

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 29, 2022, AT 3:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CAUCUS ROOM & VIA ZOOM**

Vice Mayor Dave Grendel called the Council Workshop to order at 3:10 p.m. Present were Council Members John DiGeronimo (arrived at 4:02 p.m.), Tom Narduzzi, Anthony Togliatti, Jim Trakas, Dale Veverka, and Chris Walchanowicz. Also in attendance were Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz, Finance Director Vern Blaze, Procurement Coordinator Dennis Zdolshek, City Engineer Don Ramm, Finance Assistant Maggie Osysko, and Deputy Clerk of Council Amanda Sharrer.

The Clerk said that Councilperson DiGeronimo will be joining the meeting around 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Vice Mayor Grendel said before we get started with the discussion of the Five-Year Capital Plan, we do need a motion as for Ordinance 2010-17, we received yesterday a list of the full-time employees requesting the buyback of unused vacation, holiday and comp time hours. We need a motion to approve the buyback. I guess Vern it's in an amount not to exceed \$82,000.

Finance Director Blaze said the bottom line number calculated right now is \$81,652.30; but if you would like to give us a little flexibility in case an employee, oh I forgot, a last minute thing. If we only approve that amount, it doesn't give us any flexibility.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked you said \$82,000?

Finance Director Blaze said \$82,000 or \$83,000. That way if anybody comes out of the woodwork at the last minutes, we can facilitate that without having to come back. We try to do it the first pay of December, and that's this week.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we want to make sure their anticipation isn't affected.

**Moved by Grendel, seconded by Trakas, to approve the list of full-time employees that have requested a buyback of their unused vacation, holidays, comp time hours, in an amount not to exceed \$83,000. Roll Call: 6 yes/0 no; motion carried.**

Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. So, that has been approved.

Councilperson Veverka said I have a question because we didn't have any discussion on the topic; but I guess my question is does it make sense to encourage the employees to take their time?

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Vice Mayor Grendel said I think the policy is we try to, I can remember back when Barb Mack was on City Council, stressing how important it is to take your vacations, take your time. It's for your mental health and your family and everything.

Councilperson Veverka asked is it paid back at the similar daily rate?

Finance Director Blaze said yes.

Councilperson Veverka said it's an hourly rate, okay, because I know that at retirement you get credit for a fraction in education; and I am not saying a dramatic difference, but I am just wondering if it would make sense to encourage the employees to take it or not get it at 100%?

Councilperson Narduzzi said bingo. That will make them take it.

Councilperson Veverka asked would you agree? I mean I'm not saying murder them, but if it's worth 5% or 10% less. I am just throwing it out there because if our goal is to help them take their time because they deserve their time, then we should make it a little bit of an advantage for them to take their time.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said well if it's an union employee, there may be something in their contract.

Councilperson Veverka said obviously.

Councilperson Trakas said we have a week, and that's it.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked what do you mean we have a week?

Councilperson Trakas said you can only take a maximum of one week buyback.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked how does this figure compare to previous years?

Maggie Osysko said (inaudible) bargaining units.

Several people began speaking at once.

Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Well I guess that takes care of this issue. Any other questions? There were none.

Vern, we will move on to discussion of the Five-Year Capital Plan. I know that last year that lasted a greater portion of the year and everything. So, we have done a lot of the work last year, and some things have changed with the interest rates and that since we last looked at some of these issues too. Vern, without further ado, I will give the floor to you.

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Finance Director Blaze said well thank you everybody, and I was out getting copies, and John will join us in progress Debi?

The Clerk replied yes, at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Director Blaze said each of you got a hard copy of today's version, November 29<sup>th</sup>, of the Five-Year CIP, and the only change that has been made to this document from the document that Council passed back in August is the Brookside Road project on Page 24, and if you go to that, in the August version the \$750,000 for this year was in there; but then 2023 had \$4,500,000 listed and because that project got resurfaced underneath one of the maintenance contracts and now the big \$4,500,000 job is not going to be done immediately, just to start the discussion, I don't need to appropriate \$4,500,000 for that project in 2023. We could spread that out over the next couple of years, and these are just numbers to start the discussion again. Okay, if we were budgeting, if that project was going to cost \$4,500,000 next year in 2023, I don't know what it's going to cost if you would do it in 2024, 2025 or 2026; but I have to assume it's going to be more than what it would cost now.

So, I said okay if I just spread, if I round up to \$5,000,000 and divide that by 4 years, then I allocate \$1,250,000 over 4 years, and that's what you have in front of you today. No other capital items in the departments have changed. No other infrastructure projects from Don have changed. All we did was amend that Brookside Road project, and I am open if you say we are going to do that earlier than 2026. We are going to do it later than 2026, I just threw out a 4 year allocation and a \$5,000,000 cost going forward to start the discussion.

That leads back to Page 1, the totals at the bottom. The total capital infrastructure and real estate, almost 90% of the way to the bottom of the page, and you can see the 2022 column, we initially budgeted \$12,875,000 through the appropriation amendments this year. The final is a little over \$13,200,000. The year 2025 is in that range, \$13,500,000, and 2026 is currently in that range \$12,600,000. I am comfortable with all 3 of those years. You should recall though that in previous capital discussions I made everybody aware at this table that 2023 and 2024 at the current totals \$20,200,000 in 2023 and \$25,000,000 in 2024 greatly exceed that \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 range in the last couple of years that we have been able to generate internally to pay cash for capital acquisitions for the departments on the top, and the infrastructure projects and real estate acquisition on the lower part of the page.

