

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

January 18, 2005

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor John Grogan called the January 18, 2005 City Council meeting to order at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALLING OF THE ROLL

Present: Victor Colaianni, Nellie Cihon, Mike Mouse, Diane Downing, Linda Zahirsky, and Bob Szanto

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor John Grogan, Marge Loretto, City Manager; Bill Dorman, City Engineer; Mike Rodino, Finance Director; Chief Ray Green and Assistant Chief Mark Stewart, Fire Dept; Dennis Mayberry, Street Dept; Chris Pugh, The Independent; Joan Porter, The Repository; Jim Rosenblat, Brian Ashman, and Matthew Rumble, Rumble Annexation; Dennis Downing, Discover Canal Fulton.com and Canal Fulton Heritage Society; James Deans – Canal Fulton Heritage Society; Rebecca Shimer, Canal Fulton – Main Street; Rochelle Rossi, Michael Nicolardi (residents)

CORRECTING & ADOPTING THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to accept the January 4, 2005 City Council meeting minutes; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **CORRECTION:** Under Ordinance 02-05, "Regarding tax abatement, Mr. Addressi has two pieces of equipment installed in Canal Fulton currently" – Maca Mold (Mr. Addressi) does not currently have equipment in a facility in Canal Fulton. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON AGENDA MATTERS - None

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Senior Citizens (Mrs. Cihon Reporting)

January 26	Gambling Trip to Greektown	Leaving 7:00 AM	Cost \$33 (\$23 Back)
March 5	Swiss Steak Dinner	Price: \$8 – Adults; \$4 – Children	

CANAL FULTON – MAIN STREET PRESENTATION BY REBECCA SHIMER

Mrs. Shimer stated they produced 10,000 of the Heritage Tourism Brochures, keeping 150 unfolded. Stiles Art Studio framed one; Mrs. Shimer presented it to Council. Mayor Grogan hung the beautifully framed brochure on the wall of Council Chambers.

Community Service Coordinator – No Report

Fire Chief

Chief Green had written to Mayor Grogan recommending promoting Mike Crable to Captain. During the last Council meeting, it was reported that the Fire Department had attained two ice rescue suits from the Coast Guard; they used them on two water-related rescues in Lawrence Township. Mayor Grogan recommended to Council they promote Mike Crable to the position of Captain of the Fire Department (filling the position left vacant by Chief Green's promotion).

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to appoint Mike Crable as Captain; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mayor Grogan asked Chief Green to inform Mike Crable of his promotion and extended congratulations. When asked about the two water-related rescues, Chief Green said one was for a propane tank that had broken away off its foundation in the flooding, and three occupants out of two houses were evacuated. The second was for a man that drove across Butterbridge Road in his van, got stuck in the water with two children, driving past "Road Closed" and "High Water" signs.

Police Chief – Mayor Grogan stated that Interim Chief Kassinger is requesting Council's approval to hire a part-time officer until they can get through the Chief of Police hiring process. Mr. Colaianni said there was a part-time police provision in their budget. Mr. Szanto stated, "At one time, we were told that the only way the FOP would agree to part-time patrol officers was if they were to be members of the Union. And then later, our legal counsel said that according to the contract, if they're not full-time, they can't be members of the Union." Mr. Mouse said, "I would like to see it scheduled and see how they're going to be used." The Mayor said he talked to them about "kind of a restructuring." He said a part-timer would help alleviate overtime and any additional situations. He thought that for every part-timer they put on, if they are on for a year, most states' Civil Service standards only require that they pass the Civil Service test. Mrs. Loretto

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stated if they pass the test, Civil Service adds two-percent of their passing grade for every 1,000 hours worked for the City in the job in which they are applying. The Mayor said the part-timer hiring process would be much the same way as for a full-timer (i.e., O.P.O.T.A.-certified, certifications in order, background checks, etc.), sans Civil Service testing. Mr. Mouse asked if seniority would apply with part-timers within the ranks of part-timers and was told, "Yes." Mayor Grogan stated during layoffs, the part-timers would be the first to go, as they are not protected. He said for Council's consideration, if this is the direction that Council wishes to continue on, he could certainly continue with the Police Department and see if their FOP contractual requirements are in agreement. But, since the City is still working on the contract, he will "stay back from that until that's been completed." Mr. Mouse asked about salary. Mrs. Loretto said if they addressed the part-timers, they would come under the part-time ordinance, and they could insert that line in there and be prepared. There was a discussion about part-timers' pay rates in other cities. Mr. Mouse suggested a Safety Meeting before the person is officially hired to discuss salary. Mr. Colaianni said they have to address how many they want to actually leave room for two (the budget has allocated three). Mayor Grogan will recommend to Interim Chief Kassinger to begin the search for a part-time patrol officer, after the pay is decided.

