturn and the decline in new construction the revenue stream of the City decreased and at the time the Council considered and rejected a tax increase; instead the Council left the tax rate unchanged and put off a lot of essential maintenance hoping that in future years the economic situation would improve. She stated that now it is time to face the facts that the economy has not improved and it may not for years and so the City needs to think long-term about tax rates that will reflect the new fiscal and economic reality in the State of Utah. She stated that "we" need to have a tax rate that can provide stable, long-term funding to maintain essential City assets, such as roads. She stated she is in favor of a tax increase.

Greg Wetzel, 1659 Heritage Parkway, stated he is an eight-year resident and he wanted to state his disapproval of a tax increase. He stated he wants to thank the Mayor and Council for the efforts they have gone through to reduce expenses wherever possible, but he does not think the City should make ends meet by putting more burden on the tax payers. He stated the City should be required to reduce their budget just as citizens are forced to do. He stated that he would propose that the City consider becoming part of a unified approach to public safety by combining with other area police and fire departments. He stated those types of efforts to could help to increase efficiencies. He stated that Syracuse City has, by far, the most heavy police presence that he has ever seen. He stated that he understands that each town needs a police presence, but since there are so many towns bordering each other they could combine their efforts. He stated he sees more police here in a week than he saw in Glendale, Arizona in a year commuting back and forth to work. He stated that he thinks efforts are being duplicated and there is an opportunity to save money through unification of area departments. He stated that he also understands that road repair money was included in past budgets, but it was spent on other things and he is wondering who is accountable for that mistake. He stated that seems like embezzlement or diversion of funds and it seems that someone should be held accountable for that. He stated that money earmarked for one purpose should not be used instead to grow the City.

Mayor Nagle stated she wanted to reiterate Mr. Marshall's earlier comments that the proposed tax increase has been removed from the budget and the Council is no longer considering increasing the City's certified tax rate. She stated the Council will consider adding a bond issue to the upcoming General Election ballot. She then stated that she wanted to comment briefly about the idea of consolidating public safety departments. She stated that she and the Police Chief have approached other cities about that idea, but there are not many other cities that are open to that dialogue. She stated that the City is actively looking consolidation as a viable option for the Fire Department, however.

Annette Penrod, 602 S. 2000 W., stated that she has some very strong feelings that she wants to convey tonight. She stated that our founding fathers never intended for government to be a business; it was intended to be run by volunteers and "we" need to look for ways to increase volunteerism instead of looking for ways to increase taxes to pay for things like a sports program for instance. She stated recreation is a good area in which to create more volunteerism. She stated that bonds are an awful expensive way to get money and paying them off ends up costing more than anyone realizes in the beginning. She stated that she has watched the Davis School District issue bond after bond and they are utilizing their money in a proper ways they initially communicated they would in order to justify the bonds. She stated she is not saying that the same will be true in the City, but she has seen similar situations occur many times and bond funds are often diverted. She stated accountability is a necessity and the citizens need to make government officials, including the Mayor and City Council, more accountable and for how the City's money is being spent. She stated that if the City receives money to be used for road maintenance the money should be used for that purpose rather than being diverted to pay salaries. She stated that tough decisions need to be made and she wanted emphasis placed on her idea to increase volunteerism in the City.

John Lewis, 2330 S. 950 W., stated that he would like to thank the City's street department for responding to the street collapse in front of his home. He stated that he knows that they only have a budget of \$78,000 and he does not know how they do everything that they do. He then asked if it is true that the City receives \$650,000 from the State in the form of B&C Road Monies, to which Mayor Nagle answered yes. Mr. Lewis stated that means that in the last two years the City has received \$1.3 million. He stated he does not know where that money has been spent; it has been diverted to other departments in the City. He stated there have been some comments made that he agrees with, such as there needs to be accountability for the improper expenditure of B&C Road Monies in the past. He stated that the City is now considering borrowing money in the form of a bond that will not be paid back for 10 years even though they have had \$1.3 million available over the past two years to complete road projects. He stated that is why the trust level in Syracuse City is so low. He asked how he can be expected to trust the City Council. He added that those running for City Council should be aware that they represent the citizens and not the staff that works for the City. He stated the citizens can hold elected officials accountable at the next election; there are three current Councilmembers that are seeking re-election and citizens can hold them accountable by not voting for them. He stated there is no longer any trust of elected officials in this City and that is why there are so many citizens present this evening.

Mayor Nagle stated that she knows that Mr. Lewis has been present at meetings where this issue has been discussed and she explained that the B&C Road Monies were diverted to other areas of the City back when the City transitioned from a part-time Fire Department to a full-time Fire Department. She stated that rather than increasing taxes at that time to fund an increased level of service, the City Council diverted road funds to pay for the Fire Department. She stated that no current member of the Council was in office when that decision was made, but every current Councilmember has been trying to figure out how to correct that decision through increasing efficiencies. She reiterated that someone made the comment earlier that campaigns during this election season should be clean. She stated that all members of the Governing Body do not always agree, but they do agree that accountability is necessary and she reiterated that the decision to divert B&C Road Monies was made long ago and it has had long reaching ramifications. Mr. Lewis asked why the current Council has allowed the problem to continue. Mayor Nagle stated that they are not allowing it to continue and they are trying to correct it in the budget they are considering for final adoption tonight.

William Backus, 3529 W. 1700 S., stated that he is glad the Council is not moving forward with the proposed tax increase. He stated that Mayor Nagle may not remember, but when she was running for office he had a conversation with her about the City being run like a business. He stated the business he had in mind was a construction business because much of the City's income comes from construction. He stated that this is not the first time there has been a downturn in the economy and the building industry. He stated that all Councilmembers should try to understand something about home construction from the perspective of a contractor. He stated their income is always uncertain. He stated when things are going good the City should try to increase its reserve fund to be used for road maintenance projects and other necessities in the City. He stated it is hard to try to do that in this type of economic climate. He stated that he does not like property taxes because they are the most unfair tax created by the government; income tax is better because those that spend more pay more. He stated that he has been in the construction business for more than 60 years and this is the third time he has seen an economic downturn. He stated in the 1960's there was overbuilding in this area; so many new homes were built that builders could not give them away. He stated that in the 1980's the interest rates got so high that it was impossible to build or sell a home. He

stated that the problem that is currently affecting the City started about 30 years ago when congress passed a tax law that anyone could live in a house for two years and sell it for a profit without paying taxes on it. He stated that law was made to satisfy military families that moved every few years. He explained that if the building market improves the first thing the City needs to do is build its reserve fund, which is what construction businesses do.

Doug Edwards, 3903 W. 700 S., stated that he was here a month ago to express his concern about a fee or tax increase and it is nice that the citizens have been heard. He stated the he has been involved in bonding in the past and what the Council is going to be asking the citizens to do is borrow against their future. He stated that if the Council decides to proceed with asking the citizens to vote on a bond, he will be given the opportunity to vote no simply because he thinks that now is not the time to bond no matter how the bond will be repaid. He stated that someone asked him what his recommendation would be and he would recommend that the City do the best with what it has. He stated that people have spoken and said that things have not been done well in the past and the City is paying for that now. He stated that if the City bonds at this time there will be citizens standing up and complaining about it in the future. He stated the City needs to go without and save money; he is currently going without in order to make ends meet in his own budget. He stated that no one knows what will happen in the economy, but going to the citizens to ask them to approve bonds or raising taxes and fees is not the right thing to do. He stated that he would also ask the Council to decide against including a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for City staff in the budget. He stated that money could be saved and used in other areas in the City. He thanked the Council for all they do, but cautioned them that the citizens are watching them very closely and if the Council is not going to listen the citizens will eventually get sick of being taxed and paying for bonds. He reiterated that the City needs to try to make due with what it has.