We got through the Operating Budget those couple of weeks in November. I thank Council for its expediency and thoroughness in letting each Director come and talk about their Operating Budgets and ask questions, and I think we are pretty dialed in as far as that; but Maggie and I have to prepare the 2023 annual appropriations ordinance. In that document we have to put a figure for what we are going to allocate for capital acquisition and infrastructure real estate acquisition specifically in 2023. We don't have to appropriate 2024 yet, but we should look beyond just 12 months and look at this as the next 2 years. Maggie and I need to know if what is listed now and/or the totals, maybe you want to do different projects, cost just as much; but if you say Finance office, we being Council and the Mayor collectively, there is a majority consensus that we want to do \$20,000,000 of capital infrastructure and real estate in 2023, and

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we want to do \$25,000,000 of capital and infrastructure in 2024, then Maggie and I have to prepare the 2023 appropriation in a certain way and that would necessitate borrowing. We could appropriate money that we have or money that we expect to have. The money that we expect to have generally in the last couple of years has come from anticipated revenue. We could appropriate anticipated borrowings to make the numbers work, but we need to know where Council's temperature is for 2023 as it is currently listed, that dollar amount. It really again should include 2024 as well because if we are going to market, I would have to confer with Matt, but my knee jerk gut reaction is that if we are going to need to borrow money collectively for 2023 and 2024, we might as well do one borrowing and borrow it all at one shot. It's kind of like refinancing your mortgage at home, it doesn't make sense to refinance one year and refinance the next year. You are just paying closing costs and title costs and fees on top of fees. So, if we are going to borrow, my suggestion is we do it one time, then that takes into 2 years collectively that we have to look out for.

Councilperson Trakas asked and Vern your assumption is that we still project out that unallocated funds from the operating budget would still be in that \$12,000,000 to \$13,000,000 range?

Finance Director Blaze said yes, good question Councilperson Trakas. Thank you for asking it. I think we can get there, but it's always that asterisk. We have been hearing it, and who knows if it's going to become a reality, but you have seen the big tech firms starting to lay off in mass nationwide. We don't know if that's going to trickle down to the rest of the economy, but all that has been beaten in our head the last couple of months is 2023 recession. So, a lot of smart money, corporate America, bankers, investors, are planning their fiscal 2023 assuming that economic activity is going to be reduced, and that there's going to be a recession. If that happens, it could throw a monkey wrench in everything. We always try to budget conservatively, and I am comfortable at least right now still anticipating \$12,000,000, \$13,000,000 available to allocate for capital and infrastructure. If we use \$12,500,000 as the bogey, that's \$25,000,000 available over 2023 and 2024. Again, assuming that the economy doesn't go to you know what in a handbasket. There's \$20,000,000 listed for 2023, and \$25,000,000 is listed for 2024. So, that adds up to \$45,000,000. We can effectively generate hopefully in that \$25,000,000 range. To me, that leaves a \$20,000,000 funding gap if we want to stay and say yes we are 100% committed to doing everything listed in the 20-23 and 2024 columns of this plan.

Now if Council says I'm not borrowing \$20,000,000 with the interest rates and the economy kind of looking murky. I would rather first look at pushing to the right certain things in 2023 and 2024. I guess that was my goal today was just to lay out the scenario and lay out the option. It's either we borrow up \$20,000,000, some number up to \$20,000,000 or we say we are not borrowing a thing. We are just going to push things to the right, and we are going to do in 2023 \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 of projects. You have that option, and you have the option to do everything that is listed here. You have options with every number in between that. It's really the Finance office's job, Maggie, Dennis, myself and our team to facilitate or reflect a decision that is made here at this table between you 8 individuals, including John when he gets online.

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That is where we are at. If we do borrow, borrowing costs are obviously a lot higher than they were a couple of years ago. We were very fortunate to lock in the 1.6% for 15 years when we did a few years ago. That's definitely worked in our favor financially now that interest rates are much higher; but if we go to market now, we are not going to get 1.6% now, we are going to get 2.8%, 3.2%, whatever the number is, depending on if we were going to borrow for 10, 15, 20 years. Those decisions will have to be made. I guess after hearing the discussion and getting the consensus discussion, whether it takes place today, whether it takes place next Tuesday, a couple of Tuesdays; once we kind of get a collective decision as to what the consensus is, then Maggie, Dennis and I can give you a little bit more firm direction on what the borrowing costs would look like based on a number that you are comfortable with at that time.

We are going to borrow up to \$20,000,000, borrow some number less than \$20,000,000 or borrow zero and we are going to pay cash in 2023 and hunker down.

Vice Mayor Grendel said refresh my memory, how much when we did the Rockside Road project in the early 2000s, how much did we borrow for that? I know Fred was the Mayor at that time, and Greg you were on Council.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said there was more than one borrowing.

Councilperson Trakas said because the County gave us, it was a \$25,000,000 project, and the County gave us half, I thought it was \$13,000,000.

Finance Director Blaze said that was not too long after we borrowed the \$15,000,000 for the high school Fieldhouse. That was a \$33,000,000 cost, went to the community for \$18,000,000 bonds that could be paid back through property taxes. Then the City borrowed the other \$15,000,000 to contribute to that project. So, it was \$15,000,000 for that plus anywhere from some number just below \$10,000,000 into the mid-teens for the Rockside Road project.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so we had 2 big projects at that time going on, and Rockside in order for us to get the County money we had to get moving on that project; and really it kind of consolidated a new road out of that too. That was critical that we did that. It led to the other.

Mayor Kurtz said it was an infrastructure investment in multiples returned.

Vice Mayor Grendel said because Rockside was getting a little tired at that time.

Councilperson Trakas said it stabilized the office market.

Finance Director Blaze said seeing we only have one Director here, and that's Engineer Ramm because you were the ultimate appropriating authority, you 7 people. So, you have that power, but we took the attitude that we can tinker at that top third of the page, the departmental capital, but you could see in most years that tops out at \$3,000,000.

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Vice Mayor Grendel said the big ticket items are the infrastructure.

Finance Director Blaze said it's hard to tinker around the edges there. Anything that we are going to make substantial headway into moving things to the right, if that's the decision made, is mostly going to be in the infrastructure category. That's why we asked Don to be here just to, if Council starts going through Page 21 or 23 and just starts looking at various projects. Do we really need to do that this year? Can we hold off? Don's here to maybe provide a little insight as to maybe infrastructure condition and so forth to kind of help us collectively make these decisions. Do we want to move some things to the right, or we are committed to saying no, it's not an option anymore, this has to be done this year. That's why we are here.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and the other thing to think about too is our fiscal needs here. We are wanting to build a new Service building, those are other questions too we have to think about. You can't just look at infrastructure in a vacuum, we have to think Service Department, Police. We have to think about the whole picture.

Councilperson Trakas asked so the Mannik & Smith survey how close are we to getting that back?