Engineer

Milan Street Water and Sewer Project: The water line is completed and tested. Services still need to be transferred from the old to the new line. There still remains about 1,000-feet of sanitary sewer to be installed and tested. It should be completed the end of January (weather permitting). Pavement restoration will be completed by Wenger Construction in the spring, along with the Northwest High School water line (once the asphalt plants reopen).

Discover Park Phase II: Utilities and roadway are complete, with the exception of the Pump Station Force Main (Force Main being installed this week). They are still waiting for Control Building pumps and control.

Pine Manor Senior Housing: Pump station plans have been reviewed and approved by CTI; now being reviewed by Ohio EPA.

Canal Place (new business subdivision in front of Avalon Foods): Nothing to report; still waiting on EPA approval.

Lakewood Estates/Lake Vista (allotments on either side of Smail Pond): Nothing to report there other than they received a copy of a letter from Ohio EPA, where there are several storm water issues that have to be addressed.

Planning Commission's January 20th Meeting: They will be considering a zoning amendment in Heritage Square and property adjacent to it.

Hydraulic Model: Almost finished; will be submitting report at the end of January.

Extending City Engineer's Contract: Mr. Dorman thanked Council for extending CTI's contract with Canal Fulton.

Finance Director

Mr. Rodino has distributed Maca Mold Abatement spreadsheets to Council's mailboxes.

Mr. Rodino E-mailed to Council December 2004 Monthly Reports and also distributed hard copies. Mr. Szanto made a motion that acknowledges Council's receipt of Mr. Rodino's E-mail Record of the Close of Business for December 2004; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **Discussion:** Mr. Colaianni stated he was adding up items in "Unencumbered," excluding Water, Sewer and the Debt Funds, he came up with \$323,693.78 and asked if that is what they would consider the actual carryover. Mr. Rodino responded that would be operational carryover. He then asked what would happen to that money, since Council already has the budget for 2005 passed, and Mr. Rodino stated it gets carried over as the beginning balance for next year and stays within its respective fund. Mrs. Loretto said, "An estimated balance was taken into consideration as a carryover; I don't know how close these were to the ones estimated. So we estimated balances to be used to have the (2005) appropriations because the balances plus estimated new revenue show that it was more." Mr. Mouse asked Mrs. Loretto to provide what their estimated carryover amount and put it in his mailbox. Mr. Colaianni stated the Ambulance EMS charges actually exceeded what their projection was by \$44,967, and going into the future, if there is some way that amount can be given back to those departments for either grant seed money or for things that they might need. Mr. Rodino said for future fire purchases, they did set aside money already, but all the respective carryovers will be kept within that department's respective fund. Mr. Colaianni said, "If they're smart with their money, and they don't spend it, that should be in addition to what we've budgeted for them." **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

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Mayor - Mayor Grogan presented his 2005 State of the City address as follows:

STATE OF THE CITY

Good evening, Council Members, City Manager, Administrators, Consoler guests and friends of the City of Canal Fulton. I welcome you to City Hall and thank you for taking the time to be with us.

Before I begin, I would like to pause and recognize the men and women of our armed forces who are engaged in war throughout the world, especially the fallen heroes in our own community and others throughout our nation. To the families who have endured the greatest hardship, we owe you a great debt of gratitude, and our thoughts and prayers are with those that serve this country and for their prompt and safe return.

Today, we begin to build a foundation, a foundation of hope and promise, built in a spirit of cooperation by men and women of this community and the elected officials that represent them. It was roughly a year ago today that we gathered here to begin the process of a new administration that outlined different goals and ideas for this city.

I laid out a vision toward progress, placed upon our shoulders the needs of this city, and set out a new course to change "business as usual," to squash mediocrity and to raise expectations. As with any attempt at progress and change, we have been faced with those who doubt that progress can be made – the guardians of the old ways who fear change and progress.