June Thurgood, 4398 W. 1700 S., stated that she wants to thank the Council and Mayor for their hard work and what they are trying to do for the City. She stated that their job is not an easy one and they have a target on them at all times and she does not think that is fair. She stated that the citizens of this City have been totally apathetic for years; they have not attended meetings or spoken their minds, but when the discussion turns to money or taxes they start screaming rather than getting involved and trying to help the Council figure things out. She stated that it is obvious that the City needs to maintain its roads and she does not know how the City will do that if the tax increase is not approved. She stated she is disappointed. She explained that years ago the City paid for a study from a university; the study was essentially a growth plan for the City and in order for the City to grow it would be necessary to pay for City services and in order to that it would be necessary to approve small tax increases over several years and develop a sales tax base. She stated the economy has prevented the growth of the sales tax base, but the City has buildings, parks, tunnels, and paths that have been built with the assistance of bonds. She stated the City borrowed and spent the money it had and that was not wise. She asked where the citizens were at that time and she answered that they were not here. She stated now the citizens are screaming about money being spent, but it has already been spent. She stated that she views a bond the same as a credit card, which she does not like. She stated that she believes the roads need to be maintained, but she does not think that using credit for every day things is a good idea. She stated that she simply wanted to thank the Council and Mayor for their service and she stated that she is sorry that they are in this predicament.

William West, 1297 W. 1950 S., stated that he wanted to tell the Council and Mayor that he thinks they have been good stewards of the tax payers money; however, a bond is nothing more than new debt and the City should not continue to incur debt. He stated he would be willing to support a lower tax increase, but he can not support a 28 percent tax increase because he sees waste in the community. He stated from 1700 South to 1950 South on 1475 West there is a useless parking lane and bike lane and that is a waste of money. He stated that he has seen minor road repairs turn into major road repairs. He stated that he expects the City employees to be fairly compensated; the City has an outstanding Fire and Police Department and he does not want to see them deteriorate. He reiterated that something less than a 28 percent tax increase would be acceptable. He added that he understands the need to grow and maintain in the City.

Craig Johnson, 2148 W. 2375 S., stated that he has lived here for 14 years and he has been actively attending Council meetings for the last two years and off and on before that. He stated he has seen what has been going on in the City. He stated that concerning the budget he believes there is always room to improve or lower expenses in the City. He stated staff needs to look at how to get the most "bang for their buck". He stated that he wanted to commend the City Manager for finding efficiencies in the City; "we" need to continue to do that as well as making sure the programs "we" have are worth what "we" are spending on them. He stated that "we" should continue to look at finding better and cheaper ways of providing programs; "our" highest priority should always be safety and this includes maintaining roads. He stated there are ways, options, and ideas that can come through the citizens and City Council and it should be possible to find ways to do what is necessary while "living within our means". He stated that a tax increase is not necessary. He added that "we" also need to remember that in order to pay for the bond the Council would consider a fee increase. He stated that the bond also carries a \$350,000 interest payment and that will be satisfied via a fee increase if the bond receives voter approval. He stated that is the same as a tax increase. He stated he believes there are other ways to find efficiencies.

Terry Palmer, 2486 W. 1500 S., stated that he feels there is some deception in the information being presented by the City; in reality there is an increased based on the fact that “we” will have to pay over time. He stated that forces “us” to be more like the Federal Government. He stated that “we” have been watching the Federal Government over the past several weeks and months haggling over how to solve the problem they are facing. He stated it is interesting how “we” do not choose to cut expenses and instead “we” figure out a way to charge the people more money. He stated he has moved to Syracuse City in 1976 and he loved the City enough that he moved part of his business here. He stated he bought a building in the City and his property taxes on that building were \$1,200 in 2001; his taxes this year were \$4,870. He stated that is a 400 percent increase. He stated that maybe “we” think we are not increasing taxes, but taxes have gone up. He stated that Lurlen Knight is a good friend of his and when he was on the City Council he voted for a tax increase and he was voted out of office in the next election. He stated that he thinks there is deception and in reality there is a tax increase, but it has been moved “down the road” because there is an election this year.

Karianne Lisonbee, 4334 W. 1700 S., thanked the Council for the hard work they have done. She stated she has been attending City Council meetings regularly for a year and a half; she has watched each Councilmember and spoken with them and some of the dedicated City staff. She stated she knows that they all work hard and everyone wants what is best for the City. She stated that the City has a list of road repair projects totaling \$12 to \$14 million that must be completed over the next 10 years. She stated that “we” do not have any money to pay for those projects because “we” have been diverting our road money to wages. She stated there are three options: cut spending to pay for our shortfalls; tax, borrow, and spend; or a combination of the two. She stated that a \$3 million bond will not put a dent in the projected need. She stated that the payment on the bond will be \$350,000 per year; \$50,000 of that is interest. She stated the life of the bond is 10 years and debt service will take more than half of the City’s B&C Road Monies every year. She stated that the City will be further strapped causing the need to bond again in the future. She asked if the City is planning on a fee increase to pay for the bond and additional road maintenance cost as well as new personnel and equipment that will be needed. She stated the numbers do not add up. She stated that currently the City owes \$14.6 million in bonds set to be paid off in 2028; if the City continues to bond for shortfalls the cost to taxpayers on interest and long term obligations create bondage for the City and for citizens. She stated that Erskine Bowles, Chief of Staff for President Clinton, said in hearings earlier this year that “we” are looking at the most predictable economic collapse in history. She stated that to bond in this economic climate is a bad idea. She stated that during the debt ceiling debates President Obama threatened the social security checks would not go out, Medicaid would not be paid, and innocent people would be hurt if a bill were not passed. She stated a bill was passed and it is a bill that taxes, borrows, and spends more than it cuts. She stated that in her attendance at City Council meetings and work session she has heard that if the City does not raise taxes or assess new fees and borrow money, the City will not be able to pay for roads. She stated the problem with this statement is that it is simply not true; there are funds to pay for roads without asking for more and more money from the citizens at a time when their property values are plummeting and many are seeing fixed or lowered incomes or unemployment. She stated she would ask the Council to not proceed with a bond. She stated she would certainly vote against it and she would encourage everyone she knows to do the same. She stated she thinks there are better ways to solve the City’s problems. She stated she would like to again thank the Council for all they have done.

