

Wilmington City Council met on Thursday, July 5, 2012, with President Scott Kirchner presiding.

Roll Call: Jaehnig, present; Wells, present; Stuckert, present; Wallace, present; Mead, present; Siebenaller, present; McKay, present.

Officer Ron Cravens was also present.

President of Council asked cell phones to be set to silent mode.

Council gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

President

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by Mead to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting, June 21, as received.

Motion passed.

Minutes approved as received.

President Kirchner: That completes my portion of the agenda this evening. Mr. Mayor?

Mayor – Mayor Riley: I would like to start off by recognizing the Wilmington Park Board, Lori Williams, Friends of the Park, Trevor Shumaker, and I don't know how many volunteers we had that worked tirelessly in the heat to make our July 4th Celebration absolutely excellent. They did a great job. Also, the fireworks crew did an wonderful job. As you know, I used to work with them. In fact, I used to direct the fireworks crew for about 20-something years. And on a day like yesterday, when it's hot, those guys did a great job. And the show lasted more than 15 seconds, which some communities can't say that. They did a wonderful job. I would start thanking the sponsors, but I know I would leave somebody off, but thanks to all the sponsors who made that possible. As I told council two weeks ago, I was going to ask one of the superintendents to come in on a regular basis and give us an update and talk to us. Phil Floyd is here this evening to talk about the Wilmington Transit. Phil?

Phil Floyd: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Everybody here knows that anytime I get up to talk about Wilmington Transit, you get about ten minutes of commercial about how wonderful it is. That's what you're going to get. But, the mayor did ask me to come in this evening and talk about the funding methods, and what we have accomplished to reduce the requirements for city funds. Sometime this month we will receive our 2013 grant and budget proposal. This will begin the process that will allow the Wilmington to continue providing the safe and affordable public transportation that this community has come to rely on the last 28 years. This is a process that includes preparing the actual grant applications, determining the budgetary requirements, and preparing and signing the certification and assurances documents, which assures our commitment and guarantee as a recipient of federal/state funds that we will follow every and all requirements set up by the federal transit administration and the Ohio Department of Transportation. The most important requirement within these documents is that the grantee, which is the City of Wilmington, will make available within its General Fund a percentage of the total operating budget in capital funds for any requested replacement vehicles. The formula to determine the shared cost to provide the service is determined by multiple factors, including current available federal and state funds, of course, our prior year performance data and efficiencies, our budget request and need, and the percentage of ridership based on population. It used to be a rather simple formula with the federal government providing 50%, the state government 30%, and the local grantee 20% of the total operating costs. However, over the last 10 years, Ohio's contribution to public transit has decreased from a high of \$40,000,000 to only \$7.5 million this year and next. This year we have had to adjust to these reductions in available grant funds. For a period of time, Wilmington's share continued to increase. Just four years ago, Wilmington's share or required local match was as high as 29% of the total operating capital budget. The amount at that time was \$436,302. When I first came to Wilmington

Transit System, then known as Wilmington City Cab Service, my first priority was to find ways to reduce the amount the City of Wilmington had to contribute to the General Fund as part of the total budget. The 2009 grant and budget applications arrived soon after. When I finally submitted to ODOT we had indeed found ways to reduce Wilmington's contribution and had it reduced to only \$246,869, the lowest amount since the year 2000. By 2011, we were down to \$192,295. This was very timely, as the economy tanked soon after we submitted the 2009 grant request and budget. It's very important to realize that while we are required to make available a certain amount to our general fund, we do not always have to transfer or spend the total amount. In 2010, we transferred only 31% of the allocated city funds. But in 2011, we were forced to use all of our allocated funds. Every year is different. There are costs that we control and of course costs that we have no control over, like fuel costs and vehicle maintenance. Some of the things that I did to reduce the City of Wilmington's share was to look at the previous budgets, line by line, as well as analyze all aspects of operations and find ways to increase efficiency, such as combine riders to move more people with fewer miles, trim drivers' hours, no overtime, not replacing drivers if they retired. Today we're down to 42 drivers from 49, which means that our part-time drivers are working harder. We send drivers home if we're not busy. We've found alternative grant funds, such as the Congestion Mitigation to Air Quality Funds that provided at that time 100% of the replacement costs of two vans, plus a Fuel Initiative Funding, which helped to pay for increased fuel costs. Operationally we have cancelled several service contracts with outside companies, such as maintenance contracts on our air compressor, a \$1600 savings, our vehicle lift, a \$1500 savings, and we have reduced weekly costs for uniforms by conducting an analysis of needs and overages. We cancelled all city-provided mobile phones and extended the maintenance service procedure frequency on vehicles. We no longer perform certain maintenance procedures if not required per vehicle maintenance schedules, such as air conditioning flushing and transmission flushing. We instituted a no-idling policy, except for in extreme temperature situations like today where we want to keep it cool and safe for our drivers and our riders. At that time, we replaced two large wheelchair vehicles with more fuel efficient minivans with wheelchair ramps. We are required to have 50% of our fleet wheelchair accessible at all times. Last year, we learned that we could take advantage of a fuel tax rebate from the State of Ohio, generating \$11,000 from the 2011 fuel use. This rebate will be available again this year. We reworked our required phonebook advertising, reducing monthly costs from \$118 to \$47 a month. I maintain complete control over authorizing purchase orders, and I continue very close scrutiny of all expenses, every single day. I work very closely with the Department of Transit at ODOT to find ways to reduce local shares. Besides controlling costs, we determined that contract work counts as local share, so we have slowly been building our contracts and have been accepting more trips from agencies such as Job and Family Services, MRDD, Clinton Memorial Hospital, schools, local businesses, etc. Contract work provides double the revenue of standard fares; however, we have to be very careful to balance contract with our main function of an on-demand door-to-door service for our community members. I also learned that we could use as local share allocated costs from our use of services provided by the Auditor's Office, HR Department, and the Service Director's Office. It has been my absolute goal in the last four years to find any way possible to reduce expenses to the bare minimum while maintaining the same level of service and maintaining the affordable fare structure. We have only had one rate increase in 28 years. Now, one downside to our cost saving efforts have been, at times, slightly longer wait times, which can make it difficult for our community members to plan, especially for healthcare appointments or to be picked up with perishable groceries in hand. Wait times can be as much as one hour, especially during the first week or so of the month. And a result of our cost cutting efforts is that Wilmington's share of the total transit budget has been reduced from that 29% when I started to only 13% of our total Wilmington Transit operating budget. Now what that means is that for every \$1 worth of service provided to the community, it costs Wilmington 13 cents. Conversely, every \$1 cut from the Wilmington Transit budget saves Wilmington 13 cents. As an example, as suggested recently if we reduced our full-time employees week to 35 hours, we would save 13 cents for every dollar reduced, but we would lose the federal and state money, which amounts to 87 cents of every dollar, reduced as an expense. It is important to know that it is not a dollar-to-dollar savings scenario. Other issues worth noting are that we actually couldn't reduce hours of our full-time dispatcher, because we would have to fill those hours with somebody else,

because of the hours that we operate, thereby not saving any money there. We could not reduce the hours of the part-time drivers any more than we already have and adequately cover the hours we operate. Each of the last two years I have prepared for our mayor, the previous mayor, multiple scenarios that would include reduced local contribution amounts. In almost every scenario, service hours would have to be shortened or fares would have to rise substantially, or both, to save any significant amounts. By significant amounts, I am saying it would still only be a fraction of money needed to reduce the deficit. But the resulting reduction in service would adversely affect those that require the service to maintain quality of life not available through any other means. Our service allows for a high level of independence for our elderly and disabled. So many people rely on us to transport them for essential services such as healthcare appointments, including dialysis and the cancer center, food shopping, social service, educational and social interaction. I've seen many times, this service is an economic generator for the community. Our two most frequent destinations are Kroger and Wal-Mart, plus many other local retail and restaurants. Money is being spent or earned for every trip to those establishments. The 13 cents on the dollar being allocated by the city for Wilmington Transit is one of the best investments being made on behalf of its citizens. This year, again, we are on track to provide 125,000 rides. I want to say that again, 125,000 rides. We are considered by ODOT Department of Transit one of the best transit systems in the state. No other Ohio public transit provides the ratio of rides to population that we do. Our performance data has improved every year since 2008. Now there are a few things that can be done to slightly reduce local share further without severe changes to our service level. We could charge fees for advertising on the side of our vehicles. We looked at this and found that it would generate minimal revenue and would make our vehicles very unsightly. Approximately \$3000 a year can be saved by eliminating provided uniforms for our drivers. This is highly discouraged as it would take away the level of professionalism and an element of familiarity, safety, and friendliness that our seniors and other riders come to expect. Arriving to pickup in street clothes would create uncertainty to many people. Direct contributions or in-kind contributions count as local share. We take personal checks. With the very strong efforts made over the last several years to eliminate any and all excess and/or unneeded expenses at Wilmington Transit System, it is very evident that any additional reductions to the required Wilmington city matching funds would adversely affect our ability to provide the transportation services that our citizens have come to expect and in many cases require. Any further reductions in Wilmington local match, without new revenues, would result in a reduction of service hours or increased fares. As I stated before, if the amount of Wilmington's matching funds were reduced by 50%, as has been suggested, then federal and state funds would be reduced by the same percentage. This would result in service being cut in half. Public transportation in Wilmington provides all of our citizens a convenient and necessary means to gain access to work, healthcare, education, and shopping. For many seniors and the disabled, there would be no other means to access these services. The Wilmington Transit System allows for a level of independence not available if we did not exist. The Wilmington Transit System has already endured a reduction of State funds over the last few years. We have seen a 30% reduction just this year alone. Through hard work and dedication of all our employees, we have continued to provide a level of service that is considered the best in the state of Ohio. We see our employees as our greatest asset, realizing that without them we could not exist. They have pressed on, without complaint, without hesitation, without raises, to continue to providing the community with the service that is exception and necessary for the wellbeing of the citizens of Wilmington. Thank you for listening.