City Engineer Ramm said that was going to be wrapped up before the end of the calendar year. The work was taking place here in this last month.

Councilperson Trakas said that might answer some of these questions, and it would help us as a tool to do that.

First of all Vern, I think you did a marvelous job on all of it, but particularly on the Brookside. I would support what you wanted to do on Brookside, I think that makes sense.

Finance Director Blaze said it's not what I want to do, I had to start the discussion. We didn't need \$4,500,000 allocated for 2023; so okay we could spread that out over a couple of years. It will be there for a little bit, but how long is your decision and how much you want to allocate is your decision. At least the \$1,250,000 placeholder can start the discussion.

Councilperson Trakas said so the other question is do we want to borrow? I think we do, but we probably have other things that we need to be considering with respect to borrowing, and so I don't know if we can give you answers, maybe before March 30<sup>th</sup> you can. We could have those discussions by that time, but we are not talking about small issues right now. The additions to the road projects that we really want to get done, want or need, and those are the things we have to come up with. I think we can't make that decision until maybe later on, but this Police station situation and the Service Department, if we really are serious about going forward with that. We have the housing going on, and I don't think they have any money allocated to that. We certainly would spend money on that. I am not positive we can give the answer that you are looking for.

Finance Director Blaze said we could take the immediate heat off of you collectively and say okay if that decision is too major to decide today or next Tuesday to attempt to adopt a budget 2

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weeks from today on the second Tuesday of December, we will put in a \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 capital and infrastructure figure for the 2023 annual appropriation ordinance. At least we know we have that much funded for 2023, and then whether you decide in December, January or February about the rest of it, we could make an amendment at that point and say okay County we are going to borrow some money so we are going to submit an amended certificate; and now our resource is going to be a little greater because we are going to borrow and use it more. I would have to then start to prepare the Directors report to you. January 1 comes, and we have \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 allocated, but I have \$20,000,000 listed, I don't want it to become a free-for-all, first-come, first-serve, like everybody has \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 available. I am going to get my P.O.s in and grab that money. It would cause mayhem for us. So, we could do that to give you some time collectively to make a good decision, but the Mayor would have to put the Directors and Don on notice that we really can't go too crazy starting to buy 2023 capital for the departments and starting 2023 projects in Don's realm until we know for sure what we are doing. At least we have that money allocated to give you the time needed to make that decision.

Councilperson Trakas said my assumption is that we will have to borrow something, and it might be significant. It might be different than what we are talking about because of the public priorities. It just depends on what.

Finance Director Blaze said and you sent over some different priorities this morning that maybe needs to be worked into the 2023 budget. That is up to you and your colleagues to decide.

Councilperson Trakas said understood.

Vice Mayor Grendel said what we could do is look at some of these projects here and see. We should prioritize them. What is the road or the project that really needs the most attention? By putting it off, we are doing more harm than good and maybe prioritize so this way when it comes to pushing some things off to the right, we will know what is our highest priority. I know we have been talking, and Anthony it even goes back during your Mayorship and before that, Kleber and Longano. We have been talking about that for ages, and kind of taking those folks for granted. They have been patient, and sometimes people if there's nothing really drastic wrong, you don't get any complaints from them. They get used to how conditions are there, but I think we should look at these and see which ones, kind of prioritize and see what would fit in and what we could possibly do like we did this year with Brookside. We bought more time by getting the road nice and smooth and fit for another few years. The engineering is always going to be useful, right Don?

Mayor Kurtz said well the engineering helps support infrastructure, additional infrastructure and defines some of the questions relative to storm sewer, water line, utilities; so that steps we would go through that exercise, but now we will have a chance to pick and choose what we want to do rather than rush to get it done and buy time on that. I was on that road this morning, and it really turned out really nice. You know what the problem is now? Speeders. I watched for a while. It was like people are bizarre the way they drive.

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Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said like Brecksville Road, if something is going to be happening at the Cloverleaf area, maybe the timetables will turn on it. We might have to do something quicker. So, it is good to be nimble, be able to have the money available if we need to use it for something there. There's an opportunity that would generate future revenue for the City too.

Mayor Kurtz said I could see \$8,000,000 or \$10,000,000 you could push down right now, but one of the conversations we talked about recently was Kleber and Longano. We approved the engineering, and one conversation was maybe this year we do, the last thing was we do Kleber next year, and then Longano would be the following year.

Finance Director Blaze said those are on Page 24.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked is there any problem doing both of them at the same time?

Mayor Kurtz said that's too much action for that.

Councilperson Trakas asked you can't bid them together and see what we come up with?

Councilperson Narduzzi asked are you going to do a full construction of those roads?

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said the goal was a wider pavement. If we could stretch the pavement a couple of feet and create safety that way because there's not a lot of pedestrian traffic, but to create a safer environment.

Finance Director Blaze asked is it similar to what we talked about, 22 feet?

City Engineer Ramm said 23 maybe.

Finance Director Blaze said why would we widen it?

City Engineer Ramm said well a lot of the people park on the street down there on Kleber because the homes sit closer.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked new water lines there?

Councilperson Trakas said they deserve it. I would try to bid out both and see what you can get. We have \$3,500,000. I understand what you are talking about Mayor, but for \$1,000,000, maybe you try to find \$1,000,000. We have some other bigger ticket projects.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked and Don when do you think you would be able to bid those out? When will the engineering be done for those? We want to have them early in the year so we can

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maybe get a little better bidding there and have it done. Would we be able to do it by February do you think?

City Engineer Ramm said it was always the goal and the scope when we hired those 2 engineering firms. Engineering over the winter, and as soon as possible in the new year bid it out so we could get them out and running in the early spring.

Vice Mayor Grendel said if you could get good bids on both, at least we could have a decision to make.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Councilperson Trakas said there's also the disruption factor.

Mayor Kurtz said that's the other issue. When they try to race back and forth between the 2 projects with equipment, that's a challenge on the new section of Brecksville Road, but the other thing would be, when will they be ready to have a discussion with Council to determine the width, determine any amenities, any infrastructure that we weren't aware of, stormwater issues. When will they be ready for that? Have all of their R&D done so that we can help them define the scope of their specific plans for construction?

City Engineer Ramm said very soon. We have asked to meet with them.

