Dear Resident,

Despite the hot temperatures, many of you came out for our Memorial Day Services on Public Square. Thank you for being a part of this annual observance to recognize America’s fallen heroes. For those who were not able to attend, you can offer up your gratitude every time you drive along Brecksville Road as you view some of our Hometown Heroes. It is with great pride that we display the City’s respect for those who have served our great country.

The final Public Meeting regarding the Community Greenspace/Brecksville Road Streetscape was held on Wednesday, May 23rd, with approximately 40 residents attending. Jeff Kerr of the Environmental Design Group presented some final conceptual drawings based on all of the input they have received collectively from both the City Administration and the residents who shared their ideas at prior meetings. Many attractive designs were presented along with the associated costs. It is now up to Council to determine how to move forward concerning phasing in all or certain individual concepts. To access the Power Point presentation from this public meeting, log on to the City’s website at www.independenceohio.org.

Last but not least, Congratulations to the I.H.S. graduating Class of 2018, their families, and teachers! Our very best wishes go to the 93 graduates who will be moving on to further their education, enter the work force, or join the military. No matter in which direction you are headed, please remember that we could not be more proud of your accomplishments, and most importantly, Independence will always be your home!

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Togliatti
Mayor

ARBOR/GOVERNMENT DAY

Over 100 4th grade students from Independence Primary School and St. Michael’s Catholic School came to City Hall to learn about their City government and meet the Mayor and his Administration.

Afterward, the students helped to plant a tree donated by the Independence Garden Club at Liberty Playground in honor of Arbor Day.

A pizza lunch was organized by the Recreation Department followed by a series of “stations” where the children could get a good look at various Police, Fire, and Service Department vehicles, enjoy a demonstration by the K-9 Officers and their dogs, participate in a planting station provided by the Garden Club, and interact with the Animal Control Officer, concluded by a trip to the concession stand for ice cream!
Walks & Talks from West Creek Conservancy

West Creek Conservancy, the local land conservation nonprofit, invites you to its upcoming series of guided hikes and informative talks. The events are free and open to the public. Advanced registration for the walks is requested by calling 216-749-3720 ext. 11 or emailing jakob@westcreek.org.

The Conservancy’s June 2018 schedule of events includes:

- **Wednesday, June 6th, 7 pm - 9 pm.** Public meeting at Parma-Snow Road Library.
  - **“Cuyahoga County’s Greenways Plan.”** The 30-mile West Creek Greenway is one of several greenways being proposed for our county. Glenn Coyne, Director of the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, will present an overview.

- **Saturday, June 9th, 9 am – noon**
  - **“Hiking the Future West Creek Greenway – Elmwood to Seven Hills.”** We’ll trek about 5 miles to explore the proposed link between the Seven Hills Recreation Center and Elmwood Park. Meet at the gazebo next to the Independence Library.

- **Saturday, June 16th, 10 am – noon**
  - **“Discover the Hemlock Trail.”** Enjoy an easy, scenic 2.5-mile walk to experience the proposed Hemlock Trail before construction begins. Park behind the Cleveland Clinic Operations Center, far corner. (This walk repeats in October)

For a complete list of events and to learn more about West Creek Conservancy, visit westcreek.org or call 216-749-3720.
Having a safe Fourth of July takes a few precautions and some common sense. Sparklers burn at approximately 1200 degrees F and can cause severe burns. Clothing ignites at 900 degrees F.

**NOTE TO PARENTS**
Actions by children under the age of 18 are the legal responsibility of parents. Misuse of fireworks causing death, injury, or property loss could incur civil liability.

**AND FOR YOUR PETS**
The Humane Society encourages pet owners to keep their pets indoors and make sure their pets have identification tags in case they run away. Pets may refuse to eat, become hyperactive, or run away from home because of the noise from fireworks of all sizes.

### INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION FOOD BOOTH APPLICATION

If your non-profit City organization is interested in having a food booth, complete this form and return it to the address below. Please be aware of the following criteria:
- Booths limited to non-profit organizations only.
- Sorry, no trailers.
- You keep 100% of the proceeds!
- Food Booths will have a $20 Board of Health Permit Fee.
- No duplication of items sold.
- Booths assigned on first-come first-serve basis.
- Deadline: Wednesday, June 20th
- Send this Application to:

  Independence Civic Center  
  Attn: Linda Farace  
  216-524-3262  
  6363 Selig Blvd., Independence, Ohio 44131

| Name of Organization: ________________________________ |
| Contact Person: ________________________________ |
| Home Phone #: ________________________________ |
| Items you will be selling: ________________________________ |
| Price of Item: ________________________________ |
| Number of 6’ tables needed: 1 [ ]  2 [ ]  3 [ ] |
| No. of Chairs Needed: ________________________________ |
| Electricity: Yes [ ] No [ ] |
| Reason: ________________________________ |
| Amps: ________________________________ |

**INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**

Tuesday, July 3rd
Fireworks at Dark  
(Rain Date: Thursday, July 5th)

Handicapped Parking Available  
Food Booths Open 7 to 10 p.m.

Bring your family and friends and be entertained by our amazing Fireworks display!

**Transportation**
Free transportation provided to residents who qualify. Deadline to register for transportation is June 28th. Call Community Services 216-524-7373.

**SPARKLERS AND FIREWORKS ARE PROHIBITED ON CITY PROPERTY**

- **THESE ARE LEGAL**
  - Ground and hand-held sparkling devices
  - Dipped sticks and sparklers
  - Cylindrical or cone fountains
  - Illuminated torches
  - Wheels or ground spinners
  - Smoke devices

- **THESE ARE NOT LEGAL**
  - Missile type rockets
  - Skyrockets
  - Firecrackers of any size
  - Salutes or Chasers

Remember, the Fireworks Law in the State of Ohio states that it is legal to purchase fireworks in Ohio, but is **ILLEGAL to shoot them off in Ohio**.
Kiwanis Korner

Congratulations to recent 300 Club winners: Nathan Kingzett, Debi Beal, and Hank Shadrach.

Special congratulations to our President, Bill Gutermuth, who has been elected Lt. Governor of Ohio Division 24 for the 2019-2020 term. Eleven area suburbs make up Division 24, the largest in the Ohio District. Service is the core of every Kiwanis Club no matter where in the world it is located. Children are our mission. When you give a child a chance to learn, experience, dream, grow, succeed, and thrive, great things happen.

Kiwanis will again host the Beer Garden booth for Independence Home Days, August 3rd – 4th, with Ed Chrzanowski as Chairman. The booth is closely monitored for the enjoyment of friends and family.

Alzheimer’s & Brain Awareness Month

When a Loved One with Alzheimer’s Doesn’t Recognize You

In early stage dementia or Alzheimer’s disease, intermittent symptoms of mild cognitive decline such as word searching, forgetfulness, and trouble concentrating and problem solving are visible. As the disease advances, lapses in people’s memories become even more apparent. Such lapses can cause an inability to remember or recognize family members. As a result, some family relationships diminish leaving the person with Alzheimer’s isolated and lonely. It’s normal to feel sad, hurt, or abandoned, but keep in mind it’s not personal, but the effects of the disease. What can you do?

First, remember that even when memory is gone, emotions remain. Your loved one may still be able to pick up on vibes and read body language. Proceed with conversation even if the person appears unresponsive. To encourage engagement, the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America recommends using the 4 S’s for communicating: simple, slow, show, and smile. “Simple sentences are much appreciated by someone with Alzheimer’s. Say it slow to allow enough time to capture words or questions. Show what you are saying, using facial expressions, body language, and gesturing. And smile! It goes a long way.”