Mayor Riley: Thank you, Phil. I appreciate it. I want to make sure I've got this straight. The city share has been cut from over \$400,000 to less than \$200,000 in the last few years.

Phil Floyd: Yes. Last year we asked for \$192,865, I believe.

Mayor Riley: And two years ago, it was over \$400,000.

Phil Floyd: Correct.

Mayor Riley: Good job.

Phil Floyd: Thank you.

Paul Hunter: Are you still using the city gas pumps for the cab?

Phil Floyd: We do.

Paul Hunter: Have you looked into doing what the police department has done?

Phil Floyd: We have definitely done a full analysis of that.

Paul Hunter: And there is no significant savings for us?

Phil Floyd: And the safety factor, pulling the large vehicles through there, as busy as they get, would be difficult. But we have looked at it, Paul.

Mike Mandelstein: How about alternative fuel? Are any of the vehicles powered by propane or compressed natural gas.

Phil Floyd: This has been considered. Absolutely. None of our vehicles are able to function on alternative gasoline. Certainly, down the road, when there's available funds. We had hoped to get three vehicles this year, but we were only able to get two. The costs of the other types of vehicles, we have put that.

Mike Mandelstein: The current fare that is being collected by the drivers is a minimum of...?

Phil Floyd: It's a \$2 fare for anywhere in the City of Wilmington. Outside the city it's a dollar a mile. If you're a senior, 55 years old, or permanently disabled, you can receive a transit card that will give you a fare of \$1 within the city.

Mike Mandelstein: What percentage of those collections contribute to the overall budget, the operation.

Phil Floyd: The elderly and disabled?

Mike Mandelstein: All fares collected?

Phil Floyd: Contribute to what, please?

Mike Mandelstein: Contribute to your budget. As far as the money collected by the drivers, regardless of who the ridership is?

Phil Floyd: Fares collected.

Mike Mandelstein: Yes. The fares collected. What percentage of that contributes to the budget.

Phil Floyd: I'll get that information out there for you, Mike.

Mayor Riley: Mike, I would point out, as a matter of fact, just today I was looking at what it would cost to convert the taxicabs to compressed natural gas, and it's in the range of about \$7500 - \$7800 per conversion, which would equal about 1800 gallons of gas. So, to convert vehicles that we now have on the road, I think would be excessively expensive. I'm sorry, Phil, I haven't had a chance to talk to you about this yet. What I would like to do is as we bring new cars into the fleet, do a cost-benefit analysis of purchasing vehicles that might run on compressed natural gas, which in some communities compressed natural gas is available at under a dollar a gallon. I've heard it's as low as 50 cents a gallon in some areas. That could be a huge savings. Like I said, I apologize to Phil because I haven't had a chance to talk to him about it. I just thought about it today.

Mike Mandelstein: It's been a common practice since [inaudible] particularly in Georgia, to equip and run most of their vehicles fleets in municipalities with gas, natural gas...

Mayor Riley: Not just the cabs, but all of their vehicles. You're right. That has been looked at in several places.

Phil Floyd: That is certainly something that we are looking at.

President Kirchner: Mike, I would also offer, today I stopped down and was talking to Chris Schock, Director of Regional Planning, about that very topic and asking to check into the availability of grant funds for converting vehicles. Obviously, one of the issues is that you have to have the infrastructure to fuel the vehicles. Chris has indicated a willingness to take a look at it. You're right, it's an option we need to look at for lowering costs. I had not had a chance to discuss it with anybody having just caught Chris in his office today. I do think it's an idea that we will look into fully.

Paul Hunter: You have to consider cargo space as well. You will have to fill up the trunk when you go to the grocery store. That's where the bottle would sit, I would assume.

Mayor Riley: Those are exactly the issues that we need to look into, Paul.

Phil Floyd: To answer your question, Mike, about 20% of our total budget is fare collection – about \$305,000 this year is our estimated fare collection.

Mike Mandelstein: So any sort of cut of the numbers that you just indicated, say 6.5%, the offset if it were a straight fare increase, would be a ballpark figure, double or more. In other words, if the city said we can't go \$192,295 in 2011, for example, we can only get half that and you had to offset that with a fare increase, simply no other relief from other sources. I guess I'm asking, roughly where would the fare structure be – if the hypothetical became a reality.

Phil Floyd: I would have to look at those numbers to get it. We have done analysis, of course, on what fare increases would do – 25 cents, 50 cents, one dollar. Those are the kinds of things we look at all the time in terms of how we could increase revenue.

Mike Mandelstein: Are the fares more or less in line based on your knowledge of the 88 counties.

Phil Floyd: There are 59 transit systems in the state, and we're right there with a good many of them. Actually, in the city, the fares are higher.

Paul Hunter: There is some limit on what you can do with the elderly and handicapped fares, right?

Phil Floyd: Yes. The end line is we're constantly looking at ways to fund and move the people that we move for the least amount of cost. That's our main goal.

President Kirchner: Phil, you mentioned something that I'm curious about. You mentioned hearing of a proposal to cut the budget by half. I'm not familiar with where that...

Phil Floyd: That was in the proposal that Councilman Wells and Councilman Mead presented last year. In fact, just a few weeks ago, Councilman Mead held up saying this is the proposal that we presented. I'm assuming that it's still on the table being thought about.

[discussion]

Councilman Wells: We had discussed that number afterwards. Remember? We had a misunderstanding. It wasn't made clear to us how that formula worked. We talked about that.

Phil Floyd: Because that was still mentioned, Don, though, I felt that it was still on the table as a possibility and being thought about.

Mayor Riley: That is exactly why we're asking superintendents to come in – to discuss all of these issues.

Phil Floyd: It was three weeks ago that the proposal was mentioned as still being the answer to the issues. There was a certain meeting where that was a thought. Again, to cut 50% of the city share would indeed cut our total grant monies 50%.

Councilman Wells: Well, I think communication like this, you've explained to us the formula, so we have a better understanding of how it works. At that time, we didn't know.

Phil Floyd: Hopefully it's been helpful.

Councilman Wells: I think at that time, we went through all of that.

Mayor Riley: I want to throw you one more curve ball. In case you haven't noticed, it's hot outside. Your drivers really do touch in a very helpful way a lot of our senior citizens. I would ask you tomorrow morning when the drivers start coming in to encourage them to talk to our seniors about drinking lots of water – not just coffee and tea – but lots of water. Also, if there is anyone who is really seriously in a significant straight – they don't have fans and they don't have air conditioning – recommend to them that they just lie down in the tub for about 10-15 minutes to make a lifesaving difference for some of our citizens. I would encourage you to have your drivers, as obviously the chit-chat in the cab is going to be about the heat a lot – but have them give them a few tips about drinking a lot of water – water in and water on are the two best ways to fight this heat that we are in. So, I would ask them to do that.

Phil Floyd: I can put a memo on the board in the morning.

Mayor Riley: I appreciate that. Thank you so much.

President Kirchner: Phil, if I could. I wanted to clarify one thing. You referred to the voluntary furlough program that I had mentioned. Just so you know, the analysis did not include drivers because they are part time. It only included full-time administrative personnel.

Phil Floyd: That is why I referenced the six full time.

President Kirchner: Well, I thought you had mentioned the fact that if you had to do it with your drivers, it would reduce service hours...that was why.

