

**MARCH 28, 2016
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
PARMA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:30 P.M.**

The Special Council Meeting was called to order by President of Council Pro Tem Scott M. Tuma Presiding:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

**KRISTIN L. SABAN
SCOTT M. TUMA
BRIAN BROCHETTI
JEFFREY CROSSMAN
VITO DIPIERRO
ALLAN DIVIS
DEBORAH LIME
LARRY NAPOLI**

COUNCIL MEMBER EXCUSED:

MARK CASSELBERRY

Mr. Ramser - Mr. President, the Roll of Council has been called, and I find a quorum of Council members present. The following officials and department heads were also present: Mayor Timothy DeGeeter, Law Director Timothy Dobeck, Auditor Brian Day, Treasurer Thomas Mastroianni, Service Director Brian Higgins, Safety Director Michael O'Malley, Building Commissioner/City Engineer Paul Deichmann, Communications and Community Relations Director Jeannie Roberts, Director of Human Resources Thomas Weinreich, Clerk of Council Kenneth A. Ramser.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

The State of Ohio)
Cuyahoga County) ss: Clerk of Council Kenneth A. Ramser: Greetings
City of Parma)

WHEREAS, it appears that the public business of this City requires that the Council meet in Special Session to consider such business as may come before it, and,

WHEREAS, I have convened and do hereby convene said City Council to meet in Special Session on the 28th day of March, 2016, at 6:30 PM, Eastern Daylight Savings time, at the Council Chamber in said City, to consider such matters as may come before it as fully and completely as might be done in regular session of said Council:

1. Budget Hearing
2. Special Meeting to consider Ordinance No. 213-15 - AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF PARMA, OHIO, DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2016, TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

You are therefore commanded to summon: Mayor Tim DeGeeter, Auditor Brian Day, Law Director Timothy Dobeck, Treasurer Thomas Mastroianni, Council President Sean P. Brennan, Brian Brochetti, Mark Casselberry, Jeffrey Crossman, Vito Dipierro, Allan Divis, Deborah Lime, Larry Napoli, Kristin L. Saban, Scott M.Tuma, and Kenneth A. Ramser, Clerk of said Council, to meet in Special Session as aforesaid for the purposes aforesaid.

Hereof fail not and have you then and there this Writ, with your return thereon in what manner you have executed the same.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Corporate seal of said City to be hereunto affixed, this 24th day of March, 2016

/seal/

/s/ Sean P. Brennan
City of Parma COUNCIL PRESIDENT SEAN P. BRENNAN

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

I, Lynne Thomay, of the City of Parma, Ohio, do hereby certify that on March 24, 2016, I received the notices of a Special Meeting of Council, a copy of which is attached hereto, and that in accordance with the instructions given to me, I have served each person named in the notice with the notice by Electronic Mail (e-mail) with the notice on March 24, 2016, at 11:23 AM, which date and time is more than twelve hours prior to the time of the Special Meeting.

Signed /s/Lynne Thomay
Lynne Thomay, Deputy Clerk I
City of Parma, Ohio.

DISPENSE WITH THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion made by Councilman Napoli seconded by Councilman Dipierro to dispense with the regular order of business and to waive the Rules of Council, at the this time, in order to hold this Special Council Meeting. Motion carried.

THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 213-15 10/5/15 L-213-15

BY: SCOTT M. TUMA
(By Request - Auditor)

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF PARMA, OHIO, DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2016 TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Brochetti seconded by Councilman Napoli to amend Ordinance No. 213-15 by accepting Exhibit "A" and to wave Rule 52 and place Ordinance No. 213-15 on Third Reading for final passage as amended.

Mayor DeGeeter - I have the incoming Chief of Police and Chief Laskey from the Police Department here in case Council does have any specific questions for them, as well as our Safety and Service Directors and other Department Heads. Let me start because I think it is worth repeating, that the loss of revenue both from the State and reduction of our property tax values, are now reduced. Property fund taxes fund police and fire. So starting with that, we are down 5 Million right out of the gate from what we used to have in our budget. Again, worth repeating, everyone is aware of that. Additionally, what you will see before you is a balanced budget as required by the State to be passed before March 31. It is a disciplined budget and a document of your priorities. And I want to thank Council and the Auditor, Directors, Finance Chairman Tuma as we engage on budget hearings. Also