Brian Duncan, 902 S. 1875 W., stated he has not lived here very long, but he would like to make some observations. He stated the mistakes that have been made in the past are maybe not as important as the mistakes “we” may make in the future. He stated that he has not been in Syracuse for long, but the first time he walked into City Hall he thought to himself that this is the nicest City Hall of any city he has ever lived in. He asked how are “we” paying for it. He stated he is not blaming the current City Council because it was built before they were in office, but he simply wanted that observation noted. He stated that another observation he has made is that the Federal Government has set a poor example of how to manage. He stated that in Washington, D.C., they are always saying the same thing that is being said in Syracuse City and that is that all the programs currently in place are important and “we” can not afford to cut them, but the most important thing “we” ought to observe is that if someone can not afford something they should not buy it. He stated that is the definition of fiscal responsibility. He stated he realizes that salaries may be cut, jobs may be lost, and roads may go un-repaired. He stated he is not advocating one way or the other, but he thinks that going forward, far more important than making the roads look the way they ought to look or paying the right person the right salary and the right people keep their jobs. . .he is not advocating lowering salaries. He stated he is simply saying the most important principal – if “we” really stand for what we believe and those of “us” that said to our congressmen “no, let’s balance the budget now and take responsibility for the mistakes in the past and move forward and do the right thing” – the same message needs to be sent to Syracuse City from the citizens right here and right now. He stated “we” have got to pay as “we” go and a bond is a tax increase, especially down the road. He stated if “we” truly want to be patriots and Tea-Partiers “we” are, “we” have got to start right here at home. He stated he understands this community offers far more than the Federal Government ever ought to. He stated this is our community and “we” need to set the example here and be responsible and make Syracuse City work; if we can not fix Washington, D.C., “we” need to at least fix Syracuse City. He stated that there are several citizens who will not see an increase in their wages.

He stated that “we” can not have a tax increase or a bond; “we” all must sacrifice. He stated maybe people will need to drive through a few potholes and maybe the roads will not look as nice, but it is necessary to pay as you go.

There being no persons appearing to be heard, Mayor Nagle closed the public hearing.

COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION R11-26 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2011-2012 BUDGET. COUNCILMEMBER CLARK SECONDED THE MOTION.

Councilmember Clark stated there are few things he would like to discuss. He stated there have been several comments made about the need for the City to improve efficiencies or that expenses can be further reduced or cut. He stated that if anyone knows what additional cuts can be made or efficiencies can be improved he would like them to bring those ideas to the Council. He stated the current Council has been trying to resolve issues in the City for several years and this is not a process that was started a couple of weeks ago. He stated that he would appreciate citizens forwarding their ideas so the Council and staff can review and research them to determine if they are viable. He stated he would be grateful to anyone for bringing an idea forward. He stated the Council has looked into consolidating public safety services with other cities. He confirmed there are issues with the Class B&C Road Monies and those are issues that the current City Council inherited and they can not be solved overnight. He stated the Council has been working to solve problems and some of the things discussed this evening are not new news to the Council. He stated the Council is trying to find ways to replace revenues to cover necessary expenditures. He stated that he has lived in Syracuse City for 18 years and to his knowledge there has only been one property tax increase approved by the City. He stated that there have been many significant changes in the City in that same time period: the City now has a full time Fire Department; public safety staff levels have been increased; and City facilities have been constructed to serve the City until buildout. He stated the current members of the City Council were not involved in the approval of or the construction of the new City Hall building, but it needs to be paid for regardless. He stated that on top of everything else, it is necessary to maintain the City’s roads and all of this is being done with the same tax rate that has been in place for the last 18 years. He stated that when he moved to the City there were 3,000 residents and now there are more than 26,000. He stated that impact fee revenues, which are one time monies, were being used to fund the City and pay employee salaries. He stated those revenues have dried up and the Council has looked for ways to replace them. He explained that City staff has worked to reduce expenses by over \$1 million over the last year; that is a significant accomplishment and they should be commended for finding solutions to problems the City is facing. He stated that the Council is constantly seeking ways to effectively run the City, but that is proving difficult because the City does not have as much money as is needed. He stated the bond proposal is simply a stop-gap to fix roads that must absolutely be repaired. He stated the Council is offering the option of bonding to the citizens for their decision. He stated he recognizes there are costs associated with a bond, but he also recognizes that putting money into the roads today will save the City money in the future. He stated the 2700 South was repaired last year at a cost of approximately \$1 million; the high cost was due partly to the fact that the road was initially constructed incorrectly, but also in part to the fact that the City did not spend money to repair the road when it first began to deteriorate. He stated that repairs can be done so much less expensively than replacement. He explained that last year the City had \$78,000 in the road maintenance budget while staff estimates that they need approximately \$600,000 to do the work properly. He reiterated that the Council is open to receive comments from the residents, but he also asked that citizens try to understand the real problems the Council is dealing with. He added that increasing taxes does not benefit the Council and he reminded those present that every Councilmember lives in Syracuse City and pays property taxes as well.

An audience member stated that she wanted to make a few comments and she was not aware that the Mayor had closed the public hearing.

Mayor Nagle reconvened the public hearing.

Edith Reniker, 1278 W. 1875 S., stated that she took the time today to go to the internet and review the proposed budget. She stated she is happy to see that the Council is not going to move forward with the original plan of increasing taxes. She stated she was very shocked at the number of increases that employees were scheduled to receive and she added that she will not be receiving an increase in her income. She stated in the past 4.5 years her property taxes have increased by \$1,000. She stated she has an accounting background and she used that knowledge to review the budget and she hoped that the Council could explain a few things to her. She stated the Council has said there is no money in the impact fee fund, but she sees there is over \$2 million in impact fee revenues available. She stated she reduced that number by the amount of outstanding debt the City has and she arrived at a figure of \$1,417,000. She asked why the Council is saying there is no money left in the impact fee fund.

Joannie Panucci, 2480 S. 2000 W., stated “we” have talked a lot about what happened in the past and she wanted to point out that the last increase the citizens experienced was a 38 percent tax increase and she is not sure that the citizens present this evening know where that money went. She stated the Council continues to reference a shortfall of approximately \$400,000 and that money is needed to pay for salaries. She stated her husband was Mayor when the last tax increase was

approved and he spent an entire day in their basement working on the budget and employee salaries and when he arrived at the Council meeting during which the budget was to be approved he provided the Council with his conservative proposal that he thought would satisfy the employees and the Council, but he was not even listened to. She stated the Council did not listen to him and they did not look at his proposal. She stated that the 38 percent tax increase generated \$450,000 in revenues and all of that money was used to increase employee salaries. She stated she can remember her husband coming home from the meeting and saying that he was so upset because what the Councilmembers had done that evening would cause the City to suffer for years to come. He stated that now the City is in a position in which \$400,000 designated for road repairs is being used to pay salaries. She stated she would like to give some examples of the types of increases that employees received. She stated a part-time employee working at the City's Museum had her salary increased from approximately \$10 per hour to over \$18 per hour; the Assistant Fire Chief received an increase from approximately \$12 per hour to over \$23 per hour. She stated that she knows several City employees and knows they work very hard, but the increases some of them received were ridiculous. She stated that her husband was so upset because there was nothing he could do. She stated that past Councilmembers Dean Steel, Danny Hammon, and Lurlen Knight were part of the Council that passed the tax increase; they are responsible for "doing this" to this City. She stated that the situation the Council is in now is exactly what her husband predicted would happen. She stated she appreciates what the Council is trying to do now; she knows it is very difficult and she appreciates their efforts. She stated now is a tough time to balance everything.