Phil Floyd: If we reduced the part-time drivers' hours even further, obviously it would affect the operation hours. But, in referring to the furlough or 35-hour week, I referred to our six full-time employees. To do that, and if the entire city employee's staff did that, we would reduce, for instance the allocated cost that we use from the departments I mentioned, which would reduce the amount even further, because we would receive less in grant money. I figured about \$10,000 is what would be saved if all five of our full-timers, not including the dispatchers because we have to make that up, \$10,000 is what would be saved if they took 35-hour weeks.

Mayor Riley: I appreciate you coming tonight. Thank you so much.

Phil Floyd: You're welcome.

Mayor Riley: The only other thing I had was on my way in just a little over a half an hour ago, I saw the strangest thing parked in downtown Wilmington. It was an orange car with parachutes at the back of it. Rob?

Councilman Jaehnig: It's ECTA weekend. The East Coast Timers are back. It's the Ohio Mile Weekend again. They are a little stunned. They were expecting it to be a light month and as of Wednesday or Tuesday, they had a 107 registrants, which is up from last month. Not as much as the inaugural event, but they didn't expect that. They actually had not originally planned on this particular date in July being so close to the 4th, but because of availability and schedules they went ahead with it anyways. They are pleasantly surprised with the turnout they're going to get. There is a also a strong amount of motorcycles coming in that indicate the possibility of a show of support for the individual who passed during the last race. They are expected to start racing between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. in Saturday morning. They'll finish racing between 5:00 and 6:00 on Saturday, and then back at it again between 8:00 and 9:00 Sunday morning and be done by 4:00 Sunday afternoon. A know a lot of them are planning on hitting downtown on Saturday evening.

Mayor Riley: It's not very often you see something that looks surprisingly like the General Lee sitting downtown with parachutes on the back of it. I knew you would know what that was. Thank you, Rob. That is all I have, Scott.

President Kirchner: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Auditor – Auditor David Hollingsworth had no report.

Asset, Acquisition and Use – Chairperson Bob Mead had no report.

Finance Committee – Chairperson Bob Mead: Mr. President, we have one item this evening, which is going to be three readings on an ordinance making supplemental appropriations. These appropriations do affect the General Fund. These are items that were not put into the budget at the end of the last budget period. They were not put into the new budget in order to keep the budget down. At this point, Wilmington needs to enter into an interview, test and hire some people. They are mostly covering the costs of testing for those interviews and also some standard procedures for drug testing for the year. This is an item brought forward by the HR Department.

A motion was made by Mead and seconded by McKay to give the first reading only on the ordinance Making Supplemental Appropriations.

President asked for discussion.

Seeing none, President called for vote.

Motion passed

Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Mead and seconded by McKay to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes.

Director of Law read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Mead and seconded by McKay to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll call: Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5033 passed as read.

Councilman Mead: That is all I have this evening, Mr. President.

Water Committee – Chairperson Mike Wallace had no report.

Streets Committee – Chairperson Mark McKay had no report.

Solid Waste/Recycling Committee: Chairperson Don Wells: No report, Mr. President, but I would encourage the citizens to please recycling. If you don't have a bin, call us. We need to help save our landfill. Thank you.

Wastewater/Sewer Committee: Chairperson Loren Stuckert had no report.

Judiciary Committee: Chairperson Loren Stuckert: Mr. President, I have five items tonight. The first item, I would like to make a motion to suspend the rules and regulations and give a second and third reading on our ordinance to modify an existing planned development at Cape May, located in the City of Wilmington.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance Modifying an Existing PD-1 Located in the City of Wilmington.

Roll call: Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes.

Director of Law read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll call: Wallace, yes; Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5034 passed as read.

Councilman Stuckert: Mr. President, our second item is a third reading on the ordinance that we have heard twice before rescinding the codified ordinance 1303.01 regarding the period of display for political signs.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to give the third reading only on the ordinance Rescinding Codified Ordinance 1303.01 Regarding the Period of Display for Political Signs.

Motion passed

Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by McKay to pass the ordinance as read.

Law Director Shidaker: It already passed.

President of Council declared the ordinance passed as read.

Councilman Stuckert: Okay. The third item is a third reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 1167.07 to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wilmington Portable and Temporary Signs.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to give the third reading only on the ordinance Amending Chapter 1167.07 to the Codified ordinances of the City of Wilmington Portable and Temporary Signs.

Motion passed

Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

President of Council declared the ordinance passed as read.

Councilman Stuckert: Our fourth item, I would like to move for a third reading on an ordinance amending Chapters 1167.01 and 1167.04 to the codified ordinances of the City of Wilmington wall and projecting signs.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to give the third reading only on the ordinance Amending Chapter 1167.01 and 1167.04 to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wilmington Wall and Projecting Signs.

Motion passed

Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

President of Council declared the ordinance passed as read.

Councilman Stuckert: The final item is a motion I would like to make to suspend the rules and regulations and give the second and third reading on an ordinance rescinding codified ordinance 509.09 regarding suspicious persons and codified ordinance 373.12 regarding impounding.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Mead to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance Rescinding Codified Ordinance 509.09 Regarding Suspicious Persons and Codified Ordinance 373.12 Regarding Impounding. Roll call: Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes.

Director of Law read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Siebenaller to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll call: Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Mead, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5038 passed as read.

Councilman McKay: Mr. President, just a clarification because I've been here longer than anybody, and I do not recall when we had just the third reading not having a motion for passage. Can you clarify that, Brian?

Law Director Shidaker: Can you say that again, please?

Councilman McKay: Why do you not need a motion for passage when you have just a third reading.

Law Director Shidaker: We should have had a motion for passage.

Councilman McKay: So, what do we need to do?

President Kirchner: Just to clarify the question, you're asking about the previous items that only had a third reading, correct?

Law Director Shidaker: Right.

Councilman McKay: Correct. Because you have the second and third reading by title only, you obviously have to have a motion, so you would need it for passage only.

Councilman Stuckert: You indicated that it was already passed and we didn't need it.

Law Director Shidaker: That was incorrect. There should have been a motion for passage at that point.

Councilman Stuckert: So we're even. You stand corrected.

[Laughter]

Councilman McKay: More importantly, how do we fix this thing?

President Kirchner: That would be the appropriate question to ask at this point.

Law Director Siebenaller: For those that did not have a motion for passage, if you want to do it right, we can do the motion now for passage.

President Kirchner: As we get ready to do that, let's make sure Brenda has time to document the roll call. Because I know your list goes in order on the roll call.

Clerk Brenda Woods: But there won't be roll call.

President Kirchner: Passage will, I believe. Passage is not a yea/nay vote.

[Discussion of voting procedures]

President Kirchner: We're learning new things tonight, Councilman McKay. I have to admit that it's catching me...

Clerk Brenda Woods: It's yea/nay.

Law Director Shidaker: Yes. It's yea/nay.

Clerk Brenda Woods: You'll have a motion, a second, and then "all those in favor."

Law Director Shidaker: Then I don't have to read it again because it's done.

Councilman Stuckert: So, we're going back up to item B. On that third reading of the ordinance rescinding codified ordinance 1303.01 regarding the period of display for political signs...

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to pass the ordinance Rescinding Codified Ordinance 1303.01 Regarding the Period of Display for Political Signs, as read.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5035 passed as read.

Councilman Stuckert: Then Item C, the third reading on an ordinance amending chapter 1167.07 of the codified ordinances on portable and temporary signs.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to pass the ordinance Amending Chapter 1167.07 to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wilmington Portable and Temporary Signs, as read.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5036 passed as read.

Councilman Stuckert: Then item D, which was our third reading on the ordinance amending Chapters 1167.01 and 1167.04 to the codified ordinances of the city on wall and projecting signs.

A motion was made by Stuckert and seconded by Jaehnig to pass the ordinance Amending Chapter 1167.01 and 1167.04 to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wilmington Wall and Projecting Signs, as read.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5037 passed as read.

President Kirchner: Do you have anything else, Councilman Stuckert?

Councilman Stuckert: That is all I have.

President Kirchner: Thank you, Councilman McKay, for asking for the clarification. I have to admit that after he had indicated we didn't need it, I just moved forward.

[Banter]

Safety Committee- Chairperson Don Wells had no report.

Downtown Revitalization Committee - Convener Mark McKay: I think we talked about just about everything that is going to happen this weekend. The General Denver Draft is Friday evening and that is supported by ECCO. Saturday and Sunday, the ECTA. Then, Saturday night, the cruise-in.

Councilman Jaehnig: Sunday the fair begins.

Councilman McKay: Sunday the fair begins. That's slightly off downtown, but that is truly a big event.

[Banter about fair]

Councilman McKay: Let's go back to Safety for just a second. Don, we haven't discussed this, but I know there's discussion with the county and I attended the meeting

where the mayor discussed our Station 2 and the possibility of using it for emergency. I just wondered, are we at a point where we need to have a meeting internally to discuss that further?