the Law Department and the Treasurer. Everybody participated. Brought before Council were wish lists, which obviously are not contained in this budget. We did look at priorities. We are keeping additional Property Maintenance Inspectors. We also have some increases elsewhere. If you reflect for a moment, absent the garbage fee. Had we not had the garbage fee, you are talking about 3.8 Million that we would not have. I will go on the other side to show you how fast that was taken up. We would likely not have a Rec Department, or Service Department. We would be talking about closing a fire station. I do not know how we would survive. So having said that, you look at what is covered in that garbage fee, and what we have had in the past. We have had to increase costs due to the lease expiring with BFI that is \$750,000. Our healthcare. This is the third year that has increased budgeted costs. This year we are at \$650,000. There is no cell tower money. That is 1.2 Million that we used last year. The 27th pay account. That is \$775,000. And we had additional increases in Corrections. Looking to hire 3 Corrections Officers. We have had to increase our pool budget by \$150,000. That makes up for the balance of what we have included in additional revenue on the trash fee. Again it is a tight budget. We have taken out our Clerk Records in the Police Department and downstairs in Purchasing/Personnel. It is balanced but is not what we all want to do or where we all want to get. We keep hearing about technology. I agree, and appreciate our Auditor looking forward to taking an assessment of all of our IT. I will pass out samples of papers in triplicate. This is time investment and it will take time. We need to catch up with the rest of the world. So with that, I want to thank Council again for being a partner in this. We will continue to look at technology and best practices. We will be getting 2 additional grade reports from PFM. We will work all together as we move Parma forward. At this point, we will stop talking and if you have specific questions to myself or to the Directors we are here to answer them. We ask for a unanimous vote tonight that puts Policemen on our streets and Firemen in our Fire Stations and everything else that goes into containing a budget of our priorities as we move forward together.

Mr. Tuma - Thank you Mr. Mayor. Keep in mind we still have not voted on the amendment as of yet. Are there any additional comments or questions before we move onto accepting the motion or not.

Councilwoman Lime - We never heard on the revenue side of the budget. I would like to hear from Mr. Mastroianni as far as that is concerned.

Treasurer Mastroianni - To Mrs. Lime's question, we met with the top 20-25 businesses and everything is looking pretty stable with them. There was concern with one company, which I cannot mention, but it looks like they are sticking with us and they are staying in the City. There was some talk about building a new location but they seem to be staying here. Right now, over the last two months, we are up about \$529,000. At this time, today, after close of business for the month we matched all of last year for this month. So, we still have 3 more days. We are looking conservatively to be up about another \$100,000 this month. Possibly 100-150 because we still have 3 days left. So, we ended up making a projection of up \$500,000 over last years amount. Last year we projected down 500 and this year we projected up 500. Now we are going to keep an eye on it because last year, the first 3-4 months were good and then it dipped down for a few months and then it went back up. So we are going to keep a close eye on it and if we need to redo the projection in 6 months, we will take a look at it. But at this time, everything seems to be going good. I know that Pitt Ohio is going to open by the end of the year. I do not know if you have gone by Day Drive here, but the Assisted Living in Ward 8 is really going pretty quick. I am hoping that gets up before the end of the year so we get some income tax dollars from both of those places. Right now that is where we are on the income tax side.

Councilwoman Lime - I understand that the budget is balanced, and pretty much it is the same budget we had when everybody came through and we went through everything. As far as the Building Department is concerned, and how many Inspectors will be hired and will there be any Inspectors hired on the weekends to work part-time. Also, as far as some of the things that were being asked for, the cell phone, i-pads, chairs, things like that. Just curious to where all those stand.

Mayor DeGeeter - It includes at a minimum 2 full time Inspectors for the Building Department. I know that the furniture and some of those additional requests have been removed. My understanding after talking with the Chief of Staff who talked with Mr. Deichmann. I do know there is an opportunity to go down to the County to look for office furniture at their warehouse. Looking for

part time, coming in on the weekends, part of that is also with Union contract issues. If we can find the right person, I am willing to do that. We are open to that capability. Whether its putting out bulk on a weekend, someone putting on a roof without a permit, new windows. Obviously, we would not announce that we are doing that. The public would be unaware that we have Inspectors out on the weekends. We are committed to have additional Inspectors. Neighborhoods are our lifeline. Minor misdemeanor tickets that we have implemented with Council's help and we continue to refine that Ordinance.

Councilwoman Lime - A question to the Auditor's Office or the Administration, a perfect example is the Mayor's account. The original worker's compensation is up to where we were when we originally budgeted. How was that tweaked?

Auditor Day - After the budget process had started, we were notified that we would have to make a slight adjustment to the worker's comp across the board. You will see that in every line item in every different department. There was a slight adjustment a couple of weeks into the budget.

Councilwoman Lime - Also, in the Safety Director's department, under Professional Services, the pavement marking of \$155,000 have been moved to 405. I am kind of curious where we are at as far as budgeting for the 405 account which is a catch all account.

Service Director Higgins - This is a difficult question to answer. You will get a pavement schedule for all vehicles that are being purchased out of 405 so there is a pavement schedule which is twice a year. We have some vehicles that we are going to purchase and the amount of road work we are going to do is going to increase dramatically this year because we are going to sub-contract out on Day Drive. So on top of Day Drive, we will be spending 2 Million dollars approximately in just materials and accessories for road work. That does not include the laborers that work on it, salaries or the vehicles. You will find that when you sub-contract out that you pay for the Contractor's equipment, personnel and his profit.

Councilwoman Lime - To the Auditor's Office, is there a possibility that you can provide Council with a revenue side of 405 vs. the expenditures that are committed to 405. Whether it be equipment, pavement markings, debt. Could you provide Council with all of that please?

