

KIRTLAND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 20, 2020

The meeting of Kirtland City Council was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Council President Richard Lowery. Mr. Schulz led the prayer which followed the Pledge of Allegiance. The members of Council present were: Scott Haymer, John Lesnick, Richard Lowery, Jeffrey Ruple, Matthew Schulz, Joseph Smolic and Kelly Wolfe.

Administrative personnel present were: Mayor Kevin Potter, Law Director Matthew Lallo, Assistant Finance Director Louis Slapnick, City Engineer Douglas Courtney, Police Chief Lance Nosse, Fire Chief Anthony Hutton and Economic Development Manager Monica Drake.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2020 WORK SESSION:

Mr. Lesnick moved to waive the reading of the minutes, with the second by Mr. Smolic. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Lesnick moved to approve the Minutes, as presented, with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: SCHULZ, SMOLIC, WOLFE, HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY AND RUPLE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING:

Mr. Schulz moved to waive the reading of the minutes, with the second by Mr. Lesnick. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Schulz moved to approve the Minutes, as presented, with the second by Mr. Lesnick. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: SCHULZ, SMOLIC, WOLFE, HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY AND RUPLE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief Anthony Hutton advised that the March monthly report has been distributed. The call volume in the Department has been lower than normal, due to COVID-19. Residents are more in favor of sheltering in place than going to the hospital.

COVID-19 update: As of April 20, 2020 there are 134 cases in Lake County, four cases in Kirtland. This is up one since the last meeting. It looks like everything is beginning to stabilize. The Fire Department continues to take extra safety precautions to protect the firefighters and the community. The Fire Stations are still locked down. The Fire Department continues to work closely with Lake County EMA, General Health District and Lake Health on planning. This is being accomplished via several phone conferences a week.

The Fire Department is well stocked with their PPE. Lake Health has the ability to sanitize masks for both Police and Fire, if needed. Chief Hutton thanked everyone in the community that has dropped off cards, gift cards, dinner, cleaning supplies, etc. The First Responders appreciate the support.

The Fire Department will be working with the Law Director and the Finance Director to get the legal notice for a bid package for the diesel exhaust system that was paid by the AFG grant. This should be moving forward soon.

The thermal imaging camera has been received and is in service in the shift commander vehicle. This was paid for by an anonymous donor recently.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (continued):

Councilman Lesnick requested verification that the two accidents listed on the monthly report, along with the one accident with no injuries, is not included in the total EMS calls listed (38); Chief Hutton verified.

Police Chief Lance Nosse advised that the car ordered last year has arrived from the dealership and is in service. Chief Nosse said there were no illnesses to report in the Police Department. He went on to thank the residents for their donations to the department, noting that the support received from the community is appreciated.

Chief Nosse noted that he and Chief Hutton spoke with the dispatchers relative to information that was presented to the community about moving dispatch to Willoughby. Any questions on this are being referred to the Mayor. Chief Nosse went on to say they are working together in this sad and trying time, and a lot of needs are ahead. He and Chief Hutton are working diligently with the dispatchers, to move them forward to a place where they can continue to take care of their families.

Economic Development Manager Monica Drake reported she's been reaching out to various businesses in the community, making sure they are aware of the Small Business Administration loan and grant programs. Most are aware of the Paycheck Protection Program, also known as PPP, that is handled through the banks. There is also the Economic Injury Disaster Program, also known as IDLE, which is a grant/forgivable loan, and also a standard loan. Once Congress reauthorizes funding for these programs, the Paycheck Protection Program is expected to go through the end of June and the Economic Injury Disaster Program would run through the end of the year.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has released a small business grant for those businesses with 3 to 20 employees. Ms. Drake advised that the local Chamber of Commerce has put out information on the program, and Ms. Drake encouraged those interested to reach out to her if she has not contacted them on these programs.

Ms. Drake also reported a HVAC business is looking to expand their company in the city. Due to the COVID-19 situation, the company has placed plans on hold. Once the pandemic is over, they will be looking into moving/expanding into the city.

City Engineer Douglas Courtney reported he has contacted Badger requesting a completion schedule and list of additional costs concerning the 2019 Drainage Project. Concerning the Old Town sewer project, Mr. Courtney is attempting to schedule a conference call with the EPA to review the findings and orders that were revised. Mr. Courtney will set up a conference call with the OPWC representative to discuss the schedule and the funding. OPWC has suggested delaying some project agreements beyond July 1. Once he's spoken with OPWC, Mr. Courtney will report back to Council.

