

AGENDA
CANFIELD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 2024-5:30 P.M.

FRANCIS J. McLAUGHLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call: Quorum is Present - Meeting is in Session.
4. Proclamations & Presentations.
5. Approval of Minutes.
6. Reading of Communications.
7. Reports of Committees, Boards, Mayor's Report, City Manager, Finance Director, Chief of Police, Zoning Inspector and Public Works Superintendent.
8. Public questions from residents (or representative) related to the above referenced reports. Questions may be limited to three (3) minutes.
9. Recognition of Persons Desiring to Appear Before Council.
10. OLD BUSINESS
Note: After each item is placed on the table for action, public comments from residents (or representative) as to that business item are received. May be limited to three (3) minutes per person and thirty (30) minutes total.
11. NEW BUSINESS
Note: After each item is placed on the table for action, public comments from residents (or representative) as to that business item are received. May be limited to three (3) minutes per person and thirty (30) minutes total.
12. Council Comments.
13. Adjournment

MINUTES
CANFIELD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 3, 2024-5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Christine Oliver, President of Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll to which a quorum responded as follows: Mr. Dragish, Mr. Graham, Mr. Neff, Mrs. Oliver and Mr. Tieche.

Staff present: Charles Colucci, Chief of Police; Christine Stack-Clayton, Finance Director; Jodi Flinn, Zoning Inspector; and John Rapp, Public Works Superintendent.

Under **PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS**, there was none.

Under **MINUTES**, the Minutes of the Public Hearing on March 20, 2024 were approved as presented. The Minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 20, 2024 were approved as presented.

Under **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**:

MRS. OLIVER: I do have some communications to read. I received one on March 28th.

Council Person Oliver,

I have submitted a petition to be presented to council and the Parks Board, signed by 60 residents, all but one live in the direct neighborhood of Fair Park, against the proposed changes to Fair Park that Mr. Calder is pushing. My neighbors and I are concerned about safety, noise, and traffic issues that may arise. Contrary to a previous council persons statement that this park is underutilized. Fair Park is already busy with kids on the playground and playing basketball. Young teens practicing on the open area most evenings from March through September. A mahjong group that plays weekly in warm weather and a yoga group on Saturdays, in addition to many walkers and dog walkers that come from all over to enjoy our quiet neighborhood. The access to the bike trail through Ohio Edison's power line easement would allow an access point to the park in a wooded area adjacent to my neighbor's homes outside of police jurisdiction, down along a secluded path, with only a port-a-potty to offer for services. This was considered when the bike trail first went in and determined it would be costly to build and extremely costly to maintain; which I assume will be Canfield's responsibility. Is the police department going to have to patrol it? The safety and privacy of the villas and homes directly attached to the park would definitely be impacted. I have researched the larger type of pump track that Mr. Calder wants to add, which is primarily for teens and adults. Others in the area are not in residential neighborhoods but in larger open space parks and not generally located close to children's playgrounds. Akron police report that nuisance crime such as, loud music, fighting and teen smoking are the usual complaints associated with their pump track. Fair Park is not a good location for this type of bike track. My neighbor and I have

already witnessed an adult and juvenile male on gas powered dirt bikes twice on the small pump track while a child on a bike rode, last fall. Bad behavior as well as bad parenting has already been displayed within the first week the track was finished. As far as adding material to the inside of the small track (at such a ridiculous price) why didn't he have this in his original proposal? If an inclusive or ADA addition to the park is on the Park Board minds, locating inside of bike traffic is not the place for it. There are inclusive and family swings available at a much lower cost. A \$30,000 bocce court is absurd. Also, you can play that in the grass anytime you want. Thank you, Sherri Brown, 35 Kirk Street.

MRS. OLIVER: This was to the entire council:

The Villas at Fair Park owners would like to register an official complaint against proposed changes at Fair Park.

The proposal to add a connector to the Metro Parks Bike Trail through the power line easement adjacent to our development will affect the security and privacy of our homes and will dramatically affect the actual park by bringing individuals in from the bike rail with few services available to them. The path will be long and secluded, giving access to the wooded area behind our community. The only service available is one port-a-potty. If issues do occur in the park there will be egress into the township. Who will be responsible for the maintenance and security monitoring?