When faced with such people, I am reminded of a man who faced many challenges - more so than most people - our 32nd president, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. FDR was not afraid of going forward; he was not afraid to try new things. He (in fact) once said, "It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something." We are not afraid of trying. We are not afraid of changing "business as usual," and we are not afraid of creating a Canal Fulton that serves as an example for others to follow.

Our blueprint for the future calls for putting our house in order, bringing integrity and respect to the way our city is run, and restoring our citizens' faith in the government that is meant to serve them. While all of us owe a debt of gratitude to those employees who have served this city for many years, it is absolutely imperative that we change the way we operate by discarding the old ideas of government structure and replacing them with a private sector model that holds to task those areas of lower performance and rewarding the ones that strive to make our city a higher-functioning operation. Although we do not suffer from the same bureaucratic bloating of larger cities, we still have an obligation to maintain the fiscal responsibility that our citizens entrusted us with when elected.

In 2004, we did what was asked of us, but this is not enough. Our dollars need to be spent wisely in areas of human concern and growth. We cannot instill pet projects that cater to the few and bear no wanted desire for the many. We should not seek out those projects that we want but, instead, look towards the things we need; and one of these items should be a clearly defined study that documents the future economic development of this city. Our focus should be on building the arc before it rains to avoid future complications that stem from an unplanned growth. We must become more aggressive in identifying additional revenue sources and recognize that the money government spends is not without limit; it comes from the hard work of our taxpayers. Streamlining government by introducing efficient technology and E-government solutions, injecting a new culture into the services the city provides, is a priority. Funding sources must be identified to allow us to immediately match the need for repair and replacement of our infrastructure. Fact is no business, public or private, can guarantee its long-term financial health when its personnel costs exceed its revenues.

Our challenge is to not merely balance the budget during our terms in office, but to create the framework to establish balanced budgets for future generations. Our residents pay for and expect reliable and efficient services and one of our primary responsibilities is to make all of the neighborhoods a safer and better place to live.

Last year our Police Department did this with over 7% reduction in the crime rate and 100% closure rate on felony cases. They have been working hard at keeping this city a safe place to live. A search is now underway to seek out a replacement for the Chief of Police position, and I fully expect a fruitful search. Currently, we have received numerous inquires and a number of qualified applicants have submitted their interest, and yet the deadline is still weeks away. This is a testament to the quality of life in Canal Fulton and the high standards of professionalism that exists within the Police Department. I will call upon members of Council

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to assist in this selection process, as we continue with our search.

Within the past month, we have installed a new Fire Chief and will begin the process of modernizing the Department through efforts focused on improved response times and training that will enable the officers to handle a wider aspect of fire and medic duties. Talk is underway with Lawrence Township concerning fire issues, and I am confident that we can continue to discuss ways of improving the fire services for both communities. One recommendation I believe may assist in this area is a Merger Commission made up of selected representatives from both sides of the issue. This commission would study and prepare a report that would outline the conditions that pertain to a fire district between the Township and the city. This report would compile the feasibility of such a merger, and whether or not it is a viable option for the residents of both communities. With the increasing need for fire and E.M.S., it is only prudent to explore and, at the very least, seek out options such as this.

Our parks and recreation programs are in steady and increasing use. The numbers of residents that use them continue to expand as the population of our city grows. I call upon the Parks & Recreation Board to utilize the summer months in implementing a three-pronged approach that will enlist local artist and cultural programs, as well as places for regular neighborhood concerts and gatherings. This "Heart in the Parks" approach will endear many to our city and help to expand the cultural interest within our own children and community.

Last year we connected city water to the Northwest school development project and completed the Milan street water and sewer line. This line is an extension into the industrial zone that replaces an undersized pipe that would never had supported the type of industrial growth that would fit well within that area.

Over the past year, I have established and encouraged a greater amount of cooperation and fellowship with surrounding governments and their elected leaders to begin the process of shared ideas and unified goals. This must continue if we are to stimulate the waters of trust and encourage joined efforts for community-related projects. This city is not a stand-alone entity but a community, part of another, within the whole and interconnected. Conjoining dialog and vision, pushing past the boundaries of parochialism and embracing the unique differences within ourselves should be the benchmark of each shared task.

Let us commit to never allow our disagreements to divide us. Let us continue to raise the public discourse for the common good. Let us charge and lead. Let us all work together, as we serve the betterment of a city poised on the edge of a remarkable future!