The final report on the streets project from SME was received on March 27. Mr. Courtney will schedule a follow-up meeting with SME, Mayor Potter, and some Council members to discuss that report and work scope options to develop the 2020 project.

Mr. Courtney has received an ODOT after-action report on the event that occurred on March 29 concerning the State Route 306 bridge. The report indicated no evidence of damage or shifting of the bridge. There was debris surrounding the piers that will need to be removed. Mayor Potter and Mr. Courtney are in discussion with Lake County Stormwater and Lake County Engineers concerning removal of the debris.

There is no update on the Kirtland Recreation Park.

The Wisner Road bank stabilization, which is OEPA-319 project, is on schedule to start May 4.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (continued):

Construction began on the Hemlock Ridge water main project on April 6. The water main has already been installed down to the cul-de-sac and they're working on getting long side connections made; they will have to open-cut some of the long connections due to shale that can't be pushed through on that side.

Construction on the event barn began the week of April 6, and storm sewer installations are progressing at that site.

Mr. Courtney advised he received another set of plans from Aqua Ohio for a water main replacement on Riverwood Way, which he has not had a chance to review yet.

Councilman Lesnick said there was a question from a resident concerning the location of fire hydrants on Hemlock Ridge and whether they will be on both sides of the street. Mr. Courtney responded they will go in on the new main, which is on the opposite side of the street. Once the new hydrants are in, the old will be removed. The piping for the old hydrants will be abandoned in place.

Mr. Lesnick mentioned he will forward an e-mail he received from a resident concerning work that was performed a few years ago on Regency Woods Drive. The e-mail contains pictures and shows where part of the driveway is collapsing. He noted they may be able to address this when they are working on Hemlock.

Councilman Schulz asked why the water line is being replaced, as the typical service life is 70 to 100 years. He asked if there is a failure of the system. Mr. Courtney said this project was well underway when he took over the Engineer position, and he will see if Aqua Ohio has any information on why the replacement is so soon.

Councilman Haymer asked about the project on Fox Hill Dr. that Badger began in October, and if a completion date has been set. Mr. Courtney said that project is included in the communication he sent to Badger recently, and he's not yet received a reply. Mr. Haymer said he will forward some pictures of the area to Mr. Courtney for reference.

Mr. Schulz asked if much analysis has occurred in reference to the SME report. Mr. Courtney advised that he has a few questions on the report, and once the follow-up meeting has occurred he will have better information.

Assistant Finance Director Louis Slapnicker advised the March end-of-month report has been reconciled and distributed, noting this is the first time the Finance Department has filed reports for the first quarter of the year. The Finance Department has also filed annual reporting requirements with USDA and Lake County. The capital asset reporting has been finalized for the City's financial statement GAAP conversion. This is the first time the capital asset reporting has been handled in-house.

Addressing Councilman Smolic, Mr. Slapnicker provided details on what the Finance Department has been working on and accomplishing pertaining to the build-out for the new system. Mr. Slapnicker reported the chart of accounts, vendors, and beginning fund balances have been put into the new system. There are also seven or eight projects that have been put into the new system. These are projects that would have had a carryover Purchase Order from 2019.

Purchase orders are being processed in the system, beginning with the ones from 2019 and followed by the 2020 purchase orders. In the past, the SAGE software did not provide purchase orders in the system, so the Finance Department is working diligently to get them entered.

Currently, Finance is also working on tweaking the formatted reports. Upcoming tasks will include: tax tables, deduction definitions, employee accruals, etc.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (continued):

Mr. Slapnicker advised that on April 8, Ohio BWC announced Ohio Public Employers will receive 100 percent of billed premiums from 2018. The City of Kirtland will receive approximately \$58,000.00. Responding to Councilman Schulz, Mr. Slapnicker stated the \$58,000.00 is a one-time payment and is expected before the end of April.

Law Director Matthew Lallo apologized for the technical difficulties in beginning the Zoom meeting. Referencing the last meeting's request that Mr. Lallo review the Aqua Ohio document that was sent to the City, Mr. Lallo explained Aqua Ohio is asking the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio for an increase in their system improvement charge throughout their service territory. The increase requested is \$1.28 per month for an average residential customer using 4,000 gallons of water. Aqua Ohio says this is a 3.503% surcharge on the total water service bill for each customer. The documents received by the City were the application and formal notice to the City, as customers.