Auditor Day - Certainly, we can provide you with what we have. I will be happy to do that. I will say though in regard to the pavement markings, memory serves me right, it is standard every year that we have taken that out of the general fund and done that. So that is nothing new, but yes to answer your question let me get you what we have.

Councilwoman Lime - So, Mr. Day, I would be looking at what the carryover was, what the estimated revenues for 2016 are and then basically the commitments whether it be through Ordinance or where it be through debt service. Anything that would be paid out of 405 for 2016?

Auditor Day - Yes.

Councilwoman Lime - I see that the Judges did not take the \$10,000 out of their line item for their pay raise over there which I believe was the quote.

Mr. Tuma - And I never got an explanation as to why that was still in there.

Councilman Crossman - Are we voting to accept the budget as is? The second question I would have is that it is a feeling in Council that there are some line items that we would like to address tonight. With some corrective action on the budget items that are presented here before us. I would propose that whatever mechanism we need to take to adjust that now, before the appropriations are actually voted on and approved before voting on this as an up or down 100% budget. We may need some guidance from the Law Director but I would suggest we remove the motion that is currently on the floor, ask Council members if there are any items that need to be amended on the exhibit that has been presented to us and then ask that the amended document be approved as the budget.

Mr. Tuma - I would look to some guidance from the Law Director on this. Can Council proceed with doing amendments or striking line items or is it an up and down proposition with accepting the whole budget?

Law Director Dobeck - Has there been a second motion? -The maker of the second motion can withdraw that motion and then discussions can be had on the budget and of course Council is free to make changes to the Exhibit before you adopt and accept. If the person wants to withdraw that motion, then you can have further discussion and make changes that you deem appropriate and then

subsequent to that, when you are done with all the changes that you wish to make, then you would make a new motion to accept the revised exhibit.

Motion made by Councilman Brochetti to withdraw his motion to accept exhibit A, seconded by Councilman Napoli to withdraw his second.

Mr. Tuma - We are starting from scratch here, we have exhibit A that is out there and we are questioning and commenting on that exhibit.

Councilwoman Lime - You are talking about the Courts with respect to clothing allowance. I said I was told we were going to get something explaining why that was or why it was necessary. I never did receive that and I am not sure if anyone else on Council has or the Administration.

Councilman Crossman - Just to be consistent and fair with the rest of the employees that are not receiving this benefit, then we should strike that from the budget at this time. If the Court so deems it necessary to restore those funds, they can make a separate appropriation request.

Law Director Dobeck - We have not had this circumstance come up in our town, but there are other communities in the County where there has been some disagreement among the Courts and the Legislative authority. It raises a separation of powers question. The Courts are a separate branch of Government and as such they still rely on the Legislative authority to grant their budget. They also have the right to set forth their budgetary needs by journal entry. That has not happened here and you don't necessarily want a battle among the different branches of Government. I am aware that it has happened in other counties. In fact in Cuyahoga County, one year there was a fight between the Judiciary and the County Commissioners. Council needs to do what you think is the proper thing to do, but the Courts are free by Journal entry to set forth what their budgetary needs are.

Councilwoman Lime - So, if we do not eliminate that line item, but we deduct \$10,500 from their total budget, it is up to them through their funds that they can figure out how to come up with those funds. Would that be fair to say?

Law Director Dobeck - That is correct. If they decide that they need those funds then they can be restored by journal entry.

Councilwoman Lime - I believe that Mr. Crossman is right, there is a fairness issue here. Court employees are not getting it, its just the Judicial employees that are getting it. Again, it is not so much taking away the line item of the clothing allowance, it is actually deducting their budget by \$10,500. Judge Spanagel stood here and told us that it was a raise. He also told us that they have other discretionary funds that they can use. The Finance Chairman has sent a letter over there and received no response back. So, I still agree with what we are doing but maybe we should take it out of their total funds available.

Councilman Napoli - So we spoke of this little war that could occur here, I understand where you are coming from. Did the Courts ever give a reason why they never eliminated it from their budget?

Mr. Tuma - I believe that they did say they were going to give us a reason. I do not know if we have ever gotten one to my knowledge. It is my understanding that they were working on getting back to us with a response.

Councilman Crossman - Just to be clear, this is a matter of equality among all of our employees. All of our employees have given this up. We have negotiated this in a lot of instances for the Unions to give it up. I do not think it is fair to give a group of employees a benefit that others are not receiving. It is a matter of consistency. No disrespect to anybody at the Court. We have not received a response. If there is some compelling reason why they need to have those funds re-appropriated, then obviously they can make an appropriations request and justify it before Council.

Councilwoman Lime - I agree.

Councilman Brochetti - Can I have one more clarification from the Law Director. I appreciate you responding that there might be a battle. In the scenario where we are withholding the \$10,500, and then subsequently do pass, lets assume a month from now they are going to pass by journal entry the need for this additional money. Does that passage of the journal entry then create that they get the money anyway or do we now have a battle? How is that battle resolved?