The proposal for a larger bike/pump track positioned behind the playground for young children generally attracts teenagers and young adults. Petty crimes including loud music, fighting and teenagers smoking various forms of tobacco and marijuana are typical complaints. This is a family neighborhood, Bocce can be played in the front on the grassy area anytime, we do not need a permanent bocce court.

The Park Committee and Councilman who mistakenly declared Fair Park underutilized have not taken into consideration the Villas and homes surrounding the park and our rights. This is a park that is very busy in the summer with kids on the playground, picnics, birthday parties, practicing sports including soccer and basketball. Many come to walk their dogs, play Mahjong and practice yoga, weather permitting. The limited parking is already stretched most evenings and the road in the park has really deteriorated.

Perhaps the Park Board can plan more community days and "pop ups" on the Green to enhance our community. Tax dollars can be spent on paving roads instead of an electric line easement path to the bike trail.

Respectively,

Jim Rugh, President
Board of Trustees
Villas at Fair Park.

MRS. OLIVER: This letter was addressed to the entire council as well.

This letter is to reflect my objection to the Canfield Council wish list that was submitted by Lex Calder at the City Council meeting. We are well aware that this was his intent by getting on the Park Board.

This is the third time that someone has proposed their wishes for Fair Park. I am representing the residents living in Fair Park as I was an original owner and Treasurer for twenty-five years, ten of those years as Treasurer, I was also the President. Referring to the article in The Vindicator from October 13, 1982, numerous ideas were listed for the use of the park. This was before the Condos of Fair Park were built which have been occupied now for twenty-seven years. These are the homes of our wonderful residents and retirees that have found living here very peaceful. Most enjoy the quiet and solace of our little corner by Fair Park. We bother no one.

The idea of adding all the unnecessary toys are not welcome here. The noise is not conducive to elderly people or those that are ill. It seems as if Mr. Calder is looking to create a personal playground for himself and his children.

In speaking with our residents, they are concerned about the raising of taxes to pay for his adventure. I personally will screen any levies in the future when it seems as if the tax is being used for extravagant spending.

Canfield would be liable if anyone were injured or hurt on the grounds. Who is going to pay the insurance for this? Who is going to supervise these children while here? We have already experienced children, while attending activities at Fair Park, come onto our gazebo and were jumping off the railing.

We have also heard expressed from residents that if this should take place they will move.

I cannot believe that the Rotary Club is not objecting as the building they rent for functions as those attending showers or parties should not have to deal with extra cars or noise.

I worry about the numbers of people coming in and not being interested in being a good park attendee. We do not want them on our property, making our residents very leery of them.

You should be financially ready to have a fence installed between Fair Park and the Condos at Fair Park.

Our residents do not want this to happen!

Parking at Fair Park is extremely limited. The pavement in the park is in desperate need of being replaced.

I cannot afford to pay higher taxes for foolishness such as this and I also do not want to risk the value of my condo for something entirely unnecessary. Take your ideas to someplace that agrees with you. It is not here at Fair Park.

Norma Remias
50-2 Parkside Circle.

MRS. OLIVER: Any communications from council? Hearing none.

Under **REPORTS** of Committees, Boards, Mayor's Report, City Manager, Finance Director, Chief of Police, Zoning Inspector and Public Works Superintendent.

MR. TIECHE: I do not have a formal report this evening. We had a meeting on Tuesday, yesterday. We received the letters that you just read at the Parks Board Meeting. They will be reflected in our minutes. You'll get a copy of those when they are done.

MRS. OLIVER: Mr. Neff.

MR. NEFF: Planning & Zoning meeting was moved from this week to the 18th. I don't have any report tonight.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Mayor Dragish.

MR. DRAGISH: I have no report tonight.

MRS. OLIVER: Mr. Graham.

MR. GRAHAM: Design Review we did not have anything on the agenda, so we did not have a meeting.

MRS. OLIVER: I'm on the Fire Board for March there were 203 total calls and 101 of those were ambulance transports. Mr. Rapp.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Good evening. Anyone who hasn't got their stick and limbs out for quadrant 1, crews are in that zone this week. You'll have until the end of the day Friday to get those out. We will begin Quadrant 2 on Monday, April 8th.