Mr. Lallo apologized to Chief Hutton on the delay on the bid and asked to follow up with him tomorrow to get the bid organized and moved forward. He went on to say he wasn't sure the bid would be moved forward, due to capital expenditures issues, however he now understands it's a grant.

MAYOR'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Potter thanked the Department Heads for their reports, and he thanked Mr. Lallo for setting up the virtual meeting.

The Kirtland Cares effort is still going on every day at the Community Center until 2:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to drop off canned goods, supplies, dried goods, and cleaning supplies for residents in need. There have been a handful of requests, and the Service Department personnel have made those deliveries. Mayor Potter spoke with one of the recipients, and she was very appreciative.

Mayor Potter stated he had the opportunity last Thursday night to present virtually before the Kirtland Kiwanis the State of the Cities 2020.

The brush collection schedule is going well. There has been a lot of cooperation from the residents in terms of how they are bundling and setting out the brush.

Mayor Potter said he had a couple meetings with local property owners in terms of economic development in the downtown area.

During a telephone conversation on Friday, Mayor Potter discussed with Congressman Joyce the struggles that Kirtland and many of the cities in the region are experiencing in terms of the projections that have been received concerning expected reduction in income. Mayor Potter went on to say there is an expected 9% income tax reduction, along with delayed payments, and tax filing deadlines have been extended; and any Federal level help will be appreciated. Congressman Joyce asked Mayor Potter to draft a letter about his concerns, and encouraged surrounding cities and counties to do the same. This may help in getting Federal funds when the next stimulus package is dispersed.

The new Service Administrator, Joe Fornaro, will begin work on May 4. Mayor Potter stated he will relinquish his position as Service Director and look to Council to approve the appointment of Mr. Fornaro to the position of Service Director. The Mayor noted that Mr. Fornaro has a great deal of experience and he looks forward to bringing him on board.

MAYOR'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued):

Mayor Potter stated last week he released a memo to Council members and the City's website, providing notice that the City's dispatch will be moved to Willoughby. This information was released after Chief Nosse and Chief Hutton had met with dispatchers. Mayor Potter stated the City is constantly looking for new ways to be more efficient with the spending of tax dollars, and this move will save the City approximately \$800,000 over the next five years. A financial update from Mrs. Kovalchik and Mr. Slapnicker in January 2020 prompted Mayor Potter to look for other ways the City could make more efficient use of the tax dollars received. After a number of weeks' work and conversations, the decision was made to move dispatch to Willoughby. He noted that Willoughby will be in the market for a new PSAP system, so the Kirtland PSAP system will be moved to Willoughby. He stated that assurances have been provided that there will be no delay in response times, and both the Police Chief and Fire Chief are comfortable with working with Willoughby. Once Mr. Lallo and the Willoughby Law Director have reached an MOU, the MOU will then be presented to Council with proposed legislation.

Mayor Potter went on to report there were many questions, concerns, and support expressed by residents concerning the move. Due to the number of inquiries, the Mayor's office will consolidate the information and get answers to Council so they may share with the community. There is no legislation before Council yet, and there will be more to learn over the next few weeks.

Referencing Mayor Potter's e-mail of April 2 to Council, Mr. Schulz asked Mayor Potter to provide a memo to Council, going into further detailed analysis concerning 2020, 2021 and 2022. Mayor Potter said he will work with Mrs. Kovalchik and Mr. Slapnicker to provide the information, with employee personal information redacted.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Council President Lowery opened the meeting to comments from residents, reminding those present that there is no legislation currently in front of Council concerning the dispatch move to Willoughby. Therefore, it may be premature to answer questions on the subject; however, Council will do their best to answer questions as best they can. Mr. Lowery stated that the Mayor put this in front of the community early in this process so those affected are aware early in the process.

Councilwoman Wolfe stated that she had a question earlier, but she was muted and unable to ask her question during the Mayor's report. She inquired about the timeline concerning the decision to move the dispatch, and who on Council was aware of the information and when. Mayor Potter said he'd first reached out to Captain Warner at Central Dispatch in late January. In February he had an initial conversation with Chiefs Nosse and Hutton, and then in middle to late February he reached out to Mayor Fiala. A few weeks back, Mayor Potter spoke with Councilman Schulz concerning these conversations. Mayor Potter expressed his belief that in the beginning phases of a situation of such magnitude it is not appropriate or respectful to have open conversations until ready to make a decision.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (continued):

Mayor Potter advised that during this initial phase he discussed the situation with the Council President, the Finance Chair, and the Police and Fire Standing Committee Chair. He then spoke with Mr. Ruple and Mr. Schulz, and approximately a week to 10 days ago he spoke with Ms. Wolfe.