Mayor Kurz asked December?

City Engineer Ramm said yes.

Mayor Kurtz said so I think that would be a good time to have those meetings so that we can give some clarity and direction on both of those projects as to do we want sidewalks, do we want wider pavements? What are we going to do with the storm sewers? What kind of curbing are we going to use? Asphalt? Concrete? All of those questions would be put in play.

Councilperson Trakas said and it's probably cheaper to do it in concrete.

Mayor Kurtz said so I think in December we should have those meetings.

Councilperson Veverka asked don't we have a Streets meeting scheduled Don?

City Engineer Ramm said it never got scheduled. It would be an opportune time to schedule one.

Councilperson Veverka said we were talking early December.

Mayor Kurtz said if we get that information in a week or so, Dale would you consider that?

Councilperson Veverka said yes.

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Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we could focus on the north end of town since the bridge is going to be done and get those streets then. Brecksville Road is the other thing we have to complete.

Mayor Kurtz said there's \$3,500,000 for each one of those 2 years, but realistically.

Vice Mayor Grendel said but at least would it make sense to do the side streets before we do Brecksville Road?

Councilperson Veverka said if I use Don's rationale, that's why we did Ranchland and Highland and Midland and beat the heck out of Brookside. So, my recommendation would be go with Don's thought and get the 2 side streets done and then deal with Brecksville Road.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that gives us more time. At that time, something might be going on at the Cloverleaf, maybe a project with the DiGeronimo property.

Councilperson Veverka said I definitely would go along with Jim. You want to look at the possibility of economics of scale. I mean we have talked about that multiple times, whether it was paving when we did Hemlock and Cherry and all that group together even though they weren't exactly due at the same time; but we did them at the same time. Basically, that was Don's point at the time is you do have an advantage by doing some of those together. So, I would go along with both of you gentlemen.

Vice Mayor Grendel said those residents have waited a long, long time. I think now is the time we do that and get that done, and then we can do whatever Brecksville Road would lead to after those roads are done.

Councilperson Veverka said and it's not exactly as if we are not poised because we have had the studies done. So, it's time to take a serious look at it.

Vice Mayor Grendel said they always said, not when we lived down there in the 1960s and that, but it used to be the neglected part of town because the newer areas here got a lot of attention.

Mayor Kurtz said we are all in favor of doing Kleber and Longano.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and I think it should be top priority compared to some of these others.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said that's \$4,600,000 for 2024. There have been a lot of water line patches, and there are some potholes and stuff; but I think if we did something like we did on Brookside where we did the mill and fill, we can get 3 more years out of it. You can push that down.

Councilperson Trakas said let's see what Mannik & Smith comes up with.

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Mayor Kurtz said keep in mind, we are narrowing in one component of those major costs. I mean I would like to do all the streets, but realistically when you have responsibility for a Service Department. You have responsibility for a Police Department. You have responsibility for a Civic Center. Those are just 3 facilities, not counting. So, that's facilities. Now all of a sudden, you have your roads, and then you have your utilities, and then you have land. You have these major potential grant partners with ODOT or some of the major infrastructure, Rockside Road. So, you have to be nimble enough to be able to, if there's money available, we talked through the engineering. We have used that model, and it's been successful.

I don't want to sit and pretend that we can just fund. There's \$10,000,000 of road projects right here that realistically we would have to push down. You are not going to balance, and I think we have to balance. You 7 people here make that decision. That's why you are Council.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked Mayor, what's happening with that project with ODOT, the interchange?

Mayor Kurtz said that's 2023. That is a 2023 project.

City Engineer Ramm said that was supposed to be this year, but because of supply chain issues, they couldn't get the materials, so it got pushed back.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that money is all set for that.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked what's the culvert replacement on Hillside?

City Engineer Ramm said that's a continuation of a section we did. It was a culvert that failed a couple of times. We had to go and do some emergency type repairs. The open creek goes into the pipe opposite Vineyard right there.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked on top of that new house?

City Engineer Ramm said we have replaced the downstream, the reinforced concrete box sections. It would be to get it up from there and go over to Vineyard. In partnership with that was the water line only because the water line at Hillside there is also old, and we need to upgrade. So, it was a combination of both items in that one project that you see listed there.

Mayor Kurtz said every time we push down and gamble a little bit, but then we are gambling with every structure we have because at any moment something can fail, but we respond quickly. It could be a water main. It could be a culvert. It could be an erosion issue. That is part of the dynamic of what we deal with when it comes to infrastructure.

I think by paving Brookside this year. That was the worst condition of all the roads. It hard to go through the City, except when you get on Kleber.

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Vice Mayor Grendel said and Stone.

Mayor Kurtz said they did a great job. It was under the previous one, Ronyak; but then the next in line would be Kleber. That is the next in line.

Finance Director Blaze said we all drive Brecksville Road just about every day, and on Page 27 we are showing we are committing some significant funds to Brecksville, Rockside and Sprague; but I know we are talking about right now north of Rockside and integrating work there with the Longano/Kleber; but the section from Rockside to Sprague is not getting any better, and that's in my mind now pushing to the top of the list in the roads that are pretty close to our worst because that gets the bulk of the salt every winter. It takes the most traffic, and I am already starting to know where the bumps are where if I am not driving straight in my lane, I turn a little bit to try and avoid some bumps. That's not going to get any better until we do something.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked when are they going to start doing the culvert work underneath by City Hall?

City Engineer Ramm said I think that was in 2024.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said they were going to try to line it, do something internal.

Finance Director Blaze asked is that on here Don?

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said it's funny, the last meeting I had with them, ODOT, they want to talk about right-of-way to right-of-way. That culvert keeps going on the ITC property. It extends quite a ways outside of the right-of-way, and they seemed to be inferring that the component, if we expect them to line the whole thing, that we may need to participate in the cost outside of the right-of-way. We thought that was very odd.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said I put a culvert underneath the interstate, and I would stop it the building. It's your problem. Guess what? It's your culvert.

City Engineer Ramm said we thought perhaps the Sewer District could participate because it's such a large one.

Mayor Kurtz said we will have to make some calls because that's (inaudible).