Law Director Dobeck - There is not a lot of case law on this, I think there was a historic Cleveland Municipal court case that I saw where they would appear before Council and justify the

need for it. If they can establish the need for it, they can do this by journal entry. They do not have to get your approval. That is the nature of the separation of powers argument that they would have.

Mr. Tuma - I think what we are trying to figure out, that \$10,500 would be appropriated from the remaining budget that they have? If we take that money out, is that part of the 95% left? Is that where they would appropriate it from?

Law Director Dobeck -First of all, I think that needs to be clarified. The motion that is on the floor is to eliminate that line item. I think Councilwoman Lime was talking about something different. Removing from the total the \$10,500. But that is not what the motion is presently. If you are guessing what happens with that \$10,500 if it is eliminated, their budget is appropriated at \$10,500 less. If they come back and issue a journal entry indicating that they still need those funds, then that would be replaced into their appropriation.

Mr. Tuma - I think that in short by journal entry they can replace the funds that we take out.

Councilman Crossman - They would take it out of their existing budget.

We have a motion on the floor and a second. All of those in favor to strike the line item for the clothing allowance out of the Courts budget.

Motion made by Councilman Crossman seconded by Councilwoman Lime to strike the clothing allowance from the Courts budget. Motion carried.

Mr. Tuma - It was unanimous I believe. Mrs. Lime you would like to talk about Recreation?

Councilwoman Lime - Last year after the pools were closed, there was discussion on Council to look at what it costs to do business as far as the City pools were concerned. Based on how many registrations we had and the fees. Just wondering if the Administration was ready to come forward with that after we get through this budget. I think it is important that we look at that moving forward.

Mayor DeGeeter - With the pools closing last year, we did not want to do any adjustments with the fees this year. As you know, Director Vittardi every so often and his staff will look at other rec programs in other cities and bring back legislation adjusting those fees. So that is something that I am sure he will want to continue to do and look at. Probably some time this year he will come back with our entire rec program as opposed as to what has been done in the past, which has been piecemeal. We wanted to reopen the pools this year and not adjust that going into this year. As you know we are opening only 2 of the 3 pools. The third one being replaced with the splash pad.

Councilwoman Lime - Based on this exhibit budget that this is just the same as we had received. There were positions in there (besides Building) to be hired. My question is, are we hiring employees? Are we doing a hiring freeze? I know that Treasury needed something and many departments needed something. They are all in here, the appropriations are, so my question is are we hiring?

Mayor DeGeeter - I know that the Service Director is down a few people. We are looking at this on a case by case basis. We did eliminate a Records Clerk in the Police Department. The Chief had asked for 3. We are allowing 2. There was a retirement there, and a transfer within that department. We are down a person in Purchasing/Personnel. We are not looking to do anything there this year. That handicaps us. We cannot fully implement what we want to do. Merging Civil Service along with Purchasing. Obviously there is a need over in Dispatch. We are looking at additional Dispatchers that will save us cost in the long run. In the jail we have lost people there who have not been replaced. That is a revolving door as well because of the low pay over there. We will continue to look at a case by case basis but for sure we will be looking at Inspectors upstairs and I believe we are also down Clerks up there. We are sending Diane (from the Complaint Department) up there in the afternoon to help backfill up there.

Councilwoman Lime - So if I understand correctly, we are going to leave the appropriation there but it will be a department by department, case by case basis for hiring.

Mayor DeGeeter - On this side, yes. Again, we are down 2 or 3 mechanics. We are replacing 1 with no additional. We did that for safety forces as well. We did not do that last year, we did not replace until the very end and we were able to raise the minimum back. It was a whole hold your breath last year every time you heard an ambulance. But with that Safer grant. Additionally, we went back after the Police issue on overtime, but let me remind everyone on Council, on Police overtime, we are changing and reducing amounts on overtime. We did not do any training last year so we need to

catch up on that. We are down officers with what we had a year ago. Let me just go through what we are facing here. Saturday, 5 AM, Narcan administered on a 20 year old female. Thursday, Officers in PFD administered Narcan on a 26 year old that had overdosed on heroin. Wednesday, Charles Avenue, Narcan administered on an overdose. Tuesday, 2 stolen car pursuit car crash in Cleveland. Wednesday, March 16, Narcan used by the fire department on a female overdose. Friday, March 4, Narcan administered successfully and female became responsive. March 2, heroin overdose. Narcan administered with no results - DOA. So, we are a changing city. In that, with Police overtime. We are down Officers and we have to restore training. I know it is also budgeted in there is for additional Presidential business. Beyond that we have budgeted tight on what we can do within our Safety forces.

Councilwoman Lime - Along that line, has there been any contact from Cleveland with the Convention coming in July and all the discussions with Secret Service, County Sheriffs. Will we get a bill on cost for doing business on this. Everyone is not going to stay in the City of Cleveland. I am sure we will get a Presidential visit. We always do. But I am just a little concerned that we will have some Convention security cost.