Yarian is working on restoration in the Bradford/Briarcliff area right now, driveways, sidewalks, grass. They're just trying to get everything restored, weather permitting. This week was a wash but they were still out doing some items.

City crews is prepping for the change of seasons, prepping all the equipment and getting ready to do some mulching next week and edging, trying to get all the city properties looking good for spring.

We also have crews out doing sanitary maintenance and they'll move right into the water valve maintenance.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you to our Public Works Superintendent. Moving on to our Finance Director, Mrs. Clayton.

FINANCE DIRECTOR: I'm currently working on a receivable spreadsheet and capital asset spreadsheet for our 2023 GAAP Report. I have to get all that sent to our CPA Firm who completes that report for us. That has to be sent to the state by the end of May. The finance department is very busy processing income tax returns; which are due by April 15th.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Our Zoning Inspector, Ms. Flinn.

ZONING INSPECTOR: For the month of March, we issued 15 Permits for a total valuation of \$719,178. That brings us, so far for 2024, 32 permits and a valuation of \$933,788.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Our Clerk, Mrs. Bernat.

CLERK: Studio Oxygen will be holding Yoga on the Green on August 11th, it's a Sunday from 10:00am to 3:00pm, they'll be having tents, food vendors and inflatables.

MRS. OLIVER: Our Chief of Police, Chief Colucci.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Thank you. So, last night everybody was prepared for the storm, that missed us for the most part, thank goodness. There are a few things that I want to bring to everyone's attention, last year, John and I were out and got hit pretty hard, we had a lot of trees down and that's happened a few times to us. We made a few improvements and changes. Last year, John, Christine and I worked together on, when we lose power in the city and we lose our traffic lights, we get chaos. We've had accidents. So, last year, we've had, what do you call them?

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Generators?

CHIEF OF POLICE: Not the generators.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Battery back-ups.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Battery back-ups but the plugs. We can plug right into the generators and power up our traffic lights. So, Hillside and 224, the square, Cardinal, Railroad and West Main,

and Wadsworth and Lisbon Street and the fuel pumps for our safety vehicles. So, there is battery back-up on the square and cardinal. Is that all for the battery back-up?

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: For the battery back-up.

CHIEF COLUCCI: But we have generators. In preparation for the storm last night, the street department had all the generators topped off, our officers were ready to deploy those, if need be. We were prepared. We had extra officers out. We had extra dispatchers. It gets wild in that room when we do get a storm come through, more so than fires or any significant police call. Fortunately, for us, the storm missed but we were all ready. I talked to the city manager through the night and John. I appreciate all their help. I just want the residents know, the community know, that there is not much we can do to stop it, but we were ready to go to help where we could. Thanks to John for overseeing, making sure we had all the plugs, on our traffic lights to get it done.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Thank you for the idea of bringing that to us. We just followed through with your vision.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Our vision. I'm glad it's done. When we have to put portable stop signs at 224 and 46, it's a free-for-all. The Civil Service Test, I thank Patty for administering that. The test is April 17th for Police Officer. We have two full-time openings. We've been advertising and I'd like to encourage anybody that knows anybody that is looking for a police officer job in a professional police department, we do have a 4-year degree requirement, you don't have to have a 4-year degree to take the test, you just need to be able to obtain it within the time period of your probation. I love that council supports having that degree requirement. We get asked quite a bit, why don't we drop it to get more applicants. I appreciate that because we believe in education. SRO Training, our School Resource Officers, all 5 have attended a "Stop the Bleed" instruction course. This training was provided by the State of Ohio, Bureau of Workers Compensation. Our School Resource Officers are going to be able to train teachers at MCCTC and all Canfield Local School District and certify them on "Stop the Bleed" Unfortunately, it's a possibility. If there is an accident, whether it be a shooting or some other catastrophic accident where someone is bleeding, the teachers and resource officers are now certified in stopping the bleed. I know that MCCTC is going to put "Stop the Bleed" kits in each classroom. I'm sure that Canfield will follow suit. MCCTC got a grant from Bureau of Workers Compensation to replace all AED's; which are the automatic defibrillators that all the schools have, all of our police officers and fire departments have them. We've saved a lot of lives with those. So, they'll be replacing all of those. All of our officers have been certified through our Fire Department in "Stop the Bleed" as well. We all carry "Stop the Bleed" kits that include tourniquets and patches, if anybody is ever shot, an officer or a resident.