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Vice Mayor Grendel asked now have we started some engineering at the northwest quadrant? I know we had money set aside for that. We talked about that. We are doing all the environmental. We are doing preparation work in order to confirm the condition of the property, the soils.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so if an opportunity came forward.

Mayor Kurtz said we are positioning ourselves to move more quickly. That's the extent of the work.

Vice Mayor Grendel said 20 years ago the northeast quadrant was just kind of dream of what could be there as far as that goes, and now it's pretty much, with the TV station going there.

Mayor Kurtz said they are going by the way. Actually, we had a ribbon cutting for Pleasant Valley Road, the old Kichler property; and talked to the brokers, and confirmed that they not only bought the property, they are moving ahead with construction. They also talked about some of the concerns, the towers, satellite issues, locations to make sure. CBIZ wanted to make sure it didn't obstruct their view to Cleveland. All of these dynamics. The fact that they did buy the property, and they are moving forward with architectural work. They should be before the City.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I anticipate if it was anything like their other facility they built in Wisconsin, Georgia there, it's going to be great.

Mayor Kurtz said unique situations.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I hope they promote the City in a positive light. A few years ago we thought we would have a brewery there, but this will turn out.

Mayor Kurtz said the payroll is 4 times than the brewery.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that takes care of that. So, you never know when an opportunity arises in the northwest quadrant, we have to always be ready for the next frontier that could bring revenue to the City.

Mayor Kurtz said we are putting soft money into some of these areas to make sure that what you see is what you get from an engineering standpoint, from a utilities standpoint, accessibility. So, there are a number of things we are working on as we speak to and with the cooperation we have been at least able to stay ahead of it. Everything is so fast nowadays.

Councilperson Trakas said on Brecksville Road, one of the proposals we have is to put aside about \$1,000,000 a year. Would you anticipate paving using that \$1,000,000 or just banking it and then doing a larger project?

City Engineer Ramm said I think at the time it was just stored up, saved because we thought it was going to be combined with downtown redevelopment, a much bigger utility and water main. It would have to be a comprehensive and global project.

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Finance Director Blaze asked isn't Brecksville Road scheduled at some point for ODOT to get to?

Mayor Kurtz asked what year is that? Do you know?

City Engineer Ramm said we had a hard time finding the program. In 2026 is what we thought.

Mayor Kurtz asked that's when they will come in and do the resurfacing?

Vice Mayor Grendel asked it's been 20 years since we did Brecksville. Brecksville went and spent a little bit more I think. They had a higher quality of their pavement at that time.

Councilperson Narduzzi said it lasted a much longer time than ours did.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that was before your time Don.

City Engineer Ramm asked do you know when that might have been 2003 or 2005 maybe?

Mayor Kurtz said before that.

Councilperson Trakas said it could have been in the 1990s.

Mayor Kurtz said it was the 1990s because that's when originally put the islands in because we racing because they said they would put the planter boxes in if we supplied the planter boxes. So, we had everybody hustling making those planter boxes. The original was wood. Just as we got all those in, and then we went to the pavers.

Finance Director Blaze said Brecksville Road was last majorly surfaced from Rockside Road to Sprague in the 1990s. It lasted a long time.

Mayor Kurtz said there's nothing to complain about really.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I was on Council (inaudible).

Mayor Kurtz said earlier we did Rockside. If they came in and did a grind and overlay right now, that would last 10 years or so if the water mains didn't break.

Finance Director Blaze said so the \$1,000,000 we are quoting is really to do more work than ODOT would do. Theirs would be the basic.

Mayor Kurtz said I don't even think they would do curb and gutter, would they?

City Engineer Ramm said base curb and base gutter.

Several people began speaking at once again.

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City Engineer Ramm said it was a little bit undetermined, but it would be millions, and knowing that we had a number of years to start the actual scope of the work and pin them down.

Councilperson Togliatti said and Don we delayed the repaving of the cemetery roads this year, but it does seem though that some paving has occurred on the eastern edge of the cemetery at the top of the hill there. Did we do that in-house?

City Engineer Ramm said that was with Ronyak. They were able to get up there. Tim Topolski had expressed some desire to widen the pavement there because it was very narrow and also because the pavement was in very poor condition. So, we were able to do some replacement and widening. We kind of combined that effort along that top of the ridge there, that eastern most road. So, that was a small snippet of everything, but thought it was helping him out for the short term. It puts us in a good position for when they do come in and do a mill and fill, it would be ready and would accommodate a surface.

Councilperson Togliatti said we don't have any funds allocated in this plan for that.

Councilperson Trakas said I was just going to say the same thing.

Finance Director Blaze said in Public Lands, Page 19 and 20 it seems Councilperson Togliatti that the question and conversation came up recently, and our assumption which could be incorrect, was that included in that mausoleum/columbarium line on Page 19, \$325,000 this year and \$325,000 next year, that some of that money included possibly some pavement funds.

City Engineer Ramm said and we have some pricing that we know that it's certain when it's valid I think through July of 2023.

Councilperson Togliatti asked and that paving they did, how is the base? It seems really unlevel and not like a street should be.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah it was a pretty rough type of material, a binder. We knew that in another year or so, we would go down and top it with some finer grade asphalt surface material. That's why it's a little bit crude.

Vice Mayor Grendel said Vern on reading Page 19, we have together the mausoleum and columbarium, is that \$775,000 all together, you take the \$650,000 plus the \$125,000 this year.

Finance Director Blaze said if we encumber the \$325,000 that would make the \$450,000 and the \$325,000 next year, so that would be the \$775,000. There's \$125,000 already encumbered because that is the legislation that was passed last year in 2021.

Vice Mayor Grendel said because the columbarium is going in next year.

Mayor Kurtz said it's going in next year.

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Vice Mayor Grendel said so maybe it would be good to do the roads along with the columbarium.

Mayor Kurtz said I think that was the plan. Weren't we talking about the columbarium going in and then Phase 2. We did the engineering work for Phase 2, correct?

City Engineer Ramm said we came down to the final version, but yes that was our goal.

Mayor Kurtz said so I think that if you can pin that down and bring that back, we can have Public Lands look at that, sign off on it, so then we could be in a good position to move forward.