Safety Director O'Malley - Probably about 6 months ago we got a request from the City of Cleveland to begin the process. They sent us their proposed agreement and there were concerns immediately that I had. They would reimburse us dollar for dollar for the actual cost of our men for their training and their actual deployment downtown. The problem that I had was that when individuals were deployed downtown and then we had to bring people in on overtime to fill them. They were not reimbursing us for the overtime that we would incur to backfill the people who were downtown. We do not have the luxury of having people sitting around and we do not have extra fat in our Police Department. We are a bare bones city. We have a great Police Department who does the job they are tasked to do. We cannot afford to swallow overtime and quite frankly we do not have any bed taxes. We don't have any hotels where we are really getting any additional revenue as a result of the convention like some cities. I am sure Independence (77 & Rockside) will see an influx of business at their hotels. We do not have that. The net decision was as a result of the fact that there is really little benefit to Parma and perhaps a lot of additional cost, we did not see a benefit of having our troops be required to be deployed downtown. So, our decision was made that this would not be a benefit to the citizens of Parma. There was a big chance of an excess bill that we would be forced to swallow so we decided not to do it.

Councilwoman Lime - The Communications Center. Could someone refresh my memory as to what the revenues are from Brook Park, Brooklyn and Parma Heights for the year?

Safety Director O'Malley - We have agreements with those that are reviewable annually. My recollection is that 22 maybe Brooklyn, Brook Park was going to be roughly 30 something. I don't know the numbers off the top of my head.

Auditor Day - 18 for Parma Heights, 24 for Brooklyn and Brook Park was 30 something (maybe 36). I don't have the numbers in front of me.

Councilwoman Lime - The reason I bring this up is that in 2005 the budget was approved at 1.7 Million Dollars. We spent 1.4. Its budgeted for 2.5. We are getting less than \$100,000 from the other cities to man this. This is like a noose around the neck. It seems to get tighter and tighter. My notes are saying that we would have to bear all of the burden of this facility of over 2 Million Dollars. I am just raising that because I do have some concern with it when we are all only getting one straight and its a general fund account.

Safety Director O'Malley - I just wanted to make sure that this amount was monthly and not annually.

Auditor Day - Correct. We are looking at \$700,000 for the year.

Councilwoman Lime - We are still paying over 1.5. We are still paying way over the amount.

Mr. Tuma - I don't want to put words in the Mayors mouth, but I would assume that those contracts with the other cities, at some point will come up for renewal and we will assess the situation at that time. I would venture to guess that the City of Parma would do what it can to ensure that we are getting the best bang for our buck but I will defer to the Safety Director.

Safety Director O'Malley - My understanding is that those agreements are reviewable annually, and the formula is going to be by call. Each cities proportional bill will be weighed by how much

demand they imposed upon the dispatch center. It is a fair formula in that those cities that generate the most calls would be paying the most money and those that generate less would be paying less which is what we feel is a fair assessment of the billing.

Councilman Crossman - I have a general question just for clarification purposes. I know we have at least one new member of Council. When we budget these items for each specific line item, does that mandate that these funds are specifically for these line items or can funds be shifted from line item to line item within that account?

Auditor Day - As long as within the fund, the line items can be moved around. Line items can be moved.

Councilman Crossman - As I go through the budgets, I get concerned when I see big jumps from year to year. I know we spend a lot of time going over the budget to explain some of the discrepancies. Not that I mean discrepancies, but more like increases over the prior years. For example, we have a lot of Union negotiations coming up so we had to budget for professional services so that would explain the increase from year to year. But when I start seeing throughout the budget, in not just one area in particular, but where we spent \$500 and then this year we are budgeting \$5000 for operating supplies it looks like a slush fund. I do not like to see that. I think going forward we need to cut that out. Its frustrating when you go through the budget and we spend so much time on it. I know everyone works very hard to get it as minimal as possible, but when I see this it concerns me that we are setting priorities here with these budgets and yet we are creating these accounts with excessive funds. Its just sort of a general observation that I would like to note.

Mayor DeGeeter - It will be better next year when we have the worksheets that show the breakdown. What was budgeted the year before as opposed to what was expensed. As we all know, we need to change even on personnel line items. Last year it shows that people are getting raises and that is not the case. Additionally, in some of those office supplies, it may have been budgeted the same as before but spend as you need it. At least that is how we look at it from our perspective. There is no slush account whatsoever, at least on ones that I have seen come across and we watch the spending on that.

Councilman Crossman - Let me clarify. I am not accusing anyone of any wrongdoing. I appreciate the explanation. For example, the Jail and Training line item. There is \$5,000 budgeted but in three prior years we have not gone over \$1650. In Professional Services they have \$5,000 and again in three years they have not hit that number. Maybe there is some explanation for that, but when I start seeing this over and over again it concerns me.

Councilman Napoli - One thing that I think that would clear that up, if they would post what they were budgeting for the previous year and the actual expense. I think it makes it less ambiguous if they put what was budgeted in previous year and what was actually spent in every single year.

Mr. Tuma - I agree with that. I think that with the budget hearings this year, the Administration is more cognizant of that and trying to break out of some old habits. One of the catch phrases you hear around City Hall is that "its always been done that way". That does not necessarily make it the right way to do things and I think that the Mayor is very aware of that going forward.