I'd like to thank Council for all the work your group has done over the years in flood prevention. I was driving around and our officers were driving around and we were talking it today, it's just amazing the amount that went into that and the way you listen to the residents and over the

years, all of our projects, everything appears to be working. There was a lot of water last night and we didn't have any flooding that I'm aware of.

MRS. OLIVER: Chief Colucci, how many applicants do we have so far?

CHIEF OF POLICE: Patty just updated me, we have 4. We're looking to get more. We've going to the academies over the next week. The deadline to apply is April 12th. If we don't get enough applicants, we'll just keep recruiting. We'll make sure we give our residents the best police officers that we can.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Our City Manager, Mr. D'Apolito.

MR. D'APOLITO: Thank you, Mrs. Oliver. The first item is going to sound repetitive but I did want to recognize Chief Colucci and Mr. Rapp because last night would have been my first experience with any type of storm or weather situation here as city manager. We stayed in contact throughout the night. I was so impressed with them and everyone's willingness to come into work at any time, all hands-on-deck. I just thought that they should be recognized. I know the police officers and public works were ready to do whatever was necessary to protect the citizens. I'm impressed with all the employees with the city, since I've gotten here, day 93 by the way. (Laughter)

Secondly, I was also going to mention the curb and driveways on Bradford and Briarcliff are near completion. We've been out there pretty regularly, John and I. They look fantastic. The residents have been so patient. A couple little encounters, so minor. I think it's gone really, really, well. That is very close to being completed.

The final thing I wanted to mention is, I attended the Parks and Recreation meeting yesterday and we were attempting to save the clock, as Mrs. Oliver is aware of and Council is aware of as well. I thought we might relocate it somewhere on the Green. Parks and Recreation is of the opinion that it's probably not a good idea, and we should continue as council has stated with the auction. So, the clock will be put up for auction. Some people are interested in obtaining that.

MRS. OLIVER: What was the conclusion that we can't save the clock? How was that determined?

MR. D'APOLITO: They just thought it would be too much to have it painted, updated. I don't think they really liked the location, I had suggested, after talking to other people here, relocating it near the gazebo, I thought it might make a nice look. There is already a cement pad there with conduit to it. There is power to get to it easily and reinstall it. They did not like that idea. They thought we should go with the original plan and put it up for auction, as is.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Last but not least, our City Attorney, Mr. Fortunato.

ATTY. FORTUNATO: I don't really have a report tonight.

MRS. OLIVER: Council any comments on the reports that you've just heard?

MR. NEFF: I would like to address the clock issue because I attended the meeting as well and I brought up the fact that council decided to dispose of the clock when we were told it was unrepairable. I don't want to overrule Parks and Recreation but maybe we should reconsider it. I'd like to take a look at it and see what we'd be getting into. I love the idea of trying to put it by the gazebo but I don't know how everybody else feels. Rather than just say, let's get rid of it.

MRS. OLIVER: This may come as a surprise but I'm in 100% agreement with Mr. Neff.

MR. D'APOLITO: No shock there at all. (Laughter)

MRS. OLIVER: I think when we decided to dispose of it, it was because we were not aware that it could be salvaged. It was the newspaper article that came out, is how I received the phone call from Ben at Ben's Clock Shop that it could be repaired and he knows how to do that because he has done it in the past for us. I firmly believe that I can personally raise the money to fix that clock and keep it here on our Green. I agree.

MR. D'APOLITO: In fairness, it is more than just the mechanics of the clock, it would need repainted, a new globe attached but if the funds are available and council is so inclined, whatever direction you take.

MRS. OLIVER: It's part of the history of our city, I think it should stay.

MR. TIECHE: John, what were you going to have to do to repair the clock? Were you having to take stuff apart?