Councilperson Narduzzi said we can chat here all night, but the bottom line is are we going to stay with the \$20,000,000? Did we look and see what we are going to push back?

Vice Mayor Grendel said getting back to prioritizing.

Councilperson Narduzzi said we have to make that decision first.

Mayor Kurtz said well in 2 weeks we have to make a decision, if we are going to go to the \$12,000,000 and just improve it, have a placeholder and then continue that discussion. We will have to formulate a strategy, prioritize it, and then we can synthesize that information and come back in early January and have our Strategic Planning session and talk about the different projects we want to do. I think that's the process that we should put together. Meanwhile, we have something fixed, and we are not just running in circles.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I don't think as far as borrowing, if anybody has the appetite to borrow.

Councilperson Trakas said I would borrow if it's something that is needed.

Councilperson Narduzzi said with me, if we are going to borrow, it's going to be for a new Police station, Service Department, something big, but for this day-to-day stuff that we are supposed to save for and do, I don't want to borrow for that.

Councilperson Togliatti said we have been pushing it back for years and years, how much longer can you push it back?

Mayor Kurtz said we have been pushing it back for 2 decades. Every year we push back, every year for 2 decades. It's just a way to do it.

Councilperson Trakas said both ways are expensive.

Mayor Kurtz said unless somebody has a crystal ball or a golden egg they want to cash in, or the lottery, it's just part of our responsibility.

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Finance Director Blaze said neither option is a good option. You have to think of worst options. What do you want to do, keeping pushing it forward, back, and it costs more in the future, or do you want to borrow now and pay high interest rates and do it sooner?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said well I remember past conversations we talked about borrowing in-house for this and going to the people for the Police station.

Councilperson Trakas said I do definitely think we should do that to invest the community in the projects.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I would still like to make a trip out to Westlake, see their facility to see what we can do.

Mayor Kurtz said absolutely. After our Strategic Planning session, then we can go around and see, this is a priority.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said the new trucks down on Brecksville Road, so we will have everything under cover.

Mayor Kurtz said it's more valuable, but there's just not enough room for everything.

Councilperson Trakas said a former Mayor, Dave Harbarger told me a story about Lakewood. They were trying to figure out just what we are doing, and they were about \$700,000 short, this was back in the 1990s. He wasn't sure what to do, and they were working to pave streets, and the streets were in very bad condition at the time, and he gets a call that Dave Jacobs died, and his estate was worth \$800,000. He said well we just solved our problem, but we can't rely on that anymore.

Mayor Kurtz said it's not going to work anymore that's for sure.

Councilperson Trakas said to answer your question, I would be willing to borrow some for a big-ticket project, for these types of things, not everything. There are a lot of things to defer, but I think once we get the Mannik & Smith back and consider all these things, I think we might want to put together a package of things. Infrastructure is always something where if you are going to voters, you want to pave streets, you want a safety center. Those are things that are good decisions. That is what voters think cities should be doing, right? I wouldn't discount it.

Mayor Kurtz said I think we need to explore these, and then put it together, then prioritize and make a decision. Meanwhile, we have a Finance Director option that we put a placeholder in for \$12,000,000 and put our thinking caps on, our exploratory caps on and not be bound to any line item. It's in pencil anyway.

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Vice Mayor Grendel said I think Vern you said whatever we are going to borrow, we should do one borrow and not borrow a little bit here and then a year from now decide we need to borrow a little bit more.

Finance Director Blaze said the rest of the decision is to borrow short-term now instead of long-term and borrow it as a BAN, and pick a number for 2023, and then 2024 you are paying a little of that principle off; and if you wanted to, you would have to roll over what was left, and then you would have to borrow to make up the gap in 2024. If the decision is made to go with short-term BANS, then I guess there's an asterisk to what I said that we are going to have financing costs every year because our debt would be in short-term one-year notes. We would be going back to market every 12 months anyway, maybe we wouldn't have to do just one BAN. I would kind of amend what I said based on whether we are going to borrow short-term or long-term.

Councilperson Trakas said strategically based on what we know with interest rates and what's going to happen, I would think we need to do research on it. I would think it would need to be a little bit of a longer term. That would make more sense for us because they are going to keep going up until they try to stop inflation, and it hasn't so far.

Finance Director Blaze said that's what the economy is going to do at some point, and that's my fear from a budgetary standpoint because we rely on that income tax heavily, and a couple million drop, not a lot materially percentage-wise, but dollarwise that impacts us with our budget. So, our fingers are crossed that the economy stays somewhat healthy through these interest rates increases, but every time the Fed meets it goes up another .75%. Now the deal is whether it will be .75% or .50%, but in either case it's substantial. So, we will see.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I see John has joined us.

Vice Mayor Grendel said hello John.

Councilperson DiGeronimo said hi everybody. It sounds like you have it all figured out.

Finance Director Blaze said we are just waiting for the CPA to chime in.

Councilperson DiGeronimo said I think we are done.

Councilperson Togliatti said and Vern these 2022 figures in this plan, the maintenance contracts, how can they possibly be \$212,000?

Finance Director Blaze said that takes us back to Page 21 and 22. If you look in the column to the left under amount, every time you see, and the next column to the left of that, open P.O.s, anytime you see the P.O. number that starts with 2022, we have taken the money appropriated from 2022 and already encumbered it with the purchase order. Once we do that, we kind of pull it out that 2022 column, and it gets under the amount column. So, there are significant amounts encumbered for these maintenance contracts now. The \$212,000 is just, how would you describe that Maggie?

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Finance Assistant Osysko said that money might have already been encumbered.

Mayor Kurtz said it's one or the other.

Finance Assistant Osysko said we pay the bills out of it or forfeit it (inaudible).

Councilperson Togliatti asked then shouldn't every column be that way? The real estate acquisitions, 2022 says \$1,000,000. We didn't spend anything?

Finance Director Blaze said no see that line there, that's on the last page. Now that the legislation is passed for the Lutheran Church property, as Maggie said, we haven't drilled down to every piece of legislation that has been adopted, especially the most recent on November 15<sup>th</sup>, but we will create a P.O. for the \$475,000 plus the closing costs, so that will come off the \$1,000,000 in the amount column.

Councilperson Veverka asked the money for the Ohio garage, did that come off of this year or last year?