Councilwoman Lime - For Mrs. Saban, this is a line item budget, and this is category budget. They can spend the monies within the categories but if you passed a line item budget they would not be able to, they would have to stay put. You would have more transfers every week that you would have to be passing. That is the difference between the two budgets. I have always been a proponent of a line item budget. I think that controls your spending much more. As for Mr. Crossman's comments, I am glad you brought the Jail up. When I look at 2015, the budget approval was 1.676. They spent 1.484. But they are asking this year for 1.761. That is a lot of money difference. I can go through this budget based on what was approved in a budget, what was spent and what they are asking for this year. I get that there is Medicare, Hospitalization, Workers Comp and the costs are increasing and there is nothing we can do about that. I have a problem when you pass a category budget, that money is all within that stuff and it can be spent. Personally, I would like to approve a budget of what was spent last year per department and then have them come back to everybody and do it. Granted, there are a few departments that cannot do that such as the Communications Center, but that would be my

preference. This is the same budget that I saw back in February and today with very minimal amount of changes.

Auditor Day - Its not the same budget. We took 2.7 Million dollars off the budget you saw in February. I would strongly disagree with you. I really think you need to take a closer look.

Councilwoman Lime - Auditor Day can you provide Council with the documentation showing us where the 2.7 Million came off of?

Auditor Day - Yes, I can read some of them right now. We removed \$155,000 in Police Retiree payouts. We moved to 405 - \$194,000. \$100,000 in fire overtime was moved to 103. \$90,000 in fire vehicle maintenance was moved to 403. \$700,000 in salaried firemen (\$200,000 to 103 and \$500,000 to 105). Additional fire reductions were \$40,000 took out of firemen. \$35,000 we took out of overtime. \$20,000 out of vehicle maintenance. \$40,000 of police were moved to 104. \$57,472 reduced from police for Clerk and benefits. \$18,000 deducted from police part-time housekeeper. Reduced police overtime by \$25,000. Reduced 001-018 by \$40,000. 001-029 was reduced \$60,298 for Clerk and benefits. \$250,000 of fire station payments moved to 405. Those are some of the highlights.

Councilwoman Lime - Thank you Mr. Day. In looking at 105 account in the firemen account, we were already at the max of budgeting so what are we transferring or changing in that already full budget of 105? So in the original budget we budgeted 2.162 and this budget we are budgeting 2.662. So have gotten an increase of \$500,000 worth of expenditures from the first budget to this budget so my question would then be, have we received a certificate from the County that there is sufficient revenues to raise that \$500,000? If that is the case, what is the certificate of revenues?

Auditor Day - 103 and 105 were not fully appropriated.

Councilwoman Lime - Can you tell me what the certificate from the County is as far as what is able to be appropriated in 105?

Auditor Day - The beginning balance of 103 was 374,350. Basically 1,674,000 would be fully appropriated. That would be 1,740,000 for 105 for fully appropriated.

Councilwoman Lime - Mr. Day, what was the carryover in 105 from last year to this year?

Auditor Day - Carryover in 105 was 124,167.

Councilwoman Lime - And the certificate from the County was 1,740,000 for 105?

Auditor Day - Correct.

Councilwoman Lime - We have a budget of 2,662,000. I am just kind of curious as to where the rest of the revenue will come from.

Auditor Day - I apologize. That is actually 2.740 on the 105.

Councilman Crossman - So the projected expenditures on the total general fund budget is 49 Million roughly. Is this budget account for a carryover or are all these expenditures reflected in projected revenue?

Auditor Day - Looking at a minimal carryover right now of about \$90,000. And to put things in perspective last year was about \$80,000. Same budgeted carryover at the same point as last year.

Councilman Crossman - There were certain departments that had proposed additional staff. I am curious what departments are still requesting. I noticed that Purchasing had requested an additional person and they withdrew that request in this final budget and I appreciate that. In light of the report we received from the independent Auditor that we hired that we should be minimizing our Administrative positions as much as possible and doing away with and using technology to improve productivity so that we do not need to hire more employees and have those costs overhead. Can any of the Directors address their staffing needs and who still has a personnel request in their budgets?

Safety Director O'Malley - With the Fire Department under Chief Laskey we have the Safer grant. We have bumped our minimum manning up and that is good. We have our several new recruits who are still undergoing training at the Ohio Highway Patrol Academy. The one area of concern I have going forward is continuing to smooth the Dispatch Center operations out. Switching to TAC has been an incredible move. It has really calmed the Center down. One of them remarked to me that they have never felt so calm sitting at the Dispatch Console. Moving to TAC is going to save us money and has made it a much more effective facility. One of the things I am looking for going forward, there is going to be 34 people. Right now there is one management. It is a 24/7 operation much like police and fire. I know we have been having discussions, but I think she is going to need

some additional assistance in management. We have through the MOU where we have lead dispatchers, but since we have settled down this software issue, we really need to work on the management of the operations and the training of the center. Certainly things have improved greatly since Council passed the TAC ordinance. TAC is going to allow to recruit more dispatchers since 80% of the communities around here have TAC. Its going to make it a more attractive situation for current dispatchers to apply to our center. Management is one of the areas we need to improve it.