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Yes, clock would have to be disassembled by our Public Works Department and be painted by our Public Works Department. We would take the components inside and give them to Big Ben, he would rebuild the internals, we would put it back together and then, someone mentioned yesterday at Parks, the facing, the clear has yellowed and they'd like to have that replaced. I didn't look into that part, then there is the wiring and underground electric that would be needed, depending on where it goes. If it goes by the gazebo, there is conduit already there but if it goes back to where it was at, we would have to have an electrician run power from the pole down, to code, to power the clock.

MR. TIECHE: Do you have any idea what is associated with those costs?

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: I believe Big Ben said anywhere between \$300-\$500 to do his part. We would have the paint and time taking it apart, we would have to put in a foundation if you wanted it back where it was at. I didn't get any electrical costs.

MR. TIECHE: Okay.

MRS. OLIVER: I think putting it by the gazebo was a nice idea, since it's already there. I personally know someone who can wire the clock.

MR. D'APOLITO: If we're going to do it, we should do it completely. If we can raise those funds, I think it would be great.

CHIEF COLUCCI: For whatever it's worth, last year we looked at replacing the clock and to do a replacement clock a little bit bigger it was \$15,000.

MRS. OLIVER: So, it's really a drop in the bucket to save the clock.

CHIEF COLUCCI: We checked vendors and that was the best price.

MR. D'APOLITO: So, the auction is on hold.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you.

MR. NEFF: I would also like to give kudos to Public Works and John Rapp, the Mahoning Dispatch that is owned by the Canfield Historical Society had water backing up. We assumed it was the societies responsibility to call in a plumber and expertise and the city was very helpful in showing up and opening up a plugged drain. The Mahoning Dispatch is a great asset to the city. Thanks to John and his terrific crew, they helped out. Now they're looking into getting a sump pump line routed out. Kudos to John.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: Thank you, I'll pass that on.

MR. NEFF: I wanted to ask John and the Chief, on our emergency sirens, I probably should know this but I don't, there is a specific siren for tornadoes, is that right?

CHIEF OF POLICE: I don't know.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: I don't know either.

MR. NEFF: As opposed to a regular siren when we hear, maybe I'm old school because we don't have a volunteer fire department anymore.

CHIEF OF POLICE: I know that we have a back-up alert panel, in dispatch for our sirens. I think it sounds one way. To further that conversation, I'm pretty sure Mahoning County is moving in the direction of text alerts, as well.

MR. NEFF: Maybe we don't even set it off ourselves. Maybe it's powered by the emergency.....

MR. DRAGISH: I think the Saturday at noon whistle are those.

MR. TIECHE: That's correct. The Saturday is set up by EMS.

MR. DRAGISH: But it's the same whistle.

MR. TIECHE: Right.

CHIEF COLUCCI: We have a manual option if it fails.

MR. DRAGISH: So, for a tornado, if it fails, we can manually set it off.

CHIEF COLUCCI: I hope that, that is accurate texting alerts. I think that's the most efficient way. A lot of people don't hear it inside a building.

MR. TIECHE: Chief, do you know if your manual sets off all of the sirens or ...

CHIEF COLUCCI: It's our local ones.

ATTY. FORTUNATO: There are two different tones for outdoor warning sirens. The signal for enemy attack is a rising and falling tone heard for 3 minutes. Civil emergency, such as, a tornado is a steady whale, heard for 3 minutes. We're probably not going to be subject to enemy attack anytime soon in Canfield. If you hear a siren just go indoors, right. A steady whale.

MR. NEFF: Thank you.

MRS. OLIVER: Any other questions or comments from Council?

MR. D'APOLITO: Mrs. Oliver, one other thing that I wanted to add, I just wanted Council and the residents to be aware that we are working on the situation on East Main Street. I know it's been brought up by residents and members of council. We are initiating a conversation with the paving company that installed those patches. We're no where near a resolution but we got calls as recently as today, it is absolutely being addressed. We are aware of it. We all noticed it as well.

MRS. OLIVER: It's terrible.

MR. D'APOLITO: But it will be fixed.

MR. DRAGISH: My only other comment is, does anybody up here disagree with putting the clock "is we can save the clock" by the gazebo at that particular point. I think, in my opinion, that would probably be the best place to efficiently put the clock back if we're going to do it. Does anybody have any objections to it?