There being no persons appearing to be heard, Mayor Nagle closed the public hearing.

Mayor Nagle stated that the City's Museum no longer has employees that are employed by the City. She stated the City Council has strived to pay fair wages to the employees and to hold them harmless whenever possible while also doing right by the citizens and being responsible stewards of taxpayer money.

**COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION R11-26 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2011-2012 BUDGET. COUNCILMEMBER CLARK SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Councilmember Clark asked Mr. Marshall to review the intent of impact fees. Mr. Marshall explained that impact fees are charge to developers as they construct new houses in the City. He explained impact fee revenues are restricted and they can only be used for the impact that is created when a new home is built. He stated that there are several types of impact fees for roads, water, parks, sewer, and public safety. He stated it would be illegal to divert the total impact fee balance to be used for road repairs. He stated that transportation impact fees can only be used to increase capacity and build new roads; they can not be used to maintain old roads. Mayor Nagle concurred with Mr. Marshall's explanation and explained that impact fee revenues can only be used for the purpose under which they were assessed. She explained culinary water impact fee revenues can only be used to upgrade the culinary water system. She stated the same is true for all impact fees. She stated that it may look like there is a large amount of money available, but that money can only be used to upgrade the systems they are associated with.

Councilmember Kimmel asked Mr. Marshall to review long term projections as well as the City's five to 10-year plan for allocating the funds needed to repair roads. Mayor Nagle stated that information has already been provided to the Council when staff presented several different funding options to solve the City's road maintenance problems. She stated that staff had recommended either increasing property taxes or implementing a street maintenance fee. She added that an additional recommendation was to bond for the amount of money needed to address the City roads in most desperate need of repair. Councilmember Kimmel stated there are many residents present this evening that would like to hear the information for themselves. He stated he also wants to be educated further. He stated the amount of revenue that would be generated by a fee does not total the \$12 million needed to complete all road repairs over the next five to 10-years. He stated he wants to hear the short term projections and the long term projections. He stated the bond and the fee, which is essentially a tax, would solve problems in the short term, but by his estimation the City will still be short approximately \$6 million dollars 10 years from now. He asked how that shortfall will be made up. He stated in his mind the only other options would be to continue to bond or to continually increase property taxes. He stated he is not sure if the staff has a plan to last the next five to 10 years or if the current plan will only solve the City's immediate problems.

Mayor Nagle asked Mr. Rice to provide the information that backs up the potential implementation of an \$8.00 monthly street maintenance fee. She asked if that fee would provide debt service on the bond as well as provide sufficient revenues to meet ongoing needs. Mr. Rice explained that the road maintenance fee would put a significant dent in the amount of money needed to complete all necessary road projects. He stated that on average the City needs to contribute approximately \$1 million each year to meet the 10-year plan which includes \$12 million in projects. He stated that the \$8.00 fee would pay the debt service on the bond and still put a significant amount of money toward road projects. He stated that over the last month City staff has made a tremendous amount of progress in closing budget gaps by looking for better ways to do business. He stated that last year there were no capital projects in the roads budget, but with the efforts made by staff recently it has been possible to include one road project of \$189,000 in the budget. He stated that staff has found ways to

reassign B&C Road monies that were being used for wages to now be used for actual road projects. He stated that when staff first began reviewing the budget they believed that they would need to generate approximately \$450,000 in order for the budget to balance, but that gap has been reduced to \$310,000.

Councilmember Shingleton asked if it is true that approximately \$900,000 of the available transportation impact fee revenues could be used for a significant project in the City. Mr. Marshall stated that the transportation impact fee balance is approximately \$970,000 and staff has identified a couple of projects that may be eligible for completion with impact fee monies. He stated that once that information is confirmed the project will be added to the budget. Councilmember Ocaña asked if that is the same amount of money Ms. Reniker was referencing, to which Mr. Marshall answered yes.

Councilmember Kimmel stated it seems that there is no plan in place that would allow the City to properly repair roads and complete all projects on the list totaling \$12 million. He stated that the bondage is a great word to be associated with a bond; the City will pay for it for 10 years and citizens will be assessed a fee, or a tax, to pay for it and it will not get the City where it needs to be. He stated the process will likely need to be repeated again, if not twice more, in order to complete all the projects on the current list. He stated that is a dangerous road; there is a lot more to the \$3 million bond than meets the eye. He stated he would like the Council to take into consideration that this is just "one layer of the onion". He stated that many surrounding entities are increasing taxes, local utility companies are increasing fees, and inflation is rampant. He stated that increases are hitting citizens from all sides. He stated the City has had a lot of money to complete road projects, but they have decided to pay salaries with that money instead. He stated that means that there is not a road problem and instead there is a wage problem; the City has "cooked the books" to move the money to be used for roads to pay wages.

Councilmember Peterson stated that B&C Road monies were being used legally to pay wages for those employees working in the Streets Department of the City. He stated that the City was not "cooking the books" or doing anything illegal because the practice they were using was allowed by law. He stated the current Council has simply decided they do not want to follow that practice any longer, but nothing illegal was being done.

Councilmember Kimmel asked if \$650,000 was being diverted for wages, to which Councilmember Clark answered no. He stated that approximately \$350,000 was being used to pay wages and the remaining amount was used for road maintenance needs. He stated that he agrees with Councilmember Kimmel's concerns about a bond, but with the understanding that the City has \$14 million in road projects to fund he would like to know what Councilmember Kimmel's proposal is. Mayor Nagle added that there were many City residents that asked the Council to consider a bond rather than increasing property taxes. She explained that is the reason the Council has considered that option and a bond would ultimately be voted upon by the residents. She stated that no member of the Council has tried to deny that the City has a lot of debt as a result of construction of City buildings and that has put the City in a precarious situation. She stated that if the City is going to bond and take on more debt that will be the choice of the citizens that will be responsible to pay for that debt. She stated that in her opinion the decision to consider a bond is not an arbitrary one; rather, it is in response to the citizens that the Council consider a bond. Councilmember Kimmel stated that the idea of bonding came from the City and that may or may not have been generated by comments made during public comments made at a Council meeting. He stated, however, that as the Council has had discussions about bonding they have been made aware of the fact that there are many strings attached to a bond and it is not the same as simply taking out a loan. He stated that he has a friend that lives in Chicago that works in the bond market business and he has said that it is extremely volatile and the market for municipal bonds is saturated because municipalities across the nation are having problems similar to those that Syracuse City is facing. He stated that due to the economic downturn cities throughout the country have seen a decrease in their revenues and they are trying to fill that gap with bonds. He stated that hopefully voters will know all of the things that are associated with a bond when they are asked to vote on it in November. He stated there will be a fee or tax of anywhere between five and eight dollars a month per household to pay back the bond. He added that a bond may not even "float" in the economy. He stated the economy is unstable and the stock market looks more like a roller coaster.