Service Director Higgins - Nothing has changed in my budget since the initial discussion. Plan on replacing everyone that leaves 1 for 1. Whether they are terminated, fired or quit. Other than that, I actually reduced my mechanics by half. I am using the golf course personnel to work half the year on service equipment. He left the Supervisor's Union and joined the Parma Service Workers Union. Other than replacing people when they leave, there is nothing extra in my budget.

Councilman Crossman - I want to clarify that we are looking for is new staffing. We want to understand if its still in their budget if they are still moving forward.

Building Commissioner Deichmann - As the Mayor indicated, we are looking to hire 2 full time Property Maintenance Inspectors so that we can get back up to 4 full time. Going back several years we had 4 full time and 2 part time. We were operating at a good manner keeping up with stuff for the most part. With the recession, we reduced staffing and that put us behind the eight ball. The increase in vacant foreclosures and rentals. We have been tweaking operations to deal with that situation. In the long run, we do need to hire the 2 Inspectors.

Councilwoman Lime - So it will be 4 full time and 2 part time.

Building Commissioner Deichmann - We have one part timer that will probably seek to be promoted full time. There is another part timer that will be leaving us.

Councilman Lime - Will you be replacing that part timer in your budget?

Building Commissioner/Deichmann - It is budgeted for and it is our intent.

Councilman Crossman - I think that consistent with what was budgeted and we all agree that is of dire concern to all of our residents.

Councilwoman Lime - Mr. O'Malley can you explain the Communications Center Supervisor's salary? In 2015 it was \$58,000. This year it is appropriated for \$73,000.

Safety Director O'Malley - As you know Linda Wyman was previously our Dispatch Center Manager. We had an agreement to part ways sometime during the middle of last year. We then had an extensive search for Dispatch Center Managers, that all of the communities participated in on an interview committee. We did a search and came to a candidate that was currently employed at the Heights Dispatch Center as their Manager. So what we did was lure her away. We set a salary that was quite competitive but less than neighboring communities like Strongsville or Chagrin Valley that also has many communities they are dispatching for. Part of our agreement with that individual is that as her duties continue to expand (with addition of cities), we can at least get her in the direction of making the salary that other community dispatchers make. We would offer her an additional \$5,000 next year as her duties increase.

Councilwoman Lime - Do our Schedule A Ordinances reflect that salary range?

Safety Director O'Malley - To my understanding they do.

Auditor Day - My staff is staying as is.

Law Director Dobeck - No new staff but Barb is retiring and we will replace her.

Treasurer Mastroianni - No new staff in Treasurer's Office. Tax is budgeting for a person who left in September and we had her budgeted through the end of the year. We posted it and one of our part timers in tax took the full time position in tax. We are not going to fill the part time position but we did fill the full time one. Everything is status quo as far as the money goes.

Councilwoman Lime - For the Mayor, what are your plans for technology moving forward?

Mayor DeGeeter - Yes. As you see we are using carbon paper and typewriters. I do not know why this was not done in the past. We are looking to do that. We added online sign ups for rec. Went with the County for a new website. As we discovered, there was a DataServe Committee that was never utilized. The Auditor is going to head up that discovery on what we can do to get better. I was at the retirement of Alan McLaughlin at GM. He had started in GM in 1972. They showed a picture of a Malibu from 1972 and what one looks like today. When he got up to say goodbye, he mentioned that

when he first started with GM, that they used typewriters and carbon paper. I chuckled to myself thinking we still do. We are looking to change that. I know that the Safety Director signs these forms in triplicate. He is the third person that signs on it. He may want to add something on that. I know that Brian Day our Auditor is committed to get us caught up to at least 1985. It may take a bonding or something to change the way we do business here.

Auditor Day - I have met with Michael Young from the County and what is going to happen from here is he will go to each department and look at the different technology. He will do an assessment. Once that is complete, I am going to convene the data processing review board and start to look at our technology needs. I believe that there will be some short term needs, as well as long term needs. As the Mayor mentioned, its time to do this. We may have to bond out but we need to move forward and move on. You will hear updates from me coming down the pike.

Safety Director O'Malley - When I came to this City 8 months ago when I was receiving mounds and mounds of timesheets that I had to sign. Its just difficult because we all know the condition most cities are in due to the policies in Columbus. Thankfully we have good cooperation with the current management of the IT office so that we can begin after the assessment with the County, begin to process of really getting a data management payroll implemented that will save countless hours. It is hard to believe that I have to sit there and others have to sit there and sign half sheets in triplicate in 2016. But we do it everyday. I understand that there were issues that made that a necessity, but we have computer chips now. I can only imagine the amount of money that would be saved if people could input their own time in and there are internal controls. Its going to take an investment and a cooperation between the Administration, Auditor, Treasurer and Council, but I know when we start Parma under the direction of moving towards improving technology for the staff and the employees, the City will be better off. The employees will be better off and we will save money in the long run. When we get these assessments done we have to accept the fact that we will have to throw a few dollars there to improve the situation.