Mayor Riley: We're getting close. Not right yet, because the sheriff has been out of town, and I certainly need to talk with him first. But, yes, we're getting awfully close. It just makes good sense, but I certainly want to talk to the sheriff and maybe have him at that meeting if possible. I haven't had the chance to talk to him yet.

Councilman Wells: Will we be compensated in some form for the use of the building.

Mayor Riley: Yes. We'll have an excellent EOC and that will be our compensation. We'll have an Emergency Operation Center that is probably double the size of the one at the Sheriff's Office. It will function a whole lot better. Currently the EOC is paid by everybody in the county per capita basis. The City of Wilmington has, for I don't know how many years, has paid \$15,000, slightly above our per capita. The County has paid \$30,000, but they have provided in kind, which they are required to by law. I'm not really too concerned... Actually, there's a couple of interesting things with this, Don. I'm not particularly concerned about recouping any of the in-kind gift, but as we proceed to mothball Station 2, use it less and less, we will still use it for storage, one of the things that has made me a little uncomfortable is not having someone out there every day. This will put an occupancy in that building that I think is really good for the city. So, we get something in return. We'll have a couple of people out there who will keep an eye on the building for us. That makes me feel a whole lot better. A lot of things are coming together to make this seem like a really good idea. The number one reason for doing this is that the emergency operation center that has been designated for us, and thank the Lord that we've never had to use it, would not work well in a true emergency. It just wouldn't. Brian was out there the other day and took a look at with me. We were just doing a little run-through on that side of town. Brian, do you have any observations from that that you noticed.

Councilman Siebenaller: Station 2 is clearly bigger.

Mayor Riley: Oh, yeah. Which makes a huge difference.

Councilman McKay: They would, in your proposal, be doing renovation-type repairs?

Mayor Riley: Yes. Anything that would be needed to bring it up to usable standards would have to be done by, one, the county. They have EMBG funds that come in from the state. We also have grant dollars that are available from the state for, usually it's for building a new EOC – Emergency Operation Center, but if you have a perfect solution to a problem like we do, those funds could well be available for us also. But, I'm not looking to putting any city dollars into rehabbing that facility. Actually, because of the mold and the remediation that we had to do with the mold, there is some work that needs to be done to that building. So, this will get that done for us.

Councilman McKay: So, it's kind of a win-win situation.

Mayor Riley: Oh, it really is. Yes. It really is.

President Kirchner: The operational costs would then be covered by the Emergency Management Organization as opposed to the city budget.

Mayor Riley: Correct.

President Kirchner: So, we would actually be able to maintain the facility.

Mayor Riley: We have to keep that facility above freezing. We can't just shut it off because we have tankers and life squads out there as well. We have to heat this facility, and this could help defray some of that cost. So win-win is a very good analogy, Mark.

Councilman Wells: Do we currently do the mowing out there?

Mayor Riley: Yes. Mike?

Mike Mandelstein: What assets are currently stored out there at that building.

Mayor Riley: I couldn't give you the numbers of the vehicles, but I know that we have the platform aerial, which fits out there perfectly. We have an engine. We have a squad. The fire safety house that is used to teach children about fires and also weather-related emergencies is in that facility, as well as we have a trailer that has the rescue boat in it, the original inflatable that we use. That type of thing is hooked up and ready to go.

Unknown in audience: The foam pumper.

Mayor Riley: The foam pumper. Thank you. There are a couple of other pieces out there, but I can't remember what they all are. The fitness area is also out there at this time. We have a pretty good fitness area that PD and FD can use on a regular basis, just for the fitness and wellness on their part.

Mike Mandelstein: What is the foreseeable use for any of those assets.

Mayor Riley: We alternate the use of those assets once a month (or is it every other?)... On a regular basis, they are rotating them down to station 1 so that one piece of apparatus is not getting worn down quickly, so it should double the life of the equipment that we have. So, all of the equipment is being maintained in a state of readiness. And, Lord willing, we have some industry, we have some growth, we have some jobs. Who knows if we might have to reopen station 2. If we have to reopen Station 2, nothing that we do out there for the EOC would impact our ability to reopen Station 2 and use it as a fire station.

Mike Mandelstein: In other words, it's a simpatico relationship between the two entities.

Mayor Riley: Absolutely.

Councilman Siebenaller: I really appreciate you taking us through. When we went out there earlier this week (and I really appreciate you taking us through), it was pretty clear the divide between the area that would be used for emergency management and then the other side would be fire. They had bacon going on at one end.

Mayor Riley: We know what the chief had for breakfast.

President Kirchner: Everybody loves bacon.

Mike Mandelstein: Is it possible that that building, in an extreme contingency, has additional space for marshalling first responder forces from that point in the event of a city-wide issue that renders this fire station incapacitated.

Mayor Riley: Absolutely. In your emergency response preparedness...

Mike Mandelstein: I mean moving actual equipment out there and staging it.

Mayor Riley: Absolutely. That type of redundancy is really important in emergency management.

Mike Mandelstein: Enough such that it would more than just our city fire department. Other resources might be marshaled there.

Mayor Riley: If you look at that facility, Mike, we currently have the very large parking area just to the east of Station 2. That belongs to the city has well. That would be an area...we have actually talked about that...we would do staging of emergency response equipment if it was necessary.

Mike Mandelstein: Is there a current backup power supply.

Mayor Riley: Absolutely.

Mike Mandelstein: Would it have to be upgraded?

Mayor Riley: It has been upgraded. It's good to go right now.

Mike Mandelstein: For both entities.

Mayor Riley: Yes, sir. That's actually mandatory for an EOC. You have to have backup.

Safety Director Russ Burton: We're not going to lose total control of the facility because it's also going to be shared by PD and FD for training.

Mike Mandelstein: Does the facility lend itself to future building expansion.

Mayor Riley: To be real honest with you Mike, I don't think that's necessary. I don't think that's necessary. We do have some expansion capability out there...

Mike Mandelstein: I'm going somewhere with that, but not right at this time.

Russ Burton: On the west end of the building, the one closest to Liberty Center, there is potential area there for expansion. But, like the mayor said, right now, it's not required.

Mayor Riley: There is also expansion capability to the north side of it. You have bays that make up the bulk of the building. It is actually towards the golf course area, towards the back of the golf course, there is a large gravel area. There is actually a blacktop area and then a large gravel area. You could probably, if you needed to for more equipment, you could probably put in another two or three bays and still be able to get all the way around the building without cutting through bays. So, yeah, it does have that kind of expansion. And a helicopter on the roof.

Mike Mandelstein: One last question concerning it. Does it have the capability or could it have the capability in an extreme contingency to become a medical triage point...

Russ Burton: Absolutely. With the bays, the bays could be cleared out. The equipment would be out anyway.

Mayor Riley: Yes it could, but if you are doing a mass casualty assessment, we also have capability of setting up, there are actually inflatable structures at the hospital that can be made for mass casualty, particularly if you are doing decontamination and such. They inflate almost like a original inflatable, like a ZUMRO. These inflatable things just pop up literally in three to five minutes, Mike. It's a structure that is ready to go.

Mike Mandelstein: But, if they were not available initially...that's the question I'm going to.

Mayor Riley: Absolutely. That is where EMS and Fire Departments and Emergency Responders are taught to scramble. They can make an emergency facility out of almost nothing. In fact, in one of our trainings, when I was with FEMA Disaster Medical Assistant Team, that was one of our challenges coming up with a triage area that was out of the weather. We literally just used ladders going from one fire truck to the other draping canvass over it, and you had an area underneath that that you could actually treat patients. It made really a fairly large area for us. That's the type of training that they go through in emergency preparedness. That is all I have. Thank you.

Parks and Recreation Committee - Convener Rob Jaehnig: We have no official legislation tonight, just a quick update on the parks. Obviously, this last week we had a very rough weekend. We had a major tournament going on out there when the storm hit Friday evening. They did an exceptional job of taking care of those people and getting them where they needed to be, getting everything cleaned back up, reset back up, so that they could continue to play the next day. They did an exceptional job there. They have

two weekend tournaments coming up in a row with the Cincinnati Red Stockings, which is like little league baseball. It's a two-weekend event. Also, the Friends of the Park have been extremely busy out there. Obviously, they are the host for the 4th of July event, but they have done a lot of donating with new lights and new electrical outlets out there. Some new dirt and gravel to smooth out some parking lots. They have donated almost \$3000 to give back to the parks to really improve. The parks are still looking for volunteers. They are setting up parent advisory groups for each of the rec leagues – soccer and baseball and so forth – to try to get more parent involvement and more parent discussion. We want to see where you want to go. These types of things. So, they are really doing a great job of reaching out to the community and having those discussions. There are a few spaces left for their big fishing event this weekend. They are going to be fishing around the pond.