Councilmember Clark asked Councilmember Kimmel to propose an alternative to a bond. Councilmember Kimmel stated that is a good question. He stated there are two alternatives in his mind; he would like to look at all Departments of the City, review wages, and look for further cuts that can be made to generate additional money. He acknowledged that there is no way to come up with enough money to complete the major road projects and it may be necessary to continue to "make do" with the roads in their current condition. He stated it may be possible to "squeak out" some more money. He stated that he knows it is costly to continue to delay road maintenance, but he does not believe the alternative of a bond is the answer. He stated that he feels a bond would lead the City to more problems and put the City "on the hook" for something that it may be impossible to make good on.

Councilmember Clark stated that the residents need to understand that if the City does not bond or increase revenues somehow it will be impossible to find another \$600,000 in the existing budget without a serious negative impact to public safety or the elimination of the Recreation Department. He stated something significant would be eliminated; services will

be cut and that may be something that the citizens may or may not want. He stated that the citizens need to understand that the "fluff" is gone from the budget and there is not \$600,000 that can be found in the existing budget. Councilmember Kimmel stated he understands that and he agrees that it would require something drastic and severe to find that amount of money; however, he has been paying attention to what is happening on the national level and the same thing is happening in Syracuse City. He stated instead of threatening senior citizens with eliminating social security or telling soldiers they will not get their paychecks, Syracuse City is threatening with broken down roads, no stop signs, and dirt roads. Councilmember Ocaña stated that the fact remains that Councilmember Kimmel still needs to offer an alternative. He stated he agrees with everything that Councilmember Kimmel is saying, but no alternative solution is being offered. Councilmember Kimmel stated his proposed solution is to review the budget again; if it is necessary to cut wages, staff, departments or parts of departments that is what needs to be done. He stated if that is unpalatable then it will be necessary to live with the roads the way they currently are. Councilmember Clark stated that if the City does not fix the roads now the cost to fix them in the future will be significantly higher. Councilmember Kimmel stated that he can not argue with that.

Councilmember Peterson stated that Councilmember Kimmel is saying all the right things, but he has not said anything that changes the motion that he has made for the Council to vote upon. He stated that Councilmember Kimmel has not offered any alternative ideas for consideration, yet the Council must vote upon the City's budget tonight. Councilmember Kimmel stated that if Councilmember Peterson agrees with him they must be on the same "wave length" and he asked Councilmember Peterson if he has any ideas. Councilmember Peterson stated that Councilmember Kimmel is saying what the citizens want to hear by saying that the City needs to continue to make cuts. He stated that many cuts have been made and in the two years since Councilmember Kimmel has been on the Council they have reduced expenses by \$2 million. Councilmember Kimmel stated that in comparing the budget year after year the bottom line has increased. Councilmember Peterson stated that is not correct and he pointed out that expenditures have been reduced. Councilmember Kimmel stated the overall budget has increased. Councilmember Clark stated the overall expenditures are down. Councilmember Kimmel stated it is semantics. Councilmember Clark disagreed and Councilmember Peterson explained that in 2009 expenditures were \$8.8 million and in the proposed budget expenditures amount to \$6.6 million. Councilmember Clark stated that for the first time in several years the City's expenditures were significantly less than its revenues. He stated the City was able to actually deposit money into its rainy day fund. Mayor Nagle added that information was verified by independent auditors. Councilmember Shingleton asked how much money was added to the rainy day fund. Councilmember Clark stated it was increased from approximately \$300,000 to nearly \$900,000. Councilmember Kimmel stated it looks like it is raining outside. Councilmember Clark stated that there is a legal requirement for municipalities to maintain a certain percentage of their overall budget in a rainy day fund and over the past several years the City was coming precariously close to the minimum amount that must be maintained. He stated that the Council has made a lot of changes in the last couple of years and solved that problem. He stated that reducing expenditures by \$2 million is significant; the City does not have a \$100 million budget, they have a \$7 million budget. He asked the citizens to try to imagine cutting that same percentage out of their personal budget. He reiterated the reductions are significant. He stated that part of the problem is that the City has grown and taxes have not been increased to cover the services that are provided. He stated that a full-time Fire Department was created with no tax increase to cover the cost. He added that a significant number of Police Department positions have been added as well. He stated this has all occurred in the last 10 years. He added that miles of new roads have been constructed with no increase in revenues to cover the maintenance of those roads. He stated that the Council needs to find a solution so that in a couple of years the City is not facing the same issues again. Councilmember Kimmel stated the City will be in this situation no matter what because there is a list of road projects totaling \$13 million to be done. Councilmember Clark stated the Council can make some changes to improve the City's situation. Councilmember Kimmel asked him what changes can be made. Councilmember Clark stated that he does not have a solution. Councilmember Kimmel stated the solution in three years will be to bond again or increase taxes. He stated the bond is not a cure-all; the Council will throw the citizens into more "bondage", raise fees and taxes, and hope that after three or four years the citizens have swallowed it well enough that they can take it again.

City Manager Rice pointed out that the expense and revenue chart for the City was posted on the overhead screen for the audience and the Council to view.

Mayor Nagle explained to Councilmember Kimmel that what frustrates her is that the Council has been reviewing the budget since March. She stated that the Council met in a two day budget retreat and Councilmember Kimmel was absent the second day. Councilmember Kimmel stated he was called to attend to an emergency at work. Mayor Nagle stated that the Council has been studying the budget since March and Councilmember Kimmel has not brought one solution to the table, but he has said that it needs to be fixed. She stated that she believes that City staff are trying to solve the problem that the City is facing; they have offered many scenarios and options. She stated it is easy to say that it needs to be fixed; everyone knows that it needs to be fixed. She stated that Councilmember Kimmel stated that it may be necessary to eliminate positions and she asked him which position he would cut first. Councilmember Kimmel stated making that decision is the job of the

City staff. Mayor Nagle argued that is not the case; it is the Council's job to finalize a budget and staff is then charged with executing the budget. Councilmember Kimmel stated that City staff came up with big government solutions of taxing, spending, and bonding. Mayor Nagle explained that the Governing Body is responsible to enact policy and staff executes it. She stated it is up to the Council to make the tough decisions and if Councilmember Kimmel wants to reduce staff in the Recreation Department he will need to decide which member of the staff to eliminate. She stated they could terminate Tiffany Vigil and that would mean that every person in the City that participates in the Senior Program will no longer have a program to participate in. She stated that maybe it would be better to eliminate the DARE Police Officer and the next time there is a suicidal student at the high school there will be no DARE Officer to potentially save that student's life through the relationships that he has built. She stated she believes the City has made significant advances; the Council has made reductions, they have consolidated, and they have made difficult decisions. She stated there was a news story when the City made the difficult decision to terminate the Code Enforcement Officer in favor of changing the position from a full-time to part-time position. She stated Tom Reynolds was an icon of the City and that was a very difficult decision. She stated the City could not pay someone \$24.00 an hour to perform Code Enforcement duties. She stated changing that position helped the City to realize significant savings. She stated that if Councilmember Kimmel wants to cut positions or programs he needs to be clear about what cuts he actually wants to make. She stated that when the Council has made suggestions in the past the staff has followed through. She stated the Council needs to be part of the solution rather than just the people that are pointing out that there are problems.