Mr. Tuma - Anytime you are talking about improving things, its always going to cost money. That's always the delicate balancing act here when we are dealing with these difficult type budgets.

Councilwoman Lime - My question to the entire Administration, I would like to know if in this budget, any monies, whether general fund, non general fund or special recreation is appropriated for fireworks. Fireworks, Safety, Service or anything associated with having July 4th fireworks.

Mr. Tuma - Are you referring to the Youth Commission? I am not totally certain that it will be actually July 4th.

Councilwoman Lime - Are any City monies going to be expended for those fireworks for that night?

Mayor DeGeeter - The Police Department did not budget anything. The Fire Department did not budget anything. I don't believe the Service Department budgeted anything specific to fireworks. So the answer is no.

Councilman Crossman - It is my understanding based on representations made to Council on the floor here that Council President is the Facilitator overseeing the Youth Commission. He has represented that he intends to raise the funds necessary to pay for a fireworks display whether its July 4th or in relation to the 200th Bicentennial of the Founding of the City of Parma. I think we have to go with his representation. The budget is tight and if we budgeted for minimal carryover we do not have much room to maneuver here so it is going to be incumbent on the Youth Commission if they intend to follow through on their goal to come up with those funds. I know there is Legislation here in Governmental Operations Committee and I circulated an amended draft that clarifies how those funds are going to be accounted for which is that no public funds will be used for fireworks. That would be a subject of discussion moving forward. As of today there are not funds appropriated.

Auditor Day - Nothing has been budgeted there but remember there is prior funds from First Energy Solutions in that fireworks 4th of July line item. I believe its between \$70,000 and \$90,000 that has been sitting there since 2009. Just a reminder that money is there. What Council does with it is Council's business.

Councilwoman Lime - My concern is that we are building a splash pad and that money can be re-titled (that is my understanding). We are getting one street. We are only hiring 2 full time

Inspectors. And we do not have technology yet. I have a problem if we are taking City funds and using it for fireworks. I love fireworks. The point of it is, I would love a corvette, too but I cannot afford it. The point is, the Youth Commission said they were going to raise the funds then they should raise the funds. Those funds can be used for a bathhouse or the improvement of the splash pad over at Ridgewood Lake.

Councilman Crossman - That Legislation is not up for discussion tonight. In all fairness, Mr. Brennan is not here to defend the idea. It is his idea.

Mr. Tuma - I think the specific question was whether or not there were any funds in this specific budget and they are not. Like Mr. Crossman said, that is really up for discussion on another evening.

Auditor Day - I agree with the Councilman. I just wanted to make sure that folks did not forget about the First Energy Solution situation.

Councilwoman Lime - I agree with all of you. That is why I am asking the question. Before I vote on it I wanted to make sure there are no city funds that are being appropriated for fireworks.

Auditor Day - With this being my first budget session as Auditor, I just wanted to thank everybody for their work with me and especially my Deputy Auditor Mark Prok. He has been a real asset to me coming in here. He worked very diligently in getting this budget passed. I also want to thank all of Council. I appreciate all of you working close with me to get this budget done. Thank You.

Mr. Tuma - Thank you Mr. Day. You have made a nice smooth transition.

Mayor DeGeeter - I thank the Auditor and Mr. Prok.

Councilman Crossman - On behalf of Council, thank you Mr. Mayor, Mr. Auditor and all the Directors. Thank you for working hard on these budgets. I know tonight was not the smoothest of nights, but I appreciate everyone's diligence and patience in addressing these issues.

Motion made by Councilman Brochetti seconded by Councilman Napoli to amend Ordinance No. 213-15 by accepting the amended Exhibit A and I further move to wave Rule 52 and place Ordinance No. 213-15 on third reading for final passage as amended.

Motion made by Councilman Brochetti seconded by Councilman Crossman to adopt Ordinance No. 213-15 as amended.

Yes: Saban, Tuma, Brochetti, Crossman, Dipierro, Divis, *Lime, Napoli.

No: None; Ordinance No. 213-15 is adopted as amended.

*Councilwoman Lime - This is not a perfect budget. I still have concerns with this budget. Although I understand we need to work collectively together. I still would like to see the technology, more Building Inspectors and more road repairs moving forward in 2016. Those are Ward 2 priorities.

REPORT ON ABSENT OFFICIALS

Motion made by Councilman Divis seconded by Councilman Crossman to excuse Council President Brennan and Councilman Casselberry from said meeting. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilman Crossman seconded by Councilman Brochetti to adjourn said meeting at 7:56 P.M. Motion carried.

I, Kenneth A. Ramser, Clerk of Council for the City of Parma, Ohio do hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the Minutes from the Special Council Meeting held on Monday, March 28, 2016.

 /s/ Kenneth A. Ramser
Kenneth A. Ramser
Clerk of Council

 /s/ Scott M. Tuma
Scott M. Tuma
President of Council Pro Tem

(Minutes completed on March 31, 2016)
It