[TRANSCRIPTION INTERRUPTED – END OF TAPE]

Councilman Wells: ...Stuckey Farm Park. I had a gentleman who lives in Lakewood complain to me that he thought we should mow that because it's kind of grewed up. I can't recall, have we been mowing that before? I know one time I was out there with Roy Joe and we walked around that property and it was short then. I don't... I just thought I'd pass that along because he did say something about it.

Service Director Reinsmith: I'll pass that on to Lori, now that it's a Park.

Councilman Wells: Okay. Thank you.

President Kirchner: I hesitate. In this heat, it may not be tall for long. It may be wilting down to nothing. Let's hope we get some relief.

Service Director Reinsmith: We'll get rain this next week; the fair is starting.

President Kirchner: I have to say, after Councilman Jaehnig talked about the interruption of the tournament last weekend, I can't help to think that Mother Nature mistakenly thought the Banana Split was that weekend, because normally we get a good Friday night storm. We were very blessed...

[Banter]

Income & Levy Tax Report: Chairman Jaehnig: We are continuing to meet, but we have no report today.

Service Director- Service Director Larry Reinsmith: I have no report, but I did get a report from my Water Superintendent, and I know the mayor got that too. He was sort of happy. Every month goes by and he keeps looking at his revenue. The first six months now of this year, he has had an increase for the first time in two or three years. So, that's a good sign for us.

Mayor Riley: He called me very happy about that. I would also like to point out at this time, Larry, since you're talking about the Water Department. Last weekend, when the storm blew through, we were hit, but not nearly as bad as our neighbors down in Highland County. I received a call from Mike Jones at EMA that Highland County EMA had contacted us because Highland Water was down to probably an hour or less of supply. They had a lot of people who were running out of water very quickly and wanted to know if we could help. I got a hold of Jerry, who, by the way, is on Highland Water, and said that he knew that he was down to a trickle. I said, "You better start filling up jugs." I told him if anybody from Highland County came with tankers or what they used to call water buffalos for potable water just to fill them and we would take care of the billing and issues of it later because our neighbors to the south were really hurting. It took them a couple of days to get over that. But Jerry was very instrumental in making all of that happen. I don't think we actually filled many tankers because the state came in fairly quickly, but we were prepared to help those folks.

Service Director Reinsmith: We also sold, I know, over 300,000 to Western Water. They had numerous situations and they may have had electric down to their pumps. We still had four connections to their system.

Councilman Jaehnig: Was the Highland water situation because of pumps being down.

Mayor Riley: They couldn't pump water up into their towers and that was the problem. It really rather surprised me that they didn't have backup generators for all those pumps. Being that as it may, they were hurting. So, we were able to at least be on standby to help them out.

Councilman Jaehnig: I just wanted to ask, where are we and what is the procedure to move forward on the scale at the landfill.

Service Director Reinsmith: Well, you know, when you passed the ordinance the other day, you didn't pass it as an emergency, which required a 30-day waiting period. I went ahead and sent the contract up to the vendor. All the 30-days is going to keep you from a referendum. I already have the wheels rolling on that. The contract is out and we're waiting for the signatures to come back. I figure by that time, the 30 days will be over with. You know, I talked with Donnie on that. In committee we talked about the cost of that project. There was a true cost of the scales of about \$60,000, but there is other additional monies that we are going to have to be required. I know Donnie said that you had moved the money at the last meeting, but all you moved was that \$60,000. But, there still will be additional, maybe \$20,000, that we will need. We can talk later about that.

President Kirchner: Let me understand, because I thought that was an installed cost.

Service Director Reinsmith: It is, but there are other requirements. There is a wheel washer and scrubber. You wash the tires on the vehicles as it is leaving the landfill, before it hits the scales again. You know, on those muddy days, it can pick up a lot of mud, and when it comes back over, you don't get a true reading on the truck weight.

Mayor Riley: On the empty truck.

Service Director Reinsmith: But I told Donnie we can hold off on that for a few months because it's not going to be that wet. Then, there's the gravel path that you're going to need there. I think he was working the numbers up, and it was around \$20,000 additionally. I know originally when we talked in committee, I said around \$80,000.

President Kirchner: So, we didn't bring forward the plan that has all of the needs to install the scale.

Service Director Reinsmith: No, I asked Donnie, I was on vacation, but I think he asked Rob how much money we were going to move.

Councilman Jaehnig: He didn't ask me, because it wasn't my committee.

Service Director Reinsmith: Whoever it was, asked what was the price of the scales, and he said "\$60,000," and they said, "We'll move \$60,000 then."

President Kirchner: As I recall, it was based on the quote that was brought to committee – based on the RFP that was put out.

Service Director Reinsmith: Yes, but all they are doing is installing the scales but not anything else. They're not moving fuel tanks.

Mayor Riley: The big cost, I think, that I just found about not long ago was washing the wheels as it left the landfill. I was just thinking about bringing things in and getting them weighed. But when the empty truck goes back out, it can't have 200 pounds of mud.

Service Director Reinsmith: I think it's like \$8000. You have to run some plumbing and stuff like that.

Mike Mandelstein: Larry, would it be safe to say that the scale itself is a \$60,000 install but you have site prep expenses that will add on to that to the tune of...say...twenty grand or so.

Service Director Reinsmith: I say you're real safe there, Mike. I mean, the scales are all totally installed with all the electronics and the digital readouts and the ramps and all of the concrete work. That's all that was for. We're looking at different options on the fuel tanks. The mayor knows we're talking about a couple of different things that may eliminate the need to move those fuel tanks altogether.

Councilman Wells: I remember us talking about the fuel tanks, but I did not recall ever hearing anything about a wheel washer.

Service Director Reinsmith: I didn't either. That was new.

Councilman Wells: Is that pretty standard everywhere?

Mike Mandelstein: I have seen something similar in my lives in Franklin County, Columbus, and Fayetteville, and it stands to reason if they're going to come in with clean wheels off of the payment, go up a muddy path, after the first weighing, disgorge the contents and return, and those wheels and the underside of caked, they probably are figuring they're writing checks or paying cash for what they're doing – what is referred to in the butcher shop as a fair tare.

Councilman Jaehnig: Actually, it would work in their favor...because they would be getting to dump extra trash and not pay for it.

Councilman Wells: And it behooves us to get the mud off.

Service Director Reinsmith: That's all Mr. President.

Safety Director – Safety Director Russ Burton had no report.

Reports:

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by Stuckert to approve the Income Tax Report – June 2012, as received.

Motion passed.

Reports accepted as received.

President Kirchner opened the meeting up to the general public and/or members of council to address council while in session.

Paul Hunter: 200 Randolph Street. The aggregation issue is one of my favorite subjects. We're sending \$80,000/month out of the city in excess utility costs. Every month we delay completing...I know you guys are busy...you have budget problems, you've got TIF problems, but this should have a priority of some sort. The county has moved to put it on the ballot. That's all been done. We don't need that step. We can proceed apace with just a simple procedure. The procedure will be given to you...any broker can tell you what to do and give you the paperwork to do it. About \$80,000/month is a lot of disposable income that can be spent in the city...it's the equivalent of a 13-mil property tax cut. This aggregation can mean that much to the citizens. If you have any questions, please ask. There is a little more detail as to how I arrived at my figures in the handout. We are moving towards some point, are we not?

President Kirchner: We are, Paul. Just so you know, just today I met with Chris Schock at the Planning Commission. I know that Bill Bradish had come in and talked to him. I'm trying to remember Bill's company.

Paul Hunter: Palmer Energy.

President Kirchner: They worked specifically with the county commissioners. The county commissioners have moved to put it on the ballot. The question I've been asking is the understanding of because there is potential for a greater savings with the larger group, is what kind of timing and ability the city would have to join in that aggregation or not. Those are the questions that I have been waiting to get the answer to.

Paul Hunter: My position is, and I think Bill's too, Mr. Braddock, is that let's go ahead and get the city done. The county issue can be done – they won't be ready for a year, I'm told, to actually do their county-wide aggregation. They've got to do the ballot issue in November and then it becomes effective sometime next May or so. We can go ahead and do ours – join or not join – it's up to us at the time that becomes available. I just can't see us holding up. I agreed with you initially, but in thinking it over, let's go ahead and move to get the citizens that savings. Then, when the county is on board and becomes certified, we can look at that in closer detail. The last word I had from Mr. Braddush was he thinks he can get the city the same rate as the combined rate. That's what he is telling me.

President Kirchner: That was part of the information that he had shared that he believed it was possible, that the city could act prior to the county being able to, for their own citizens, but could act through the County Commissioners potentially to get into that larger buying pool. I am waiting to hear the answer of whether or not that is an opportunity that council would need to consider.