Councilmember Shingleton asked if the Council is being asked to vote on the budget or on the potential bond. Councilmember Kimmel stated the two are connected. Councilmember Shingleton asked if it would be proper to suggest an amendment to the motion made by Councilmember Peterson. Councilmember Peterson stated the Council is not voting on the bond this evening.

Councilmember Kimmel stated that he would like to offer a counter to Mayor Nagle's comments. He stated that Mayor Nagle offered "bleeding heart" arguments and she insinuated that if the City does not have a DARE Officer someone may commit suicide. He asked how the City can put the bond and associated fee into a neat package that can be delivered to those residents on fixed incomes. He stated he could argue on behalf of the "poor, old people" and ask how the City can vote to throw them out on the street by forcing them to pay fees they do not want to pay. He stated there can be an argument on both sides; one can always point to the poor, needy, and destitute as a poster child for programs, but in the end "we" are continuing on the same path as the federal government of more debt, taxing, and spending. Councilmember Clark asked Councilmember Kimmel to offer a solution or proposal. He stated the City needs \$600,000 to fix roads and he asked Councilmember Kimmel where the City could find that money. Councilmember Kimmel stated that he is not sure that it is possible for the City to come up with \$13 million over the next 10 years. Councilmember Clark stated that the City must start somewhere and he noted that \$78,000 each year for road maintenance is not going to meet the City's needs. He stated that some progress needs to be made in this year.

Mayor Nagle stated that she and Mr. Rice have had conversations with the Utah Taxpayers Association (UTA), which is a very conservative independent organization. She stated the Council received a handout from the UTA which ranks every City in Utah with a population over 20,000 and Syracuse City ranks third; it is the third most efficient City with a population over 20,000. She stated that she thinks that is a significant statistic to note. She stated she does not think that means that there is still a lot of "fluff" left in the budget. She stated the auditors have shown that the City has doing a better job and the information from the UTA confirms that. Councilmember Peterson stated he believes that data is from 2009, so the City's current ranking may actually be higher. Mayor Nagle agreed and added that the UTA applauded the City for some of the things that are happening here and they are actually going to begin to measure cities based on some of the programs that staff is instituting. She stated one of the programs is the metering of secondary water. She stated staff recognizes there are many senior citizens that live in the City and they likely use a lot less water than a family of nine. She stated that in the near future citizens will only be required to pay for the water that they actually use. She stated the UTA loved that idea and they are going to begin to use it as a measurement tool. She stated the City is instituting some great things; the staff as well as the Council is conscious that people are living on fixed incomes. She added that it seems that it escapes the residents that every member of the Council lives in the City and has "skin in the game". She stated a tax increase or maintenance fee would impact the Councilmembers as well and some of them are struggling due to reduced wages. She stated that she received her paycheck last week and the amount she pays for her insurance benefits has gone up by 100 percent. She stated that she recognizes that everyone is struggling, but now is not the time to simply say "fix it"; now is the time to bring solutions to the table. She stated she is not trying to be adversarial; she simply wants to hear solutions. She stated that when Councilmember Kimmel brought forth the idea about making changes in the Recreation Department she started asking some questions and she found that the City does not have the option of selling any buildings because federal money was used to build some of them. Councilmember Kimmel stated he understands that and as he has looked at the budget for various Departments in the City he has found that there are not enough cuts that could be made to "get us there". Mayor Nagle asked

Councilmember Kimmel what his solution would be. Councilmember Kimmel stated his recommended solution is for the City to do what it can with the money that is available. He stated that Mr. Rice has done a great job of finding efficiencies in the City and he will continue to do that and more money will be available. He stated in the short term there is not an easy answer. Mayor Nagle asked Councilmember Kimmel what he could support now and in the short term. Councilmember Kimmel stated he would support the City doing whatever possible with the money that is available or that will continue to be made available as further efficiencies are discovered. He stated that as more money is made available it can be diverted to road projects. Mayor Nagle stated that is what the City is already doing. Councilmember Clark added that is what the City has been doing for the last four years and that is why the City's roads are in the condition they are in. He stated roads have been the last priority in the budgeting process. He stated the City had \$78,000 last year for road maintenance, when in reality staff needs approximately \$600,000 per year to properly maintain roads. He stated that he would be willing to be that over the last four years the City has spent less than \$500,000 on road maintenance.

Mayor Nagle stated she would expect that next month the City will be able to go public some significant news for the City, which will increase the amount of tax revenue the City will be able to collect after about a five-year period. She stated that the Council is very well aware of that news. She stated that there are things that are on the horizon that will help the City get where it needs to be financially so that there is enough money to maintain roads. She stated she would hate to think that anyone on the Council is using this issue as a grandstanding opportunity because she thinks everyone on the Council is committed to help correct the course and create sustainability in the City, but they can not simply say no to adopting a budget and tell the staff to fix it; it is the Council's job to find solutions to "fix it".

Councilmember Peterson stated he is comfortable with the budget. He stated the Council has been reviewing it and making changes for the past five to six months. He stated that if Councilmember Kimmel has a specific line item he would like to remove he would be open to hearing that suggestion. He stated that there was one specific item that Councilmember Clark raised during tonight's work session and he would like to discuss that further.

Councilmember Shingleton asked if now is the time to suggest an amendment to Councilmember Peterson's motion. Mayor Nagle stated that Councilmember Peterson would need to be the person to amend his motion.

Councilmember Clark stated that the current City budget includes a two percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) for employees across the board and he is concerned about that. He stated that he feels like there are other things the Council can do to benefit the employees. He stated that rather than implementing the COLA he would like to implement a program that would benefit employees via merit pay or incentive pay when they do things that are over and above their regular job duties. He stated an example would be that during the last election cycle City Recorder Brown was able to make some changes to the process that resulted in the City saving \$25,000 on overall election costs. He stated that he would like to fund a program to incentivize the employees to do those types of things. He stated that the budget for the program does not need to be the same amount of money that was set aside for the COLA and it may be possible that none of the money will ever be spent, but an employee would have the option of increasing their efforts in order to earn some type of monetary reward. He stated he would like for the Council to have a discussion about this proposal. Councilmember Ocaña stated that this idea was discussed during the work session and he agrees with Councilmember Clark's recommendation.