Ms. Wolfe asked if the Police and Fire Standing Committee met prior to the decision being made public; Mayor Potter responded they had not, as it would not have been appropriate at the time. Since then, both Chiefs have met with the dispatchers; the community has been made aware, and Council and the Legal and Finance Departments have been informed. Therefore, if the Police and Fire Standing Committee Chair wishes to have a standing committee meeting, it would now be appropriate.

Noting that Council went through this process approximately 1-1/2 years ago, Councilman Schulz added it would be incumbent upon Council to allow the public to speak on the subject, and for Council to have a good analysis on the true savings. Mr. Schulz stated that once this has been done, Council will need to receive the recommendation from the committee to move forward with the three public meetings on the MOU. Mayor Potter responded there will be a great deal of dialogue, and once the MOU details have been agreed upon it will be presented to Council. Councilman Schulz stated he heard from the Mayor on April 2, and there is a lot of catching up on information that he needs.

There was further discussion concerning the move of dispatch to Willoughby. Discussion ensued concerning possible dates for a special meeting or standing committee meeting on the topic, to allow residents time to voice their opinions.

Councilman Schulz asked where the \$800,000 in savings will be appropriated. Mayor Potter responded the funds would be used to bolster the General Fund.

Mr. Schulz stated that the Fiscal Task Force had short-term revenue increase options that were outlined for Council and the Mayor to review. Examples of these options are: selling naming rights to the ballparks, increasing cemetery burial fees, levying admission taxes, and increasing effort to collect unpaid income taxes at \$392,000. Mr. Schulz went on to say it would be good to work on those options to help the top line and not only cut expenses as proposed. Mayor Potter agreed it would be responsible to review the suggestions of the Fiscal Task Force, noting that the consideration of moving dispatch was also included in the report. Mayor Potter noted that there was an effort last year to collect those uncollected taxes, and there was a good response, so it would be beneficial to do that again.

Councilman Lesnick noted that there were increases in fees last year, and there were discussions on charging admission fees, and there are some legal issues. Mr. Lallo stated that the City cannot collect an admission or tax on any other political subdivision, such as Lake Metropark. He noted there is a potential avenue for another park in Kirtland for which the City may be able to pursue an admission tax. Mr. Lesnick noted this is being pursued with the Finance Director.

There being no further comments from Council members, Council President Lowery opened the meeting to public comment.

Nick Angie, 8013 Gildersleeve Drive, said he understands what is going on with the move of dispatch and he respects the Council for trying to save money. As a fireman, he would hope the Council puts thought into the move, discusses it with the Police and Fire Unions, and maybe even some Willoughby firemen, and look into the negatives and positives on both sides. Some people may be intimidated by talking about it, so anonymous letters may be a way to go, as once the dispatch center is gone, it's gone. Mr. Angie also wished all dispatchers attending the meeting a happy Dispatcher Appreciation Week, thanking them for all they do. Mr. Angie went on to say he hopes there is a lot of thought and discussion on this topic before decisions are made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (continued):

Magdalene Pesch, 9037 Regency Woods Drive, asked how many man hours the Service Department now works versus before the changes. Also, she asked if the roles can be broken down and which role would have which duties. Mayor Potter responded the department had the equivalent of 14 full-time employees before the most recent layoff, and now sits at 10-1/2. Employees typically work 40 hours per week. Currently there is a Public Service Director and a Public Service Administrator. The new gentleman will be taking on the Administrator role, and hopefully also the Service Director. Below him will be a superintendent.

Clint Buchanan, 8217 Kirtland-Chardon Road, said there is a sense of urgency from the point of view of the dispatchers. They are unsure of their jobs at this point in time, and are unsure of whether or not they should begin searching for a new job. Mr. Buchanan said he understood there was a \$200,000 jump in the dispatch budget this year, in comparison to last year. With the move to Willoughby being driven by finances, Mr. Buchanan asked where the additional \$200,000 originated. Mayor Potter explained when the new Finance Director took the position last year she determined all costs relative to dispatch would be allocated to that department. If the move occurs, there will be a savings of \$800,000 over a five-year period. Chief Hutton explained the reason for the larger dispatch budget this year is because the budget was traditionally divided between the Police and Fire Departments. This year, however, the entire budget is funded out of the Police Department.