Paul Hunter: All incorporated municipalities in the county, including Wilmington, have to have a ballot issue. We've done ours. We've got that paperwork done. Sabina now is interested; they will have to have their own. What the county can do, the unincorporated areas of the county, all of the townships are going to be under the county's umbrella, but not the villages. We can go ahead and do this. I just can't see any reason to delay because of the county because the county does what they do and we can do whatever we want later.

President Kirchner: It wasn't a matter of delaying to wait on the county. It was a matter of understanding the mechanics of it. We moved on our own outside of the county commissioners, who would be necessary to work with Palmer. Whether or not that would preclude our ability to join in if and when the county completes the ability.

Paul Hunter: Any municipality can join at any time.

President Kirchner: We would be contractually obligated to whatever we were involved in at that time if we move forward with aggregation outside of the county.

Paul Hunter: That's why, if they had a higher rate, you wouldn't want to aggregate. If they have the same rate, we would. If they have a lower rate than we get, then we'll go with the county that way. I don't see...let that work itself out.

President Kirchner: It's just understanding the mechanics of what it would imply moving forward, Paul. It's just getting the mechanics of what the commitments...

Paul Hunter: I'll just finish up and say that \$80,000 is going to Dayton that could be left here. Thanks. I left some things on the table if anybody is interested.

Councilman Jaehnig: Just one thing...for those who did not notice...Family Dollar opened their doors today, so we have another business up and running. So, there are a few more jobs. The sign has been lowered and it looks a lot better.

President Kirchner: I would offer to council in the public portion a budget proposal. I will note as this comes down that originally I tried to have this ready for the last meeting, and the date still says 6/21/12, because as I have continued to work on it, I did not go back and edit the date. So, it is a 7/5/12 budget proposal to Wilmington City Council. Tonight I would like to present a budget proposal for Council consideration that I think has the potential to significantly improve the city's ability to serve and protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens while living within the city's means as we

weather these troubling economic times. This proposal is made with a disappointing need and the respect and understanding of the significant impact it suggests to a limited number of individuals. It is also made with an understanding that we were elected to meet the needs of our citizens with the hard earned tax dollars they provide.

Many in our community have been touched by both the devastating impacts of our local tragedy with the departure of DHL and the economic downturn that has impacted our country and global economies. Our citizens have had to make personal adjustments in their own households to lower their expenses while providing for the true necessities in life like food, shelter and clothing. These needs have meant giving up on many conveniences and what some may call luxuries such as cell phones, eating out at our local restaurants and family vacations. Some have had to make more significant adjustments as extensive as lowering electric, gas and water usage and some have even sadly lost their homes, healthcare and even more. The devastation has been significant.

Through it all, the city has passed, I will note with dissenting votes, 3 deficit budgets and fallen back on the significant reserve funds generated by the brief period of prosperity encountered after the arrival of DHL and annexation of the airport. Sadly, during the time following the announcement and eventual departure of DHL, the city as a whole has failed to respond, as our citizens have had to, by reducing its convenience and luxury expenditures to live within its means. That period of spending beyond income and maintenance of higher than absolutely necessary budget expenditures has burned through the reserves briefly created and now leaves tough choices that much be made to serve the health, safety and welfare of our constituents.

During the 2011 campaign, I listened as then candidate for Mayor, Randy Riley, spoke of often hearing about the idea of “doing more with less” while indicating that it may be time to “do less with less.” Tonight, I would like to propose ideas that I think enable the city to do the same with less.

I have spend hundreds of hours in conversations with the Mayor, all 7 council members, other of our city elected officials, our constituents and in deep analysis of our city budget and personnel costs. Personnel costs specifically because the city is purely a service-focused organization and personnel are necessary to provide that service. I have listened to ideas expressed in public, input from all I have talked with and analyzed past and present data to try and identify options for addressing the budget deficits that we have faced for the past two years as well as in the current year.

As a result of that effort, I have identified some options I now put before council for their consideration as the elected voice of the people. Options aimed at first attempting to reduce the deficit in the current operating year and eventually at providing an opportunity for balancing our budget to revenue in the year ahead. The options include the following 3 items:

1. The consolidation of certain positions and responsibilities.
2. The elimination of administrative positions added during the years leading up to the DHL’s departure, some of which were budgeted and occupied but are now vacant.
3. The immediate reverse appropriation in the current year of monies intended to fund the salary, pension, workers compensation and Medicare costs of the appropriate above-referenced positions and updating of City Ordinance 4823, which is the City Classification legislation.

Item 1 refers to enacting an approach the Mayor has indicated he is constantly evaluating of combining responsibilities and positions, thus reducing a position and an additional level of administration. Specifically, I am recommending that the position of Superintendent of M&R be eliminated with the responsibility for overseeing the detpo being shifted to the Service Director position.

This recommendation is made and the suggestion provided that the Mayor consider replacing the current Service Director with the current individual serving as the Superintendent of M&R. The position of Service Director serves at the pleasure of the Mayor and as such could be replaced at the decision of the Mayor. Larry Reinsmith, who

is serving in the position of Service Director, is a fully retired past and present city employee. The common public description of that situation is a “Double Dipper” referring to collecting both a public pension and a public salary. By replacing Larry, the individual in the “Double Dipping” situation, with Denny Gherman, who is not yet retired, the Mayor would provide continued employment for a capable and experienced individual, while reducing the operating cost of the city and achieving the benefit of an approach he has publicly supported.

With the current Service Director holding responsibilities for Building Inspection and potential related credentials, I would recommend that if the Mayor makes that effective decision that there are credentials for Denny to earn, the Council support that approach by creating legislation providing an interim lowered salary during which time Denny would pursue and acquire the necessary credentials. I would also recommend that if necessary due to the needs during that time, Council be willing to make the small additional appropriations that might be necessary to contract for that service.

Item 2 refers to some Administrative positions created in the last 8 years. During the period from 2004 through 2008, the city created 4 new administrative positions that increased the cost of city operations. They include the Executive Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, the Assistant Police Chief, the HR Director/Safety Coordinator, and the Code Enforcement/Engineer positions. All positions were created at the request of then Mayor David Raizk and justified as needed for a growing city. They added to the administrative overhead of our city and while perhaps being conveniences of a growing city, now represent a significant portion of the current city budget deficit.

Two of those positions, the Assistant Police Chief and the Code Enforcement/Engineer, are currently vacant. The previous Assistant Police Chief, Duane Weyand, has been named the current Police Chief after the retirement of Chief Mike Hatten, and the Code Enforcement/Engineer voluntarily departed to pursue other employment.

The other two positions are currently filled.

The Executive Administrative Assistant to the Mayor is a position that was added to replace the Administrative Assistant to the Mayor. My recommendation would be for Council to eliminate the Executive Administrative Assistant to the Mayor and return the duty levels to those for the previous Administrative Assistant to the Mayor position. The previous job description should be reviewed and reinstated by Council and returned to the Classification Ordinance.

The remaining position is the HR Director/Safety Coordinator. That position did not exist prior to 2005. The HR responsibilities were managed by the HR Secretary, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor and the Mayor. I am recommending that Council consider eliminating that position from the Classification Ordinance. The elimination of that position would cause the individual currently serving in the position, Danny Mongold, to be unemployed. While it is regrettable that any job be lost here at the city, the current resources of the city are not adequate to provide for that full-time position. I have made initial contact with President of the County Commissioners, Pat Haley, about introducing the idea to the County Commissioners for the County and City to enter talks about an agreement to share HR Professional resources between the 2 entities thus reducing cost for both. The goal of that would be to maximize the experience and ability of a veteran professional and do it in a manner that provides the greatest efficiency and value for taxpayer dollars.

To that end, I will be requesting Commissioner Haley officially introduce the topic to the Board of Commissioners and with their support, invite Commissioner Haley to a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee next week so that we may begin investigating the opportunity and any necessary legislation.

Item 3 refers to actions I would ask the Finance Committee and the Judiciary Committee to consider as measures necessary to immediately address the current year budget deficit as well as future budget issues. With no significant near-term improvement in the economic conditions significantly affecting tax revenues, I think these measures are

necessary to provide for the health, safety and welfare of our citizens. If these actions are taken, the amount saved in next year's budget cycle would be at or over 30% of the current budget deficit.

There is an additional item I would propose that the City and County investigate working on. It is the cost of Employee Benefits for the employees of both entities. The current year city plan demonstrated just under a 10% increase in maximum cost to the city. With the current year insurance plan for the City representing 6.5% of the complete city expenditure budget of \$36.9 million, and continued potential growth, it is an area of expense that could provide opportunities for at a minimum the slowing of the increase and potentially the reduction of expense in taxpayer funds. I have similarly spoken with the President of the Commissioners about presenting the idea to the Board of Commissioners and again, if there is support, I would invite Commissioner Haley to the Ad Hoc Committee meeting to investigate the potential efficiencies. That investigation would need to identify if the process can be legally accomplished, the Benefit Needs of our respective employees can be met and there is ability to reduce the expenditure of taxpayer dollars.