Next, avoid peppering your loved one with the question “Do you know who I am?” Rather, introduce yourself by name and relationship, such as “I’m Josephine, your daughter” and “Here’s my husband, Mike.” Instead of trying to figure out what the person remembers, be assuring by maintaining eye contact, calling them by name, smiling, and holding their hand as you remind them who you are. It’s possible that you’ll have to introduce yourself a number of times. Try to resist the urge to speak louder to make it easier for the person to understand. Slow down and provide time for understanding and processing what you’ve said.

It may seem pointless to stay in contact with a loved one who is unable to recognize the faces of family and friends. However, there are numerous benefits that come from visiting people who have advanced dementia. Social wellness—making and keeping genuine, nurturing connections with others—is critical to physical and psychological health and may help delay cognitive impairment.

Source: Activity Connection

Now that summer is approaching, people think of building a deck to enjoy the warmer weather. You need to submit a few items to the Building Department to begin your project prior to getting a permit for a deck:

- Completed Building Permit application (can be found on the City website).
- Site plan showing the location of the existing house and proposed location of deck.
  - Must be no less than 40’ from the rear property line.
  - Must be no less than 15’ from the side property lines.
- Two sets of drawings describing the building material and a cross section of the deck and railing detail.

Basic guidelines for building a deck:
- All decks more than 30” above the grade must have a guardrail with a minimum height of 36”.
- The footer for deck postholes must be a minimum of 38” deep.
- Deck posts must be a minimum of 4” x 4”.
- Three inspections must be completed: footer (postholes), framing, and final inspection.

A permit is required for the installation of any deck. The Building Department is available to answer questions and provide information for homeowners who are interested in installing a deck. Contact the Building Department at 216-524-1019 or visit our web page at www.independenceohio.org
Be Aware of Bicyclists!

As summer kicks off, bikes are a common sight on our roads, especially because of our proximity to the Towpath Trail. Bicycles are considered vehicles under Ohio law and can be legally operated on the roadway (except freeways). A cyclist must obey all traffic rules applicable to vehicles. For example, a cyclist must stop at red lights and stop signs (ORC §4511.43); yield to pedestrians on a sidewalk (ORC §4511.441); use a specified front white light, rear red reflector and light from sunset to sunrise and when visibility is low due to weather conditions. (ORC 4511.56); and ride in the direction of road traffic (ORC §4511.25). A cyclist must ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable and obey all traffic rules and exercise due care when passing. However, a cyclist is not required to ride at the right edge of the roadway when it is unreasonable or unsafe due to surface objects, hazards, or when the lane is so narrow that a car cannot safely pass the cyclist (ORC §4511.55(A) & (C)).

How can a motorist safely share the road with bicyclists? Avoiding distractions while driving and being aware of your surroundings are critical. Most bicycle crashes occur when a driver:
- Turns left at an intersection into an oncoming cyclist
- Turns right at an intersection and “hooks” a cyclist proceeding straight through the intersection
- Fails to see a cyclist and hits the cyclist from behind
- Fails to see the cyclist when pulling out from a stop sign, side street, or parking lot
- Passes and sideswipes a cyclist by failing to allow a safe distance when passing.

Here are some additional tips for children and bike riding:
- A helmet protects your child from serious injury, and should always be worn. And remember, wearing a helmet at all times helps children develop the helmet habit.

- Your child needs to wear a helmet on every bike ride, no matter how short or how close to home. Many injuries happen in driveways, on sidewalks, and on bike paths, not just on streets. Children learn best by observing you. Set the example: Whenever you ride, put on your helmet.

- When purchasing a helmet, look for a label or sticker that says the helmet meets the CPSC safety standard.

- A helmet should be worn so that it is level on the head and covers the forehead, not tipped forward or backwards. The strap should be securely fastened with about 2 fingers able to fit between chin and strap. The helmet should be snug on the head, but not overly tight. Skin should move with the helmet when moved side to side. If needed, use sizing pads to help improve the fit.
Fire Safety Tips - Summer Safety

Don’t Get Burned This Summer! Summertime is outdoor fun time. Don’t let your fun turn tragic. Hazards are all around us, but with proper precautions, summertime can be both enjoyable and safe. Protect yourself, your home and property, and your family and neighbors by following these simple guidelines.