City Manager

Mrs. Loretto stated they have sent a copy of Ordinance 29-04 (new garbage and refuse collection ordinance) to the known garbage collection companies that they are aware of in the area.

Mrs. Loretto handed out a Communications System Policy draft. She said she thinks Mr. Colaianni's will be more extensive.

Mrs. Loretto handed out the Financial Disclosure statements. She has extra copies if misplaced.

Mrs. Loretto distributed a copy of the contract that came from Stark Parks for the Visitors Center. When it was first considered, it was understood that Stark Parks was going to provide the person to man the facility. She's never heard the details about that issue. This is the first time that the Law Director will have access to the contract.

Mrs. Loretto stated they met with North Canton, the Commissioner's representative, and Buckeye Energy Friday (Jan. 14, 2005) down at the Stark County office building to review the gas aggregation to see "when they would try and strike a contract." They looked at five years, and she stated it was very hard to figure out when's the best time to go because it used to be traditionally the first few months of the year were the lowest, but the last couple of years it has been way out of line. Their recommendation was for Canal Fulton to try to go for May, which they would do two months early, which would lock in about 1-1/2 years, but the rate will probably be fixed for five or six months (winter months) out of that period, but you would have a fixed add-on rate. What is flexible is the add-on, and they would try to go with the lowest add-on. She'll provide details when they know more. Mrs. Loretto said they have about 376 people that signed up, which is a tremendous percentage (she said) for volunteer sign-up. Mrs. Loretto stated they were trying to negotiate that other contract to be the same as the State one, so that anybody that is in those two years, it'll be seamless when they move into the other one. Mr. Colaianni said East Ohio's current rate is 9.25 mcf and it's going up to

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10.85 mcf. Mr. Mouse said with Direct Energy's aggregation program is 8.24 mcf. Mr. Mouse said the PUCO had sort of "put a crimp on them how much they can increase because the conditions are not what they alleged they were when they were asking for the increases, so you're still saving if you're under the aggregation. You're saving at least a buck every mcf."

Parks – No Report

Law Director

FIRST READINGS

Resolution 02-05: A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Apply Through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, for a Grant to Develop Discovery Park, Replacing Resolution 22-04, And Declaring An Emergency. (Requested by Fred Fleming/City Manager)

Mr. Szanto made a motion to suspend the rules on Resolution 02-05; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **Discussion:** Mr. Mouse asked that some citizens be involved in the community in the project itself, and he would make recommendations for same. Mr. Colaianni added, "Especially from Echoing Ridge." Mrs. Loretto stated Fred Fleming (Parks Board) has been spearheading this, and she'll ask him to get input from citizens. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mr. Szanto made a motion to pass Resolution 02-05 under suspension; seconded by Mrs. Zahirsky. **Discussion:** Mr. Rodino said it needed passed under suspension because Tammy Luther is already collecting payments for water and sewer that need to be entered into the computer; Ms. Luther also needs to send the distribution to our computer software people, so they can update it. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

Ordinance 04-05: An Ordinance Relating to the Distribution of Water Revenues, and Declaring and Emergency. (Requested by Finance Director)

Mr. Szanto made a motion to suspend the rules on Ordinance 04-05; seconded by Mrs. Zahirsky. **Discussion:** Mr. Mouse asked if this had anything to do with distribution of revenues for salaries and was told it did not. Mrs. Loretto stated everything would stay in the Operation Fund because that's where all the money comes in, and what this is doing is diverting some out of Operations. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mr. Colaianni made a motion to pass Ordinance 04-05 under suspension; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

Ordinance 05-05: An Ordinance Providing for the Distribution of Sewer Revenues, and Declaring an Emergency. (Requested by Finance Director)

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to suspend the rules on Ordinance 05-05; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to pass Ordinance 05-05 under suspension; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

SECOND READINGS

Ordinance 01-05: An Ordinance Indicating What Services the City of Canal Fulton, Ohio, Will Provide to the Rumble Property, Upon Annexation, and Declaring an Emergency. (Requested by the City Manager)