Carol Martz, 7475 Euclid-Chardon Road, said she appreciates that the dispatchers were given the courtesy of a notice that they are losing their positions, as the Service Department personnel were not given such courtesy. Mrs. Martz asked Council what the recourse is for residents when Mayor and Council are not responsive to phone calls, e-mails, and text messages. Mayor Potter responded the recourse would be coming to the Council meetings, however the content related to her questions is not appropriate to discuss in an open meeting as it relates to personnel issues. He went on to say not long after telling Mrs. Martz he would give her a call back he was made aware of several derogatory social media posts mentioning him and decided it would be better to not continue the conversation. Councilman Lesnick advised that he believes the discussion should happen in an executive session, not a public forum, as they are personnel issues. He went on to say he believed the Law Director answered Mrs. Martz's questions, to which Mrs. Martz stated she's received no response at all. In checking, Mr. Lallo noted that he responded to Mr. Schulz, as he is the one who sent the request; he noted that he will forward the response to Mrs. Martz. Council President Lowery apologized for the confusion.

Ron Fenstermaker, 8851 Billings Road, said he is very disappointed in the situation with dispatch. He said this scenario was gone through a year ago, and yet it has come back again. Mr. Fenstermaker said he understands the needs and the situation, but he is curious why there is again a focus on dispatch as he believed the issue had been resolved. With that said, Mr. Fenstermaker asked when the details of the savings will be presented to the public. Mayor Potter responded once the MOU details have been agreed upon there will be a memo made available to the public. Responding to Mr. Fenstermaker, Councilman Lesnick stated the City spent approximately \$138,000 for the PSAP system, which will now be moved to Willoughby. Mr. Fenstermaker then asked if Willoughby will be purchasing the system, or if Kirtland is giving the system to them. Mr. Lesnick said the system is being moved to Willoughby for use by Kirtland, and Willoughby will be paying to upgrade the system so it can be extended for their use. Ownership of the system will be determined by the MOU.

Mr. Fenstermaker asked why a Police Levy was not presented to the voters instead of moving dispatch. Mayor Potter explained the Police Levy presented last year was designed to free up funds to ultimately be used for roadwork, and Council at that time did not feel comfortable putting the levy in front of residents as a Police Levy. Understanding that, Mr. Fenstermaker asked why a Police Levy is not being discussed as an option to save dispatch and make sure the Police Department has the funding necessary to operate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (continued):

Mayor Potter responded that he and Council have been elected to make hard choices when necessary. Unfortunately, the hard choice in this situation concerns personnel. The primary functions of dispatch will not change, they will still receive calls from residents in need and dispatch those out to emergency personnel. Mr. Fenstermaker respectfully disagreed, stating he believes this move will cause a loss of connection with dispatch.

Jim Barnes, 10168 Hillcrest Road, asked for clarification of the \$800,000 savings, stating he believes there is only \$200,000 being saved if you take into consideration the amount being paid out yearly. Mayor Potter explained the \$800,000 is the savings, over five years, after all costs are considered. He stated that once the details of the MOU are completed, everything will make sense.

Mr. Barnes asked if the City is incurring any costs on the water main project on Hemlock, as the contractor states they are having a problem with the long side connections. Mr. Courtney stated there will be no additional costs for the difficulties occurring. Responding to Mr. Barnes' question on whether bore samples supplied to the contractor showed this material present, Mr. Courtney stated this is an Aqua Ohio project and he does not have access to that information. If there was a geotechnical report, he was not provided with a copy. Answering Mr. Barnes, Mr. Courtney stated that he did review the plans for the project.

OLD BUSINESS:**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS OF OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-22
(Mayor Potter)

- **(Second Reading) - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE (ROCK SALT), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

The legislation was read by title only. The deadline of April 24 was confirmed. In consideration of the newer Council members, Mr. Smolic explained there is not a price given on the contract until the end of May. Mayor Potter explained that the salt prices are not available until after the municipalities enter into participation agreements for the purchase of salt. Further discussion ensued concerning the contract process, and historical usage and costs. Mayor Potter stated that the 1500 tons being purchased will give the City 6000 tons going into the next season. Noting that he spoke with several private contractors last year, Mr. Lesnick stated that the City receives significant savings by participating in the contract. Council President Lowery noted that the City is not obligated to enter into the contract, but it behooves the City to participate.