COLLECTIVELY: We all agree to that.

CHIEF OF POLICE: The only thing that I'm aware of is, the Rotary was going to have their sign and then the historical marker has to go back up.

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Whenever we get it. We're still waiting on that from the State.

MR. DRAGISH: That doesn't go there.

CHIEF OF POLICE: They were talking about it there. There is plenty of room.

MRS. OLIVER: Any questions or comments from the citizens on the reports? Hearing none.

Under **RECOGNITION** of Persons Desiring to Appear Before Council:

SHERRI BROWN: My name is Sherri Brown, I live at 35 Kirk Street. Me and a number of people in my neighborhood have signed a petition and it was given to the Parks and Recreation Board and your council, against some of the proposed changes, such as you read in the letter to Fair Park. I wanted to expound upon with the larger pump track I researched those types of pump tracks and we have 3 close to us, one is in Buhl Park which has park rangers patrolling and is no where near a children's playground or homes. One is in Alliance, it is on State Route 62 in a commercial district, not near homes. There is apparently some type of playground near it, I don't know what type, if it's a small child's playground, such as the one at Fair Park. Then there is one in Akron, which is also commercial property area, not near homes. After I spoke with the police departments at Alliance and Akron, they did not indicate to me that these larger pump tracks brought any acceleration in violent crimes but there was an acceleration in petty crimes. The patrolman in Akron said, why would you put it next to a children's playground. We would like to ask the Council to seriously consider not putting the larger pump track in Fair Park back in the hole for lack of a better word, which appears to be the driving force of bringing the bike trail up from an easement from Ohio Edison's electric lines that go into the township. That area is a very, very long area; which I'm sure would cost you a significant amount of money, even with an ODNR Grant but it would also put people in an area where nobody has eyes on them. There is a lot that can go on in that woods. You can correct me if I'm wrong Chief Colucci, that is outside your jurisdiction where it enters, or no?

CHIEF OF POLICE: No.

SHERRI BROWN: You're in the jurisdiction on the bike trail right there?

CHIEF COLUCCI: Yes.

SHERRI BROWN: Ok, what about the bypass?

CHIEF OF POLICE: No, to the road.

SHERRI BROWN: So, a very short distance and then they're outside of your jurisdiction. I was one of the neighbor's who witnessed the person on the gas-powered dirt bike on the small pump track, on two separate occasions, last fall shortly after the pump track went in. So, I guess you would also have to make a determination if you want to continue on with these changes to Fair Park, are you going to allow dirt bikes in the woods also, they're already riding them in the park, in the play area of the park. I don't know how anybody on your council feels about this situation but we figured we'd get out ahead of it before Mr. Calder moved forward with anymore of his grants and his changes. I asked the Parks and Recreation Board to take any consideration and I ask you to take any consideration. We live there. This is not Boardman Park which is an isolated area away from residential districts. This is not Mill Creek Park. People live all the way around it. There is a retirement community on one side, there are rental properties; which other than one are filled with single mothers, directly across the street from that park. It should be considered. When you pick an age bracket of equipment to put in that park, as to the behavior that is going to be brought with an age bracket. I'm not against teenagers, teenagers are over there playing basketball, teenagers play on the swings. I've been there since '97, there have been problems in that park previously. We are now entering into an era of everyone has their Constitutional Rights to their lifestyle preferences and how they want to behave in public. I think that should be taken into consideration to. Thank you.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Norma Remias.

NORMA REMIAS: You've already read my letter. It was the last letter that you read. So, I don't think I need to get up and speak.

ATTY. FORTUNATO: If you are going to say something, why don't you get up there and state your name and address.