In all of these suggestions, I have tried to incorporate the ideas that have been shared, the understanding of the significant fiscal realities we as a city face and the provision of the minimum impact to city employees. The recommendations for eliminating the indicated Administrative positions is a move that I think will right-size the city Administration for our city's foreseeable future. I would also note that these suggestions help protect the city's ability to maintain the current level of positions such as patrol officers, firemen, EMT's and taxi drivers.

There is one final request I will make and it is a return to my call for the full-time employees of the city to consider moving to partner with Council in the effort to save the jobs of all of those who serve our citizens. That partnership could be accomplished with efforts to actively participate in a voluntary furlough program that reduces the cost of city operations. An analysis of the payroll structure of the city indicates that if all employees supported by the General Fund directly or through transfer to their budgets, were to move to a 35-hour work week, the city could save approximately \$500,000. That amount represents over 38% of the current budget deficit. By partnering with Council through commitment to a plan of that nature, the need for significant reductions of positions to balance the budget to revenue could be minimized. I will also note that any of the positions that are safety-related or necessary to provide the service would have to be evaluated for any ability to participate in that program.

I ask that the Judiciary Committee meet next week with the goal of bringing legislation to the next regular Council meeting. I will schedule a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee next week as well and if the Commissioners are supportive, will invite Commissioner Pat Haley to discuss opportunities for the City and County to work together with the goal being lower cost to the taxpayers for the operation of both entities. Thank you.

Paul Hunter: You left the citizens' responsibilities out of this. You know my position on that. The citizens have to join in the contribution to the budget. From that is the property taxes I have told you about considerable times. That's the citizens' way of contributing. You can't play it all off on the city – all the responsibility for belt-tightening. The citizens also – the voters – have to say "I choose to have more or less services." How they will express that is a vote on the property tax. That is a suggestion that I forwarded before, maybe as a last result after you've considered everything else, but still, it should be considered.

President Kirchner: I would agree that we need to take a look at it. If you look at the totals of the percentages, you're only at 65 to 68% of the actual existing deficit. There are still obstacles to overcome. I know that when we originally named the property and income tax committee, one of the charges that we had anticipated they would tackle was the concern of having ideas brought forward in time to put them on the ballot for any tax issues that made sense.

Paul Hunter: But we have an August deadline for ballot issues. If we are going to go that route, we should get it on November's ballot.

President Kirchner: With that committee specifically working on those options, I did not make any recommendations there. I would turn to Councilman Jaehnig and ask if there is any, at this point, expectation of bringing an idea forward to council.

Councilman Jaehnig: We have never been asked to bring with the specific purpose of having a tax to generate a certain amount of income. Without knowing the income that needed to be generated and what either the mayor, the President of Council, or the Finance Committee are looking for, we have not been tasked with making a recommendation for any type of a tax increase. Our task, as I understood it and our goal, was to review all of the different options and be prepared if such a request came to us.

President Kirchner: Actually, one of the things that was included in that original charter document, which you may very clear that you wanted to be a suggestion not a direction, was that you investigate the option of property taxes, the mechanism by which one would be put on the ballot or multiples be put on the ballot, and bring a report back to council of what that process would entail, timing and the revenue that would be generated by various levels of property tax levies.

Councilman Jaehnig: That is correct. You just stated that we would come back with a recommendation of what to do. That I have not been requested. Without additional information of knowing exactly what type of revenues need to be generated or would be requested, it would be very difficult to make a suggestion of which option would be in the city's best interest of that particular problem. So, at this particular point, we are doing the appropriate service of research that would needed if such a request came. It was made very clear at the time by the President of Council that you truly believe that there was no need for a new tax but that you did agree with the fact that it was good to do our homework in advance and be prepared just in case that need arrive. But, that was the explanation that I understood from you when the committee was formed.

President Kirchner: The indication from me, Rob, was that I did not believe that all the budget deficit issues should be solved through new revenue. However...

Councilman Jaehnig: Your exact words, Mr. President, were that you did not feel originally that it was appropriate to be looking at a new tax until we resolve all other budget-cutting options, but that you agreed that I was correct and it would not hurt to do our homework in advance – to be prepared.

President Kirchner: And that is the exact homework that I'm asking if the committee is ready to present – the options.

Councilman Jaehnig: We are ready to present the options, but we have no recommendation because we do not have enough information to give you recommendations.

Paul Hunter: Rob, at a meeting I attended I think the auditor agreed each mil would generate about 240,000 and cost each mil about \$35 a year for the \$100,000 homeowner. Two mils, it's hard to say because they haven't finalized the values. Two mils should bring in about \$500,000. That's based on data.

Councilman Jaehnig: That is correct. And those particular figures are being worked up right now by the County Auditor, Terry Haberhmehl, and we do expect to have those when we meet next week. We have not heard back from him at this point. But, the review at that time was not just tax levies, but potential income tax change and alternative taxes to be reviewed: to see what options may be available to council if it was decided that some type of a revenue, increase in tax...

Paul Hunter: Well we have less than a month to get it on the ballot. That's all I'm saying.

Councilman Jaehnig: To my understanding, at this particular point, nobody asked us to have a proposal set forth to be on the August deadline for the November ballot.

President Kirchner: I believe it was simply making council aware of the mechanics and timing that would be necessary to accomplish it. As I recall, the committee was developed out of your concern that a plan be ready in time.

Councilman Jaehnig: Correct. That the homework be done – finished.

President Kirchner: Will you be reporting to council at the next council meeting?

Councilman Jaehnig: We can. Yes.

President Kirchner: Unless I miss the calendar analysis in my head, that actually would be right up against the deadline to have a ballot issue submitted.

Councilman Jaehnig: To my understanding, nobody on council has made a determination, including the President or the Mayor, that pursuing a tax has been even requested. Are you saying now that we need to pursue a tax?

President Kirchner: I am saying that council needs to understand the timing and process, which was one of the original concerns you had raised and one of the original reasons that committee was developed.

Mayor Riley: I'm really quite surprised by this because you had mentioned, Scott, that this was prepared for presentation two weeks ago. This is the first I've seen of this document. Mr. Auditor, I don't know if you've seen it before. There are some things in here that we have already done – that we are already pursuing. There are some things in here that I can guarantee you, without a doubt, that I would veto in a heartbeat if it were presented by council as an ordinance. I would veto it without doubt. But, I haven't had a chance to look at any of this until just a few moments ago when you passed it out. So, I will look through this. There are some things in here that are not going to happen.

Mike Mandelstein: Most of you know me or know of me. I live at 1006 W. Locust Street. I'll get right to the point. Everyone's known for quite some time that this day was coming upon us. I've spoken to most of you in this forum and privately. I've explained the concept of the lifeboat in human nature. You've still got money left. You're asking employees to sacrifice who haven't had raises in some time. We're asking, on short schedule, for a possible tax levy that, well Wilbur, take it back to the hangar, it ain't gonna fly. The bottom line is, instead of trying to figure out how to get more money out of shrinking population of businesses and citizens, why don't we try selling the city. Where I come from and all the math I've ever learned, when I suddenly lose a large chunk of revenue, I start looking around to replace it. And I don't look around to replace it by increasing the prices that I have in place to gather revenue. I start looking for new revenue. That doesn't mean running around trying to find people that might bring jobs to town and possibly give them a little corporate welfare as an inducement, especially on numbers that as yet I have not had satisfying. I am referring to the TIF proposal for the jump hangar. Now, up until this evening, I've heard several different numbers and I'm not so sure those numbers are entirely accurate. I missed a call from a state senator who didn't really in the message he left me indicate that there was going to be 259 jobs come into this airpark. Everyone seems to pin their hope on the airpark and ignore some of the employers that are here who may want to bring more people into the area but they're kind of holding their breath waiting to see what they're going to do here. More taxes. Yeah...that's going to work real well. That's really going to bring in people. Instead of worrying so much about bringing in business people, why don't we worry about bringing in property owners. Or, as they say in some franchises, fans to fill the seats. What a novel idea. The soda tax...I've read about that. That won't work. Selling the landfill...you're two years minimum from getting any money out of that, and you just sat here and pretty much said we're going to spend some money to get more money out of it. I'll tell you this much, if you think that that landfill's only worth, say 30...40...50 million dollars, you're all at best, not even at worst, criminally incompetent. Anybody who has done any homework, and it doesn't require much more than a year and a half in