Councilmember Shingleton stated he would like to see the COLA stricken from the budget and instead set aside \$30,000 for merit raises or an employee incentive program. He stated the remaining \$75,000 could be diverted to a road project. Councilmember Peterson stated that one thought that he has had since the Council talked about the idea during the work session is that the Council is simply throwing out a budget number, but there is no real plan to institute the program. He stated he understands that Mr. Rice explained that staff has been working on developing an employee incentive program, but he wondered how close the policy is to being finalized. He asked if it could be implemented this fiscal year. Mr. Rice answered yes; it could be available for final Council consideration at the end of September. Councilmember Peterson asked Mr. Rice if he would be comfortable administering an incentive program if the Council sets aside money to do so. Mr. Rice answered yes and stated the money could be used for incentive pay or merit increases as a result of job performance. Councilmember Peterson asked if the policy would need to be approved by the Council or will it be implemented administratively. Mr. Rice stated the policy would need to be adopted by the Council. Councilmember Shingleton stated he believes it would be alright for the Council to specify a dollar amount in the budget to be associated with the program. He reiterated that he would like to remove the COLA and dedicate \$25,000 for an incentive program. Councilmember Clark stated he feels the budget for the program needs to be more than \$25,000. Councilmember Peterson inquired as to the amount that was included in the budget to fund the COLA. Mr. Marshall answered that the amount was \$98,000. Councilmember Peterson suggested cutting that amount in half and budgeting \$49,000 for the incentive program. Councilmember Clark stated he would be more comfortable with that. Councilmember Shingleton stated he will not support that. Councilmember Kimmel stated that he understands that some Councilmembers are supportive of an incentive program, but he wanted to point out that the Council is considering giving employees incentive pay or bonuses in an economy where people are losing their jobs, receiving cuts in pay, or being forced to pay higher insurance premiums. Councilmember Ocaña

stated that what the Council is asking the employees to do is create an efficiency that generates more revenue or save money for the City. Councilmember Kimmel stated that he can not support including funding for such a program in the budget without seeing a policy. Councilmember Shingleton stated staff will write the policy, but the Council must approve it before the program can be implemented. Councilmember Kimmel stated he would still be uncomfortable. He stated he would like to negotiate a policy first before budgeting for the program. Councilmember Shingleton stated that Ogden City has a policy that he has seen that provides employees with a bonus only if they actually save the City money or increase revenues somehow. Councilmember Clark stated the Council also has the option of opening the budget again after the policy is in place or the Council can approve an amount tonight and then consider the policy. He stated that no money can be spent on incentive pay until the Council approves the policy. Mayor Nagle asked if there is already an incentive budget in place, to which Councilmember Clark answered no. Mayor Nagle stated the State of Utah has an incentive program in place and they will provide an employee up to \$8,000 per year for any program they suggest that will save costs or generate new revenue. She added that programs like that are not uncommon and even though the State has had a great number of layoffs they still have that program in place because it is a way to incentivize new efficiencies. Councilmember Kimmel asked if there is any reason that the funding for the program needs to be included in this budget. He asked if the Council could spend some time developing a policy for the program and then consider adding funding to next year's budget. He asked if there is a reason that it is so important to include it in this fiscal year budget. Councilmember Clark stated it is important to him because he would like to find ways to improve efficiencies. Councilmember Shingleton agreed and added that is something that Councilmember Kimmel has asked be done. He added that he is suggesting eliminating the COLA and set aside an amount for incentive pay. He stated that if the money is not spent it will be put back in to the general fund. Councilmember Peterson added that the City has not given employees raises for at least three years, but they have done a lot to enact efficiencies. He stated the argument could be made that no one else is receiving pay increases, though he does not think it is safe to make such a blanket statement, but he thinks a small incentive or some type of increase is fair and deserved. Councilmember Clark stated he honestly does not like COLA's because every employee gets the same amount whether they are an outstanding employee or a sub-par employee. He stated that this type of program would provide for a benefit to those that are trying to accomplish great things. He stated that the program needs to be funded whether they do it now or later. He stated that if the money is set aside and no policy is ever implemented the Council can use the money for something else. Councilmember Shingleton reiterated that his suggestion is to eliminate the COLA and set aside \$25,000 or \$30,000 for incentive pay. He stated that he would also be comfortable with waiting until the policy is adopted to open the budget and fund the program. He stated he would be comfortable with either course of action. He stated his bottom line is that the COLA needs to be taken out of the budget now. Councilmember Peterson asked how Councilmember Shingleton arrived at the amount of \$30,000. Councilmember Shingleton stated that would allow for more money to be contributed to a road project. He stated that \$30,000 is enough money to provide some good bonuses to employees. Councilmember Peterson stated he believes there are 68 full time employees in the City, but he understands that not all of them will be receiving incentive pay bonuses. Councilmember Shingleton added that there are thousands and thousands of people that deserve raises in their jobs, but that does not mean that they will receive them in this economic climate. He stated that everyone that works for the City deserves a raise. He stated he also deserves a raise, but he just took a significant cut in pay. Councilmember Clark stated that everyone agrees that the COLA should be removed and that employees will not be getting raises.

COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON OFFERED AN AMENDED MOTION. HE MOVED TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION R11-26 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2011-2012 BUDGET WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

- REMOVE THE TWO PERCENT COLA FROM THE BUDGET; AND
- ADD \$30,000 FOR AN INCENTIVE OR MERIT PAY PROGRAM WITH THE STIPULATION THAT THE COUNCIL WILL REVIEW THE POLICY GOVERNING THE PROGRAM BEFORE IT IS IMPLEMENTED.

COUNCILMEMBER CLARK SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mayor Nagle stated that before the Council votes she wants to make sure that everyone has a clear understanding of the action the Council is taking. She stated the budget does not include a property tax or a bond; the bond is a separate issue that will potentially be voted upon by the residents during the 2011 General Election. She stated that the budget does not include a COLA, but it would include \$30,000 to be set aside for an incentive pay program contingent upon a policy being adopted by the Council.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nagle stated there has been a motion and a second regarding the proposed resolution; she called for a vote. VOTING "AYE": COUNCILMEMBERS CLARK, OCAÑA, PETERSON, AND SHINGLETON. VOTING "NO": COUNCILMEMBER KIMMEL.

Mayor Nagle stated that she knows there are a lot of staff members present this evening and she wants to take the opportunity to tell them that she knows that they do an exceptional job and she wishes the City had the money to reward them proportionately. She stated that she wished that the staff was not always in the "hot seat" due to the political environment because it minimizes to the staff the value they provide to the City and that is unfortunate. She stated she wants the staff to know how much they appreciate them for what they have done in the budgeting process. She stated these are tough times and she wants to public to know that the Council hears them as well. She reiterated she wants them employees to know how much she appreciates them for all they do for the City.

**6. Proposed Resolution R11-27 adopting Administrative Policy 11-01 regarding political expression on public property.**

The City Recorder is requesting that the Council adopt an administrative policy that sets forth rules and regulations related to political activities or campaigning on City property. During each campaign season the City receives requests from candidates that they be allowed to hold rallies or other types of political events on public property, i.e., City parks. Candidates are permitted to do this, but there is no policy in place that dictates whether candidates are allowed to distribute political information or carry political signs with them while on City property. Title 10 of the Syracuse City Code clearly prohibits the placement of political signs on City property, but no section of the City Code deals with the issue of leafleting. City Attorney Godfrey prepared a policy for consideration by the Council and he communicated that his intent was to prepare a policy that is much more permissive than it is prohibitive as well as broad enough to allow reasonable interpretation.

**COUNCILMEMBER OCAÑA MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION R11-27 ADOPTING ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 11-01 REGARDING POLITICAL EXPRESSION ON PUBLIC PROPERTY. COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Councilmember Clark stated the Council reviewed this recommendation during tonight's work session meeting and the direction was to add a clause to the policy dictating that an organizer of a political event on public property be required to remove litter or trash following the event.