Mr. Lesnick moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Mr. Smolic. Councilwoman Wolfe inquired about usage in the past, noting that the amount being ordered is less than in the past.

Assistant Finance Director Slapnick advised that for the 2017-2018 season, the price per ton was \$26.77; approximately 3800 tons were ordered for that season. For the 2018-2019 season, the price per ton was \$44.39; 3500 tons were requested and almost 3100 tons were ordered. For the 2019-2020 season, the price per ton was \$63.13; at the end of March the City had ordered approximately 2300 of the 2700 tons (90 percent of the 3000 requested). At the end of March, approximately 328 tons were remaining to be ordered to reach the required 90 percent. Mr. Slapnick confirmed that the City is required to purchase 90 percent of the tonnage specified in the participation agreement. Mr. Lesnick noted the City can purchase up to 110 percent.

OLD BUSINESS – RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-22 (continued):

Voting began on the motion to waive the three readings. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0/1 (VOTING YEA: SMOLIC, WOLFE, HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY AND RUPLE. VOTING NAY: NONE. ABSTAINING: SCHULZ).** Mr. Lesnick moved to declare an emergency and adopt, with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 6/0/1 (VOTING YEA: SMOLIC, WOLFE, HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY AND RUPLE. VOTING NAY: NONE. ABSTAINING: SCHULZ).**

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

* * * * *

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Ruple requested an executive session one hour prior to the May 4 meeting, to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Lallo stated that he will discuss with Mr. Ruple the specifics of the request, noting that Council will need to be more specific on the request for executive session. It was agreed that a work session will be scheduled for 6:00 p.m., and the premise will be to go into executive session.

Councilman Schulz publicly thanked Duane Martz for his time serving as the Interim Service Administrator, considering the personnel changes that have occurred.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Council President Lowery noted that this is an opportunity for the public to address Council about any continuing concerns.

Matt Kahley, 10837 Crestwood Drive, asked for clarification on the legislation passed concerning the salt orders. As he handles this for Willoughby Hills, he is concerned at the order of 1500 tons even if there is 4500 in stock. Even if the maximum use is 3800, Mr. Kahley said there will need to be a larger order next year. He suggested ordering more salt to prepare for next year, since the rates are significantly lower. Mr. Smolic stated the Kirtland salt dome will hold only 4500 tons. Mayor Potter said the new Service Director coming on board has experience with treating and pre-treating roads, and he will be making those recommendations moving forward.

Ron Fenstermaker, 8851 Billings Road said he noticed the chat was turned off for this meeting. He also stated that work sessions are supposed to be open to the public, to which Mr. Smolic informed him there was no work session tonight. Council President Lowery referenced the Council agenda, which showed only the 7:00 p.m. meeting. Should a work session be scheduled, it will be included on the agenda and open to the public.

Mayor Potter spoke to those present, Council and residents, asking that through these tough conversations everyone work to keep the temperature down, focus on the facts, and try to understand both sides of the issue. Kirtland has to work as a community on this. While he recognizes this is a big decision with a lot of big potential changes, the Mayor stated it's not good for the community to be fragmented. Mayor Potter went on to ask everyone to take an extra pause before the post, or the e-mail, or the phone call.

CONTINUING CONCERNS (continued):

Councilman Schulz asked Mr. Lallo to speak about why the chat session was turned off for the meeting, to which Mr. Lallo explained he was not able to modify the settings once the meeting started. It is simply a matter of working out the kinks of the system, and it was in no way intentional; he noted that if Council wants the chat available, he will turn on the chat function ahead of time going forward. Responding to Mr. Schulz, Mr. Lallo confirmed the chat becomes part of public record as well as the minutes. Mr. Ruple stated his opinion that to be true to the manner in which the Council meetings are run, the chat feature does not fit into the Council meeting; if the public wants to speak, they can raise their hand and be recognized. Councilwoman Wolfe inquired if residents are able to "raise their hand" if they are phoning into the meeting. Mr. Lallo stated he will look into it, but he believes it is possible.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Ruple moved to adjourn, with the second by Mr. Smolic. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

President of Council

Clerk of Council