Mr. Szanto made a motion to amend Ordinance 01-05; amendment would be as follows: Section 2, as it appears in the original ordinance would now become Section 3, and that a new Section 2 be added to read, "The City of Canal Fulton agrees, as a condition of the granting of the petition for annexation, that it will assume the maintenance of that portion of Erie Street which is divided by the annexation, under ORC 709.033 (A) (6); seconded by Mrs. Zahirsky. **Discussion:** Mrs. Loretto said that the Law Director said we need to pass this under Second Reading because it has to be down at the Auditor's office a certain length of time prior to the February 22, 2005 11:00 AM meeting. Mr. Mouse asked, "So, in essence, does this vote signify (as a Body) that we are in agreement for this annexation?" Mrs. Loretto responded, "That you have the choice at a later date of voting on the annexation, 'Yes' or 'No.' Once they approve it, it comes back to Council to vote it up or vote it down. Acceptance of the annexation comes at the end of the process." **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to suspend the rules on Ordinance 01-05 as amended; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mr. Colaianni made a motion to pass Ordinance 01-05 under suspension; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **Discussion:** Mr. Szanto asked if they had sewer in front of the property. Mrs. Loretto said the Utility Department said they did. Mr. Mouse asked if the property owners had submitted anything in writing as to how they would develop the property. Mrs. Loretto said they met with them but, until they're part of the city, they really didn't tell us exactly what they want to develop. They'll have to present that to the Planning Commission, and it still has to be zoned. Mr. Mouse asked if they were asking that the annexation come before they let Council

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know. Mrs. Loretto stated they want to bring in property and develop it within Canal Fulton, and they have said they want a combination of residential and duplexes. She said it abuts "RR" and the Flood Plain and showed the area on the map. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

Jim Rosenblatt (Real Estate Broker), Brian Ashman (Project Engineer), and Matthew Rumble (Owner) were present regarding the Rumble Annexation. Mr. Rosenblatt stated their vision is a residential development; specifics would be within the current zoning. Mr. Ashman added they don't know for certain, and that when the property is annexed, it'll be brought into a Zoning that is applicable to its current state that it is currently (in Lawrence Township). They are looking at the overall property; it may be developed in accordance with the PUD (Planned Unit Development) that is a mix of residential-type uses, and it has to have a certain percentage of single-family residential homes, and it allows for a little higher density development through the inclusion of duplex and perhaps triplex units. There are green space (that must remain) plans available through a conditional use permit. The PUD would consist then of a mix of some single family residential and maybe some duplex or triplex units (they're not sure yet, as they need to first get through the procedure of annexation). Mr. Colaianni stated that single-family is what he'd like to see moving forward more than multi-family because of the area they are located in; plus, within our area and our tax structure, it's usually a little more beneficial on our end of the spectrum. Mr. Ashman said that they have done various plans for review, and they were looking at the PUD. They first performed a layout based on what they thought the Zoning would be; then they created numerous layouts that had a mix of single-family and PUD concepts. They haven't selected a layout to proceed with for the design of the improvements. They also said they aren't sure they are going to get into anything higher than a duplex situation. They do want to do a residential development, as it's residential in Lawrence Township now. They said you have a component of green space, a component of single family, and a component of "some kind of clustering two-family homes, but they're all fee-simple." Mr. Mouse asked how much had they set aside for green space, and he was told there is actually one acre that is already in Canal Fulton, and the total project is probably 15 acres. They thought it was 25- or 30-percent classified as green space with the PUD. Mr. Mouse asked them if they would still have the desire to annex if the understanding was that they would have to build single-family homes, and he was told it was not out of the question; it was really what is best for the neighborhood. Mr. Mouse said if you look at single-family ownership in Canal Fulton, "We're getting skewed in a negative sense. We're getting more condos. We're getting more rental property than really we should have to have a good mix. That's something we're going to need to look at it because if we continue going in that direction, I think long-term, we're going to pay a price for that. If you look at progressive communities, they're up 65-percent to 75-percent in single-family ownership; we're down around 50-percent."

Resolution 01-05: A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with the City of Massillon Law Department for Legal Services of the Prosecutor's Office, and Declaring an Emergency. (Requested by the City Manager)

Ordinance 02-05: An Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Maca Mold & Machine Company for the Purpose of Tax Abatement in the Enterprise Zone, and Declaring an Emergency. (Requested by the City Manager)

PURCHASE ORDERS & BILLS

P.O. 4161 in the amount of \$20,000 made out to City of Massillon for Prosecutor's Contract - ***Tabled until next meeting.***

P.O. 4181 in the amount of \$14,300 made out to Gary B. Fink & Associates, CPA's for Costs for the FY 2004 Audit

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to approve P.O. 4181 in the amount of \$14,300 made out to Gary B. Fink & Associates; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