Finance Director Blaze said we wrote that check earlier this year I believe.

Councilperson Veverka asked is that off the \$1,000,000?

Finance Assistant Osysko said (inaudible).

Several people began speaking at once again.

Finance Director Blaze said the check has been since (inaudible) February, and it has caused me heartburn to have a check with the title company that long as it hasn't closed, but in consulting with Legal, he felt that ODOT had enough safeguards built in there with the title company that our money was good there. So, I locked it there, but those 2 transactions are the real estate transactions from this year.

Finance Assistant Osysko said (inaudible).

Councilperson Togliatti asked so then on Page 11, we still have the \$1,158,000 to spend in the Service Department this year?

Finance Assistant Osysko said (inaudible).

Councilperson Togliatti said I'm just trying to understand.

Finance Assistant Osysko said this isn't the only thing I have to do. I try to do it (inaudible). I take it off altogether, but if there is any part of it, I will reduce the amount of it. We kind of have a running total of what is still out there, what is appropriated for certain projects that just haven't been paid yet.

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Councilperson Trakas said on the Cuyahoga River Army public project you have \$900,000 allocated for 2023. Is that a good number? Do you think the project is going to happen?

City Engineer Ramm said we are going to get an update. I believe the meeting has been scheduled with their leadership. We are going to know where that project is here very soon, before the end of the year.

Councilperson Togliatti asked can they update everybody? Can you include Council because they have done that in the past.

City Engineer Ramm said I think probably after this initial meeting because we are kind of learning a lot of things as well internally, administratively. I think an update to Council would be the next logical step.

Finance Director Blaze said if that project does not end up going, that frees up several bucks, the \$1,800,000 in the future, and the \$535,000 that is already there. That moves the needle. That helps. Finding \$10,000 here and \$10,000 there, you are looking all day to find \$10,000,000 that way. One chunk of over \$2,000,000, hey that moves the needle.

Councilperson Trakas said that's why I asked the question.

Finance Director Blaze said we will get the update. We will get some traction on that pretty soon. It's unfortunate because we have spent a lot of time on that project.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I know Dave Joyce was there. Now the Welty parking lot, that's going to start next year, the construction of that parking lot.

Mayor Kurtz said their plans are constantly being reviewed, different scenarios, plans with their contractor, funding. I believe they will start doing the earthwork starting in the spring, and then I think CBIZ, I don't think they will be in until July. I know it's going to be after tax season; and so hopefully they can do the earthwork by then. They pave by the end of next year. Then they can have more tenants.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked are we putting that parking lot in or are they doing it, and we are providing so much money and that's it?

Mayor Kurtz said we changed it over. We capped out. Actually they are responsible.

Finance Director Blaze said we aren't writing a \$2,100,000 check, everything, all these soft costs that we have been incurring up until now are coming off of that, and then even once they start construction, it's my understanding that we aren't just going to write them a check for the balance. It's going to be as work is completed, as our inspectors confirm that the work has been

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done, and then progress invoices are submitted. Then we will start writing checks for that project up to the amount that we owe, and then after that it's 100% on them.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked that parking lot is going to be owned by Welty then? Are we still having those charging stations?

Mayor Kurtz said I think that's part of a scenario that we worked with NOACA. They are responsible.

Councilperson Veverka asked Don are these 10 foot spaces?

Mayor Kurtz said no, I think they were approved at 9 foot. They approved that earlier this year.

Councilperson Togliatti asked has Welty secured any additional tenants, I mean CBIZ?

Mayor Kurtz said their last communication, we hear that they have a lot of play, but to my knowledge, they are talking about a restaurant at one time; but I think the footprint for a restaurant was going to be great, so they withdrew that from consideration. So, I know they are talking about a restaurant, they are kind of talking about a different (inaudible).

Vice Mayor Grendel said Vern what you need from us is direction, should we just hold that \$12,500,000, the amount there and not consider the borrowing at this time? Or keep it open, if you decide to go in that direction.

Finance Director Blaze said I think if you are going to make the decision in the next 30,60 days, and then the budget in the first quarter of 2023 to reflect whatever decision is made, we will just prepare the budget, Maggie and I and Dennis, based on \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000, whatever we could comfortably appropriate, and that will be our starting point in 2023.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I think that's probably the best strategy, and Don if we could go out to bid early next year on those Longano and Kleber and see where that comes in as far as costs go.

Mayor Kurtz said I would like to have those meetings in December though so that we can hone in on what we need that is appropriate.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked and meet with the residents too.

Mayor Kurtz said we usually meet with the residents before construction because they are aware of it because we get the calls. They see the surveyors, they see the people out; and if there's a specific situation that is brought to Don's attention, we see if it's something we should try to incorporate into the project, and then go from there. One of the things we need to talk about with ODOT is the barrier wall. They rejected that several years ago, the request for a barrier wall, and the people still would like to see something along that line.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked is that on Kleber?

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Mayor Kurtz said on Kleber, the north side of Kleber. Now with 4 additional lanes, we are going to make the argument that there is more noise now because there will actually be 4 additional lanes of traffic.

Councilperson Trakas said it's good to be doing it now because I think ODOT has a different view of these things. The guy that was there before he was not a big fan.

Mayor Kurtz said so Don make sure we get that. I don't know if we sent that letter or not, but if we didn't, we should share with them the 4 additional lanes, the noise isn't going to get less.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Councilperson Trakas said they moved the noise closer to the neighborhood, we can make that argument can't we.

Councilperson Togliatti said the new lanes are in the middle.

Finance Director Blaze said that's only on the bridge.

Mayor Kurtz said the 2 lanes, the barrier wall is in the middle of the new bridge, and if you are on those 2 lanes, you have to go through, you can't get off. You can't get off at 98<sup>th</sup> Street, you can't get off at I-77.

Finance Director Blaze said like the express lanes, you are committed.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said either you are getting on the turnpike Mayor, or you are heading out to I-271.

Councilperson Narduzzi said hey Don just back to the sound barrier wall on I-77, do they ever come by and clean them things or tidy them up? You know what, they look terrible. It hasn't been that long.

City Engineer Ramm said I have never seen any cleaning operation, but I could inquire. I could check with their Maintenance Division.