NORMA REMIAS: Norma Remias, 50-2 Parkside Circle. I've appeared before this board before with two petitions, that went in our favor with a dog park and a splash pad. Our people were very happy because we're almost all retired there, just about everybody is retired. That is our retirement home. It's quiet. We don't bother anybody. We keep it nice. People drive through and say, any condos for sale here? They're all interested because it does look nice. This is just a little too much for us old folks. I think other places might do well but our park, I've been here 27 years and this is my home. I think we have 6 original people there and that's from '97. It hurts me every time I have to go through this because I just feel, we can't do this, we can't do this to our people. These are all my people here. Some original since 1997, other passed on or moved away with their kids or whatever. We really would like to have you reevaluate this. How many people will be affected. We have people who are sick. We have one fellow who has been real sick for a few years. He lives right up there at the end where the park is. I lost a lot of sleep over this, when I saw this first starting, I thought you have to do something about this and then I thought, you're not on the board any more. I was Treasurer for 25 years. For 10 years of that 25, I was also the President. So, these are my people. We're good for Canfield. We don't

bother anybody. We're in our corner by the park. We have people that are walkers, on walkers. We have people that use canes now. We need to be attended to, also. We always do get along with everybody. We don't bother people. We don't bother the police, very much. We wave at them. I would seriously love to have you reevaluate this. My people here, some of the others couldn't be here tonight but we did show up to show that this park really means a lot to us.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you.

NORMA REMIAS: Thank you, very much.

MRS. OLIVER: We didn't have anything listed under Old Business but the statement that I have, makes sense to be under Old Business, since we passed a Resolution at our previous meeting, voting against the fire merger.

After reviewing the statement that was given by Jason Loree, I as a council member feel that it requires a response. City Council has obviously been in the dark since its inception regarding this proposed merger between Boardman Township and the Canfield Joint Fire District. It's obvious from the statement that was given that there had been discussions we were not made aware of and we were not invited to participate in these discussions to provide our valuable input. The reason for this lack of transparency is now evident. The City Council, on the other hand, has been completely transparent. The City is a stakeholder in the fire district and should have been included in any conversations from the beginning. Now that this has come out into the open, our residents have overwhelmingly told us they are against this merger with Boardman Township. In addition, our firefighters are undoubtedly against this merger as well. Council's Resolution was intended to make it perfectly clear that our city stands with its residents and in support of our firefighters. My belief is that Boardman feels disheartened because the merger would be of great benefit to them and most likely a detriment to our city and residents of Canfield. Council is prepared to take whatever action is necessary to ensure that when a Canfield resident makes a call for service, the call will continue to be dispatched by a Canfield Dispatcher who knows our city and responded to by a firefighter who also knows our city, to ensure the fastest and best response that we can provide. If any other member of council has anything to add to this, please make your opinion known at this time. Thank you.

MR. DRAGISH: I think we all stand together on this, the comments that were stated. That's from my point of view. The five of us, including the city manager, that is where our stance is. We're behind you, the city, and the residents of Canfield. We'll see where this goes.

MR. GRAHAM: I agree.

MR. NEFF: I concur.

MR. TIECHE: I concur.

Under NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM A: An Ordinance Requesting Participation in Purchase Contracts of the State for Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) and Declaring an Emergency.

MRS. OLIVER: As per the provisions of Section 4.05 of the Charter of the City of Canfield, I move that Council dispense with the requirement of two readings of the proposed Ordinance and authorize adoption of the same upon its first reading.

MR. DRAGISH: Second.

ROLL CALL ON MOTION:	5 Votes-Yes
	0 Votes-No
	Motion passes.

MRS. OLIVER: As per the provisions of Section 4.05 of the Charter of the City of Canfield, I move that Council dispense with the requirement of a full reading of the proposed Ordinance and authorize reading by title only.

MR. NEFF: Second.

ROLL CALL ON MOTION:	5 Votes-Yes
	0 Votes-No
	Motion passes.

MR. GRAHAM: Madam President, I have an Ordinance Requesting Participation in Purchase Contracts of the State for Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) and Declaring an Emergency. I move for passage.

MR. TIECHE: Second.

MR. D'APOLITO: Do you want me to read the description?

MRS. OLIVER: Please.

MR. D'APOLITO: As part of the City of Canfield's participation in Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Winter Salt Contract for 2024-2025 we are required to pass legislation expressing our desire to participate in the program. The contract document binds us to purchase at least 90% of our requested number of tons for the contract year at the price that is awarded through the ODOT contract. This Ordinance requests participation in the State of Ohio purchase of road salt for the contract year 2024-2025. This is being passes as an emergency due to the requirement to submit our commitment of salt purchase by the deadline.

MR. TIECHE: How many tons of salt did we purchase this last year?