P.O. 4214 in the amount of \$3,500 made out to Thomas Klingensmith for Architectural Services for the Fire Station

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to approve P.O. 4214 in the amount of \$3,500 made out to Thomas Klingensmith; seconded by Mrs. Downing. **Discussion:** Mr. Mouse asked if the driveway has been paved, and he was told it was too cold to pave it. The Street Department is going to pave it on their "off week," and the Mr. Mouse asked Dennis Mayberry to write down some dates that was good for the Street Department. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

P.O. 4227 in the amount of \$5,500 made out to Dell Marketing L.P. for Poweredge 1800 File Server

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to approve P.O. 4227 in the amount of \$5,500 made out to Dell Marketing L.P.; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **Discussion:** There is a concern Dan and Sue's computers would not be compatible due to their computers' age. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

P.O. 4235 in the amount of \$7,607.23 made out to Dominion East Ohio for Repair to Mainline

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Mrs. Cihon made a motion to approve P.O. 4235 in the amount of \$7,607.23 made out to Dominion East Ohio; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **Discussion:** Mr. Colaianni asked what happened to the line. Mrs. Loretto stated they had an emergency and the Street Department went out, and they started correcting the problem. She said it was basically our fault, except for the fact that they didn't feel that they could let the emergency "left un-go, and they called them and they are allowed a certain length of time to get out, but the guys started to proceed and tried to take care of it, and it was in that mushy area, and they thought they knew where the lines were." Mr. Colaianni asked if it was a gas leak, and Mrs. Loretto told him, "Yes." Mr. Colaianni then asked Chief Green if they were notified on it. Chief Green stated, "No, we were not." Mrs. Loretto said it happened about three months ago, and asked the Chief, "You guys were not notified on this?" Again, Chief Green stated, "No." Mr. Colaianni stated, "There's a problem!" Mrs. Loretto explained the Street and Water Departments caused the gas leak when they were trying to repair the problem. Mayor Grogan asked, "Don't we have a procedure in place where the Fire Department is notified in such a situation?" Mrs. Loretto said, "Yeah, we do. I don't know why, when the gas line went, that they weren't notified. The guys were already out there, so why the Fire Department . . . but I will bring that to the guys' attention." Mr. Colaianni said, "That could have been a severe neighborhood problem." Mrs. Loretto said that was the first time that happened since she's been with the City. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

BILLS: January \$215,590.05 – Mrs. Cihon made a motion that Council has received the bills for January in the amount of \$215,590.05; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **Discussion:** Mrs. Zahirsky said she had understood that the City was not going to pay individuals for their deductible cost this year due to a change in insurance. Mrs. Loretto said the problem is that the Teamsters have a contract that specifies the City will reimburse deductibles. She stated Bob Tscholl said that if the City is in negotiations with the Police Department, they must continue as if the existing contract is in place, and you can't change it and start ruling that "we won't do this or we won't do this because that contract is, like, in place until it's changed." It was stated that the deductible amounts did go down with the insurance change. Mr. Mouse asked the Finance Director to provide details about surface exterior lighting at the Police Department. Mr. Mouse also wants Mr. Rodino to provide additional background on water supplies in the amount of \$2,011.73. Mrs. Cihon asked if the Prisoner Booking Fees (\$2,025) is for one month or a couple of months, and she was told November until January by Mr. Rodino. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

NEW BUSINESS – Mrs. Loretto said (via the Law Director) that Council needs to accept the Utilities by a voice vote. Mr. Szanto made a motion that Council accepts the approval (the final acceptance), as described by Dave Kohlmeier in the document distributed to Council dated January 6, 2005 that has to do with Beverly Hills, Phase III – Final Acceptance of certain utility infrastructure there; seconded by Mrs. Zahirsky. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Cihon stated she thought the new Italian restaurant (Canal Grill) was going to open in December; Mrs. Loretto said she didn't know, but she put in a call to Mike Kochovski about same.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Green stated that Stark County Fire Fighters Association Survival Trailer Training will be held January 24, 2005, and he invited Council to attend the 7:00 PM program. Mr. Mouse stated he saw a show on different types of fires and the different type of extinguishers used on various types of fire. He suggested demonstrations for the middle and high schools. Chief Green said one of the first things he is planning to do a Chief is start a more proactive public education. Mayor Grogan said they'd discussed this in detail, and he thought the schools and Senior Center should also be offered blood-pressure checks, baby-sitter CPA certification, and other things to save lives. Chief Green is looking into these matters.