Councilperson Narduzzi said you know, they have that spray stuff. They come by with a truck and just spray it and get all that dirt off. Let the rain wash it off. I don't know if they can, but in my mind that stuff works. You can get a big truck to drive by and spray it.

Councilperson Veverka said they make one for your bathtub if it's that bad. You dilute it by 5 to 1.

Councilperson Narduzzi said even the columns.

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Vice Mayor Grendel said so I guess our strategy is to keep that placeholder there, the early part of 2023 is what we decided as far as borrowing goes for projects to go forward. Dale, you will have a meeting there too, so hopefully we will get some information on these bids to see what dollar amounts you are talking about.

Councilperson Veverka said we will get the bids, and hopefully we will have the Mannik & Smith report in our hand at that time. Is there a way to make sure that we are going to get that within the next week or so Don?

City Engineer Ramm said I can inquire.

Councilperson Veverka said so we have all those ducks lined up.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and Mayor we work on Service Department, and some of those issues too, whether we go to the people for a vote. Would that be to have property tax, to have it funded by property tax on some of those?

Mayor Kurtz said (inaudible).

Finance Director Blaze said the last thinking was to have them connect to the schools because I would be 95% certain that they are going on the ballot in May for a renewal of their operating issue. They still want to do some type of school issue, some capital issue. The City goes on for money, and again next year the County is going to start revaluing the properties, and that will show up in the 2024 tax bills. So, the residents could be hit with a lot if they see 3 tax issues before them, and their taxes go up without any of those passing.

Vice Mayor Grendel said it's critical that we decide what we are doing with the new Service Department, with the Police. The longer you wait, it's not going to do anybody any good. At least we can get some figures on what we are talking about moneywise.

Mayor Kurtz said where to put it, how much it's going to cost, how many amenities you want to incorporate into the project.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and like you said, the County would like to see a new library. We just have to provide the land. So, that's a question too. Do we want it on our campus here? Do we want it downtown? We have plenty of land downtown, and sometimes if the library has programs, that might be a thing to get people to the downtown area.

Mayor Kurtz said then you take away from the schools though.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that's the only thing. Do we have that coincide with what the school wants?

Mayor Kurtz said these are all legitimate questions. Just have to put them all together and prioritize.

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Councilperson Trakas said I would think that having a library near the school would be more beneficial and make more sense because it seems to be connected.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and that frees up part of the Civic Center. We don't have to worry about Civic Center expansion.

Finance Director Blaze said well that's for the Community Services side. I think on the left side there's still a lot of potential.

Mayor Kurtz said it's exciting. We have this discussion, and then some of our other communities, they are trying to figure out how to make enough money to buy a Police car.

Finance Director Blaze said this is a very robust document. We are very fortunate, very blessed. Use whatever word you want for us to have the ability to fund internally the amount of capital and infrastructure that we do on an annual basis because the Mayor's right. I look at some cities that compare size wise to us, population and by a number of different metrics, and I see they are kind of happy about how much they are going to spend on roads or something and sewers in a given year, and it's like a fraction of what we are going to spend. They are happy for that, and look we have a big appetite, and we always feel like we are short; but we still are very blessed here to have the resources we do, and we should never take that for granted. The business community funds everything we do here, and that's why economic development is so important to keep that continuum going.

Vice Mayor Grendel said at that function we were at, to see the Mayor of Maple Heights to see how grateful she was to get those Police cars that we had given to them. She was, it makes you feel good that we are doing something, not only for our own town, but also helping a neighboring community that's in need, providing them with a little better cars like that to provide for their people that are struggling.

Councilperson DiGeronimo said we are blessed.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I guess Vern you have what we need to go forward, and we have our work cut out for us as Council on what projects are going forward and the need for borrowing. You are going to provide us with these bids and everything because we are just talking figures, but until you actually see the real dollars and cents, then we can make an intelligent decision at that point.

Councilperson Trakas asked do we have a meeting for December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>; do we still want to do December 6<sup>th</sup>, or do we want to delay that until we have this discussion?

Mayor Kurtz asked what's the purpose of meeting before getting the information.

Finance Director Blaze said one more meeting before the budget would hopefully be adopted on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

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Councilperson Trakas asked would we know anything by then? Really not.

Mayor Kurtz said nothing is going to change.

Finance Director Blaze said unless you wanted to keep the meeting and start your discussion process prior to having all the information. We had a staff meeting a month or so ago that you make a decision with only 40% of your known information, and you are making it too soon; but if you wait until 100%, you wait too long. You have to find that sweet spot in the middle, and just say I can't wait.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked can you give us a guesstimate on those 2 projects, Kleber and Longano?

City Engineer Ramm asked right here now?

Several people began speaking at once again.

Finance Director Blaze said you're the expert.

Councilperson Trakas said all of your team did a great job Mayor.

Mayor Kurtz said thank you.

Councilperson Togliatti said and the ODOT property. I know we had projected the fencing bids. Did we secure that?

Mayor Kurtz said the whole place is secure. If you look at it, go on site and look at it, there is no need to replace the fence. We repaired some portions of it, and the gate was another issue we talked about; but the fence is structurally sound. Just like before we filled this out, we went in and patched. There were a half dozen spots that needed to be patched, so we patched those, and when we leased the property to the contractor with the gas line, so we made \$5,000 on that. They patched some of the area for us and cleaned the property up around the outside. That was part of the benefit of having them on site for a month. So, it's cleaned up. We have salt in the salt bin, and we are methodically going through everything else.

Vice Mayor Grendel said what we will have to do in the next week is Council and Mayor what day, what Saturday in January we want to have our Strategic Planning meeting. We will have it in City Hall here and everything, and Debi will create some breakfast and that to keep us going. The last few years have been the Zoom which is fine, but I think now we get more out of being here in person.

Councilperson Trakas said I have drill January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Moved by Veverka, seconded by Walchanowicz, to adjourn the Council Workshop of November 29, 2022 meeting. Voice Vote: 7 yes/0 no; motion carried.**

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**There being no further business, the Council Workshop of November 29, 2022, was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.**

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Debra J. Beal, Clerk of Council  
**Minutes Unapproved at Time of Release 11/30/22**

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