**COUNCILMEMBER OCAÑA OFFERED AN AMENDED MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION R11-27 ADOPTING ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 11-01 REGARDING POLITICAL EXPRESSION ON PUBLIC PROPERTY WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGE:**

- **ADD A CLAUSE TO THE POLICY DICTATING THAT AN ORGANIZER OF A POLITICAL EVENT BE REQUIRED TO REMOVE ANY LITTER, TRASH, OR DEBRIS FROM CITY PROPERTY FOLLOWING THE EVENT.**

**COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.**

**7. Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 1-07 adopting Title Three rewrite of the Syracuse City Code.**

Mayor Nagle stated the Council has reviewed the proposed rewrite over the past several months and they are now prepared to hold a public hearing to consider final adoption of a new version of Title Three. She stated Title Three of the City Code deals with Boards and Commissions. She asked City Recorder Brown to provide a brief explanation of Title Three.

Ms. Brown stated that Title Three was previously Title Two of the City Code. She stated the document provides rules and regulations for any committee, board, or commission created by the City Council, such as the Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments, Museum Board, Parks Advisory Committee, and Arts Council to name a few. She stated the document provides information regarding the establishment of the committees, terms of office of the members, and compensation for members if applicable. She added that the role of the committee and the role of the City Council is also clearly defined.

Mayor Nagle then convened the public hearing.

TJ Jensen, 3242 S. 1000 W., stated that this document will affect the Planning Commission and at their last meeting the Commission discussed the fact that they currently do not have a document including bylaws and they decided to work on creating such a document. He stated that their assessment was that they do not think they will need to rewrite the section of Title Three that pertains to them, but they will begin working on bylaws at future meetings.

There being no additional persons wishing to be heard Mayor Nagle closed the public hearing.

**COUNCILMEMBER SHINGLETON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED ORDINANCE 11-07 ADOPTING THE TITLE THREE REWRITE OF THE SYRACUSE CITY CODE. COUNCILMEMBER CLARK SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Mayor Nagle stated she had a conversation with some of the members of the Planning Commission and one concern that was raised is that there is not a norms document in place for the Planning Commission. She stated such a document

could dictate how a Chair of the Planning Commission is selected. She stated that the members she was speaking with had a couple of recommendations; one was that the Mayor selected the Chair and the Chair could subsequently select a Vice Chair; the other was that a member be required to attend a defined number of meetings before they could be selected as Chair. Mayor Nagle stated that she feels the best way to address that is via a bylaw document that could be drafted by the Planning Commission and then adopted by the Council. She stated she simply wanted to ensure that the concerns she was informed of were communicated to the Council during an open meeting.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nagle stated there has been a motion and a second regarding the proposed ordinance; she called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

#### 8. Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 11-08 adopting Title Six rewrite of the Syracuse City Code.

City Recorder Brown stated that Title Six of the City Code regulates business licensing and other types of licenses that are issued by the City. She stated that this document was provided to the Council one month ago for a first reading and then it was reviewed during an extended work session meeting. She stated the Council recommended some changes to the document and the version of the document that has been provided to the Governing Body for consideration this evening includes all changes in highlighted font. She stated she would be happy to answer any questions about any changes made to the document.

COUNCILMEMBER CLARK MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED ORDINANCE 11-08 ADOPTING THE TITLE SIX REWRITE OF THE SYRACUSE CITY CODE. COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mayor Nagle stated that on page 18 of the document there is a definition of parks and it says that parks will be called out in another section of the City Code, but the code reference is blank. Ms. Brown stated that this is likely a typographical error and she will follow up and ensure that the code reference is included in the document.

Mayor Nagle stated that page 21 of the document, part three, includes the incorrect spelling of restaurant. She added that she noted the change of license administrator to Community Development Director. She then stated there was discussion regarding the food to alcohol ratio that was used in the alcoholic beverages section of the Title. She stated that it is her understanding that staff consulted with Layton City to determine what their ratio is as well. She stated that they use the same ratio that has been included in the document for consideration. Ms. Brown added that staff consulted with several cities before arriving at a final recommendation. She added that the ratio that has been included is also the same ratio that was included in the older version of Title Six and staff felt it was in the best interest of the City to maintain consistency relative to that regulation. Mayor Nagle stated she was simply trying to point out that staff had researched the issue prior to making a recommendation. Councilmember Shingleton thanked Ms. Brown for her research.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nagle stated there has been a motion and a second regarding the proposed ordinance; she called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

#### 9. Councilmember Reports.

Councilmember Kimmel stated he had nothing to report.

Councilmember Peterson stated he wanted to echo the Mayor's earlier comments regarding City staff. He stated that he understands it is tough for staff to listen to a discussion where their futures are being "batted around" by politicians. He then stated that he wanted to report that the fall recreation activities are in full swing. He stated there are over 450 kids signed up to play football and nearly as many playing soccer. He added that the community play was presented by the Arts Council over the weekend and he knows that it was well done and well attended. He stated it was a very professional production. He stated that he had the opportunity to introduce the production on the opening night and he commented that the City Council often debates about the amounts of money being contributed to those types of things, but he feels that they are what makes a community a community.

Councilmember Clark stated that he also wanted to echo the Mayor's and Councilmember Peterson's comments about City employees and the Arts County play. HE stated this is a great City.

Councilmember Shingleton stated that he also attended the play and it was a great production of Music Man. He stated he has seen the same production done by several different professional groups and this was one of the best that he has seen. He stated that he also wanted to communicate to staff that the elimination of the COLA is not personal and he truly believes that the staff deserve a raise. He stated he appreciates all that staff does for the City.

Councilmember Ocaña concurred with the comments that have been made and added that he truly appreciates the employees and thinks they have done an outstanding job of finding ways to help the Council through their tough budget decisions. He stated he knows that is very difficult work. He then stated he also saw Public Works crews working on the sink hole at approximately 2400 South and 1000 West. He stated he saw the workers working in the mud and they did an

awesome job fixing the problem. He stated the hole was approximately 10 feet by 15 feet wide and about 20 feet deep and it caused some damage, but if one drives by the area today they would not be able to tell there had been a problem there. He stated crews did an outstanding job of relaying sod and making other repairs. He then stated that he has signed up for the Police Department 5K race and he hoped to see some of the other Councilmembers participating as well.

10. Mayor Report.

Mayor Nagle stated she wanted to thank the remaining residents for their input. She stated that even though everyone may not agree on the best way to move forward she believes they can all agree that everyone is working hard and everyone's opinions matter. She stated she wanted to thank the residents for being part of the process. She stated that June Thurgood made the comment that the community did not get involved soon enough and now the City can only benefit from having more people involved and helping the City find a way forward. She stated she is grateful for that and she welcomes the participation and the input. She then stated that she marvels at the City staff; every time she has talked to them she is told about a new efficiency that is being created to save the City money. She stated that is the job the Council has asked them to do and they are doing it well. She stated she is also looking forward to the Police Department 5K and she hopes that there will be a good turnout. She then thanked the Fire Department for their attendance at tonight's meeting; they are not able to attend on a regular basis and they are a welcome addition.

11. City Manager Report.

Mr. Rice stated he had nothing to report this evening.

At 9:40 p.m. COUNCILMEMBER CLARK MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. COUNCILMEMBER PETERSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

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Jamie Nagle  
Mayor

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Cassie Z. Brown, CMC  
City Recorder

Date approved: September 27, 2011