Mr. Colaianni submitted a proposed and more extensive Computer Use Policy. He said software use, as well as personal-use topics, were important issues to deal with - especially with the new system that would be put in place.

CITIZENS COMMENTS (Open Discussion, Five-Minute Rule)

Dennis Downing discussed Canal Fulton Heritage Society's Second Annual Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser to be held February 26, 2005 at the Elm Ridge Party Center. They are planning on an exceptional year, as their fund-raising committee has expanded their market. They have dignitaries and other large organizations involved to draw attention to the renovation of Community Park, as well as the Canal Fulton Heritage Society. Last year they raised almost \$7,000. Their projected goal is to triple that amount this year. They are working on several projects. The St. Helena continually leaks and needs repair. The dry dock area still leaks, which is one of the reasons the boat leaks, and it need to be addressed. They are looking at reactivating

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the polling system to get the boat loaded in, so they don't have rely on private enterprises to give them a hand to get it done. They need funds for the renovating and re-activating of the Blank House to encourage more downtown traffic. Mr. Downing has tickets, and tickets can be purchased at Rite-Aid, The Century House, and from other Heritage Society members. They are \$25 per person. They will have a full-service cash bar. Skip Blowers of Skipco Auctions in Canal Fulton will be the auctioneer again. The dinner is still being negotiated. For those who can't purchase tickets, they are reaching out with a Donor's Report – cash donations always acceptable; they take Master Card.

Dennis Downing, on behalf of Discover Canal Fulton.com, was at the T.A.P. Committee meeting last week and made a proposal to the T.A.P. about Community Park's extensive renovation. Mr. Downing said he continually runs into people that, when he talks about it, have no idea what's going on there, except that it is flooded and there's a lot of dirt. He is proposing (and pledging the first \$100) to have a billboard sign installed at the front of Community Park (to be completed by March 2005), so that when the foot traffic is increased, they can actually see on the billboard what is going on in the park, as well as a map with the architectural view. The sponsors of the billboard will be on the billboard. Mr. Downing stated Franklin Township had their billboard done for about \$300. If they can get the project going and enough momentum, they are proposing a second sign at the Lock 4 Park. This would bring more attention of what's going on, predicting the date of completion and what it is all about. Mr. Deans said it would be a 4-foot by 8-foot panel (sheet of plywood sealed) and that it would be temporary and taken away when the project is finished. Mr. Downing is looking into getting lumber donated for the sign; he sees the most expense as being the artwork and layout of the sign. He will approach Wacker Signs to make the sign. Mrs. Loretto likes the idea, and Mr. Szanto said he'd like to see them do it, as long as there isn't a problem with Zoning.

REPORT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. Mouse spoke about the Committee on Committees meeting last Tuesday and read off the following existing committees and members of same: Finance Committee, Economic Development/Zoning Committee, Personnel Rules Committee, Safety Committee and Public Service Committee. He stated Mrs. Downing has asked to be taken off Personnel Rules Committee. Mr. Mouse said if nobody else wanted to replace Mrs. Downing that he would.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Cihon made a motion that Council go into Executive Session regarding personnel performance to include Council and the Mayor, expecting no action to be taken; and an additional Executive Session to go over personnel rates to include all the elected officials; seconded by Mr. Szanto. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED

Mr. Colaianni made a motion to reconvene the regular session. No action will be taken as a result of the Executive Session; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mrs. Zahirsky stated the Law Director is "getting very fed up with Council." She is "kinda concerned that he's ready to quit on us because of all the things that are being thrown at him right now. He is so frustrated." She went on, "If there is anything that you have that needs to go to him, if it can wait, give it a rest." The Mayor asked Mrs. Zahirsky if there was anything they could do to help him outside of that, and Mrs. Zahirsky stated, "I have no clue. I don't know what's going on." Mr. Mouse told Mrs. Zahirsky she might want to ask him. Mrs. Zahirsky said, "He just wanted me to bring it up. If you can just lay off of him, give him a chance to get whatever's on his plate done, and handle other problems In other word, don't be stirring up more problems right now. Wait a little bit to stir up more problems."

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Grogan adjourned the January 18, 2005 City Council meeting at 10:15 PM.

Patricia A. Schauwecker, Clerk of Council

Mayor John Grogan