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: We purchased 900 tons.

MR. TIECHE: Was that adequate? Getting back to how much are you going to take a bid for this year?

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT: We were going to sit down and discuss what our needs were going to be. We've had two favorable seasons. We are in very good shape right now. We're probably looking to go a couple hundred tons less but we want to make sure that's a good idea before you commit. Once you commit to that tonnage, you can go 10% below it or 10% over.

MR. TIECHE: I was just figuring with the good job that the manager has been doing and his effervescent personality, it's probably going to be warmer this winter, therefore we can reduce the amount of salt.

MR. D'APOLITO: Since January it's been very mild. That's all I'm going to say. 93 days of mildness. (Laughter).

MRS. OLIVER: What a coincidence. Any other questions or comments from council? Hearing none. Any public comments? Hearing none.

ROLL CALL ON ORDINANCE:

5 Votes-Yes

0 Votes-No

Ordinance passes.

Ordinance 2024-10.

MRS. OLIVER: I was on target for not making any errors.

Under COUNCIL COMMENTS:

MR. TIECHE: I will take credit for the error that you made because I got into that long dialogue.

MRS. OLIVER: I hope everybody had a Happy Easter and have a wonderful evening. Thank you for coming and having your voices be heard.

MR. NEFF: I want to thank the residents for coming in. This is what it's all about, expressing how you feel. I don't have any intention of supporting an addition to the pump track. I would like to say that years ago we commissioned a study for a bike connector called the Canfield Bike Loop. That loop was to connect to the bike trail. It was to connect all of the schools. It would go up Fairground Blvd, over to the elementary school, it would go down and connect to the second elementary school, then to the high school, back to the middle school, then back. So, it was one big loop. It would be done at a significant cost. So, I'm not sure when we'd be able to afford

that. It would involve some bike lanes on streets. So, it wouldn't be completely separate but that is one of the things that I think was the impetus for looking into a connector coming through the power line easement.

MR. TIECHE: One other question, Madam Finance Director, within the budget, we didn't do anything with regard to approving anything to do with the pump track.

FINANCE DIRECTOR: No. That was simply discussion items.

MR. TIECHE: Just so everybody here is aware that there hasn't been any appropriation.

MR. DRAGISH: I was going to say that. I appreciate you guys coming out here but no motion was sent from our side of things to push anything forward. The pump track that is there was voted on. I don't think that we're looking to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in putting a Bocce Court in.

MRS. OLIVER: To be completely honest, I did my research and on good authority a bocce court would be like \$3,000 to \$4,000 not \$30,000 or more.

MARTHA THOMAS: Martha Thomas, 50-3 Parkside Circle. One thing I just thought about, my grandchildren thought we were the most wonderful grandparents because we lived next to a park. They lived out of town. Now my grandchildren are marriage age and I'm anticipating great-grandchildren. I would like my great-grandchildren to come out of town and take them to Fair Park and just have a playground and keep that in mind and make me happy. Thank you.

MR. NEFF: I think a motorized vehicle in the park is probably already excluded. I'm sure our police department will try to stay on that. They have bicycles. So, they can chase down any unsavory characters

MR. DRAGISH: You're right, Mr. Neff. I've seen several people on motorcycles and/or ATV's through the city at some particular times; maybe more in the winter than the summer. As he said and our Chief, those are not supposed to be driven on the streets or sidewalks. I believe we do follow through and either ticket them or

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: We tell everything.

MR. DRAGISH: I'm just saying, sometimes by the time you hear it and report it, they're long gone.

MR. TIECHE: Are the motorized skateboards motor vehicles? Should they also be excluded?

CHIEF OF POLICE: E-Bikes.

MR. TIECHE: Is the skateboard an E-Bike? There are electrified skateboards.

MR. DRAGISH: There are Hoverboards. I can't imagine. Probably not gas powered.

CHIEF OF POLICE: They don't meet the requirements of a motorized vehicle.

MRS. OLIVER: Thank you. Anything else? Do I have a motion to adjourn?

MR. TIECHE: So, moved.

MR. DRAGISH: second.

MRS. OLIVER: This meeting is adjourned.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CLERK OF COUNCIL