the first grade of arithmetic knows what landfills generate, privately held, as well as the consequences when they fall into or are sold into private ownership. So maybe that's a thought we need to put to the side. Now, the cuts you've all heard this evening, yeah, maybe they are necessary, Scott, but I'm thinking they could have been presented in a slightly different way. I'm going to grant you, you've got a great knack for getting right to the heart of it, but you just can't yank people kicking and screaming into something they already know. You have to find a way to persuade them while there is still time. As far as I know, there is still time, because the money that has been collected, the "rainy day fund," city reserve fund, whatever the cash is that Mr. Hollingsworth has been recording dutifully on, there is still some there. There's hope. There's time. But here's a new idea for leadership. Try selling the city to citizens who might want to locate in the area for current employers. Try looking around to see what current employers who aren't necessarily inside the city limits might be willing to do or concede to quid pro quo within the bounds of ethics and ordinances. Now, I have watched, I have listened, and yes, Mr. Stuckert, through circumstances not of my choosing, I chose to stay away from here for the last three meetings. I'm not cooled off. If anything, I'm even more frustrated than I was at the last meeting here, that last meeting in May. Mr. Kirchner, you may be a great engineer, you may be great at balancing, but at times like this, crisis times, there's always an unequal distribution of talent to get things done and there are always people that are going to have to do go ahead and do more than their share to get things done. That is how this country got built. If everything was completely equal, all things equal, I wouldn't be standing up here. Well, things aren't equal. Sometimes people have to task a little bit more to their plate because they know they can do it, they're the best person for the job, they've got the most experience, and shuffling around names to get different results, if anything, sets the progress back. In the six weeks since I picked up a copy of the paperwork you handed out showing the new committee assignments, I haven't seen a whole lot here or read a whole lot other than meetings about taxes and tax levies. I haven't seen any real leadership hear. This is the kind of stuff I expect out of Columbus and out of Washington D.C. You all have private connections, local connections to the community. You also have networks. Instead of sitting here trying to figure out, can we squeeze this tax in or can we, in fact, rush a tax levy through, why don't we think about selling the blasted city to people. Once upon a time, this was one of the, what was that called, best little towns to live in. Have we lost our way in that length of time? Have we completely forgotten all that just because somebody decided to take their freight and go somewhere else. Oh, yeah, it's a big deal. It's a big hit, economic and all, but at the end of the day, they're gone. They're not coming back, and I don't know who is. I really don't care because, in my mind, if I thought this was such an awful place to live in, I probably would have gone ahead and moved out. If there's anybody in here or in the sound of my voice or in the printed word you're taking down Mr. Hufferberger who thinks this is a horrible town to live in, then pack up and leave. And for the ones who don't think it's such a bad place to live in, getting your happy @sses out of the seats and go promote it – one person at a time or one company at a time. Because if you can put taxpayers back in the city limits, you can solve a lot of this problem and you've still got, what, a year and a half before you're at the deficit budget issue, assuming all things stay equal. Well, they're not going to stay equal. These are b!t@h*n' times and they're going to call for some b!t@h*n' leadership. If you don't have it here...

President Kirchner: [Hammers gavel] I'm going to ask you to watch your language. I encourage you to express your opinion. I will only ask that you watch your language.

Mike Mandelstein: These are difficult times that call for extraordinary leadership, and Mr. Kirchner, I don't see extraordinary leadership from that chair. You're handy with a gavel but not much else. You want to balance things; balance your diet. Stop shuffling people around and then having arguments after we have supposedly put all the contentiousness away. Because it's still there. I sensed it when I walked into the room. I sensed in all the committee meetings that I read about and all the council minute meetings that were published thus far. Sir, you ain't getting it done. In the words of a famous football coach of Ohio State, later the Cleveland Browns, and the first coach of the Cincinnati Bengals, I believe, young man, you need to seek your life's work elsewhere. That's all I've got to say. Thank you and good evening.

President Kirchner: Anyone else?

Councilman Stuckert: I'll say something. I'm going to take issue with this nonsense about people not trying to sell our city. We've got a lot of things we have to talk out and we don't all agree on things. Apparently, that's upsetting too. But, we have all kinds of people right up here, Councilman Jaehnig, everybody here is out selling this city every day. We've got young people working here for next to nothing selling this city. And we've got national personalities selling this city. We love this city as much as you do, sir, and we're not moving anywhere. We'll figure out how to do it. I don't think you coming in and seeking to trash the president or anybody else that you want to pick on in this council will make a bit of difference. It's not helpful at all. We'll get ourselves together. The mayor says there are things he's not going to accept. We'll come back and forth. We'll work things out. That's what we have to do. You know, we have been to have this deficit addressed for we're working on three solid years working on four years. For you information, if that carryover money is gone, we have worse problems than you could ever imagine because of the job that it will take and cuts that will have to be made to balance that budget by law would just absolutely decimate this city. That is why we're all working right now. These guys are meeting in the tax committee. They don't want to do that. Nobody wants to look for taxes. I think we all deep down know that our citizens are not going to be receptive to taxes. The whole idea we've been pushing the president of Council for six months now because we want to come up with something that would be a meaningful demonstration that we are tightening our budget. We'll address this further when we bring stuff to council. Tightening the budget in the city is absolutely mandatory regardless of whatever else happens, and we'll do that. We're not going...I don't see this council sitting here and hacking each other up. We all have the same objectives, and the city will recover in due time. We have problems that are tied to things well beyond the control of the citizens of Wilmington – well beyond the control of Columbus – even beyond the control of the people in Washington. We're all in this together and we're going to have to figure it out. One of the ideas that I would receive the least would be the idea of going to ahead and not really do anything now because we still got carryover. We have to protect that. I could go on and on. We'll address all of this. The citizens of this city know what's going on. Everybody has not only not gotten raises for a long time, there's people living on less. We'll do it together. I'm confident of it. We'll do it without tearing each other up. That's all I've got to say.

Mike Mandelstein: Mr. Stuckert, the bottom line is, you haven't said too much different now than you said six weeks ago. As far as what we can and can't do, we're only limited by our own fears or lack of hope. I have no fear and I have great hope that something will come along – several somethings. But, at the end of the day, every once in a while, somebody needs to get a needle somewhere just to get refocused and that is my intent. Refocus and remember this: just because you can come up with a tax levy and people will understand it, doesn't mean they're going to sit there and pass it. Human nature, being what it is, as long as there is a dime left in that reserve fund, it's human nature for people to hold on. So, at the end of the day, when that money runs out, then you might get somebody's attention. All I'm saying at this point is, you need to be prepared for that – not start rushing things through just because there's a deadline to get it on a November ballot. As far as the money being left, I know it's a finite amount. I understand that concept real well. I did spend a year and a half in first grade arithmetic. The money will run out. But what needs to be understood is, people who haven't had raises are reluctant to go ahead and either take furloughs or further cuts of some kind when they haven't had raises and they still see money there. I understand the concept, but you have to understand human nature. As that money dwindles, you probably will get people to more thoroughly focus on the fact that yes, your running out of money. That's usually how it works when the money amount gets smaller. So, you can prep, you can get ready to put a tax proposal on for police protection, for fire protection, but not at the pace that Mr. Hunter suggested. I think you're a little bit further out than that. Rushing to put anything on the ballot right now, given the state of the city's citizens is probably going to be a waste of the dwindling resources you have. Because the last I heard, ballot...

[TRANSCRIPTION INTERRUPTED – END OF TAPE]

Councilman Stuckert: I'm just saying, I don't think that there has been anything said up here tonight that even suggests that we're going to put a levy on in November. We've talked about preparation. That's what he's talking about. I don't know a person up here

that’s ready to say, “Let’s put a levy on the ballot.” That’s all your getting – the discussions that you’re suggesting we have.

President Kirchner: Mike, I would offer, I believe that everyone up here, no matter what our political differences, everyone up here sitting up here and everyone of you sitting in that audience believes in this town and wants to be here and cares about it and sells it every day because we care about it, because we believe in it. I think that the service that these gentlemen give shows their devotion to the city, no matter what political differences we may have on how to get to the solution. The proposal that I made tonight did not include a tax because I believe that we need to live within our means. It was Mr. Hunter’s suggestion that a tax be considered and that the citizens, and I do agree always with the citizens having their say, that it be considered. It was simply a question of where we were at on understanding the mechanics of it. These proposals are simply about lowering the costs of operating the city. That is all I brought forward. They’re just ideas. They are ideas that these elected gentlemen, the voice of the people, get to consider and bring forward if they so choose. The public is welcome to be at that meeting or those meetings as we discuss the idea. But some ideas have to be presented because the money does run out.

President Kirchner again asked if anybody else from the public or the council wished to address council while in session.

Seeing no one else who wished to speak, President Kirchner asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Wells to adjourn.
President of Council declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

President of Council

Clerk