Summer Barbecues

Barbecue Grills - Always keep the grill at a safe distance from anything that can burn. Never leave a hot grill unattended, and keep children and pets away. Wear an oven mitt to protect your hands and forearms. Know what to do if you get burned. Flush with cool water for 10 - 15 minutes. Never use creams, salves, or butter on burns. Serious burns with charred skin require immediate medical attention. Never use a barbecue grill indoors. Not only is this a fire hazard, it is a source of carbon monoxide. Use only starter fluid designed for grills when lighting charcoal grills. Never use gasoline! Add dry kindling and more charcoal if needed. Never add liquid fuel to build up a fire, as a flash fire can occur. Make sure charcoal is completely cooled before leaving unattended. Soak coals in water before discarding them. For gas grills, always turn off the valve when not in use. Never store gas cylinders indoors or too close to your home. Frequently check for leaks or excessive wear to the cylinder or connections. Always follow manufacturers’ instructions.

Gasoline

Never store gasoline inside your home. A detached and locked storage shed is preferred. Store gasoline in a clearly labeled container approved for gasoline storage. Keep containers away from any heat source or flame. Limit storage to the minimal amount needed to power your equipment. Extinguish smoking materials before fueling, and fuel away from combustibles in an open outdoor area. Never refuel equipment while the motor is running or hot, always allow the equipment to cool first. Never use gasoline for anything other than a motor fuel.

Pools and Water Safety

Chemicals commonly sold for home pool care, such as liquid and solid chlorine-based oxidizers, can spontaneously combust if contaminated by organic materials (body fluids, acid rain, etc.) or hydrocarbon liquids such as fuel or motor oil. These fires cause toxic fumes and require evacuation of the area. Always store and use pool chemicals according to manufacturers’ recommendations. Keep containers in a dry, isolated area away from heat source and flame. Never store chemicals in the house. Properly discard any punctured or damaged containers. Never leave children unsupervised around water, even if they know how to swim. Always wear a safety approved life jacket when on a body of water while boating, water skiing, tubing, and participating in other water activities. Don’t allow running or rough play around water. Backyard pools should have a fence (at least 4 feet high) with a self-closing and self-latching gate surrounding the entire pool.

Know CPR and have a pool side phone for emergencies.

Guidelines For Special Pick Up:

Special Pick Up is on your regular rubbish day. Please have your items on the tree lawn by 7:30 am on your rubbish day. Special Pick Up items include mattresses, box springs, furniture, TVs, building material (contained), toilets, and other items that will not fit into your rubbish cart. The City-issued rubbish and recycling cans are not to be used for Special Pick Up.

There are certain other items that require a pre-scheduled pick up by calling the Service Department prior to Friday at 216-524-9191. These special items include:

Appliances, metal items, light bulbs and fluorescent tubes, computers and equipment (keyboards, printers, modems, cell phones, etc.), household hazardous waste (products that are toxic, corrosive, reactive, or explosive (look for words such as poison, danger, warning, or caution on the label)

Examples:

• Chemicals
• Paint
• Oil
• Propane Tanks
• Batteries
• Drain Cleaner
• Oven Cleaner
• Turpentine
• Furniture Polish

If you have an excessive amount of building material, trash, household items, or any miscellaneous items, a dumpster/container is required.

The City does not pick up Tires until September. Tires are only collected the first three (3) Fridays in September.

Phone Books and Shredded Paper:

The City collects phone books with your recycling. Phone books should be placed in the recycling can with your newspapers and magazines. Shredded paper cannot be recycled; place it in the rubbish can.

Yard Waste:

All yard waste is picked up weekly on your scheduled rubbish day (excluding chipper service). Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, plant material, sticks, etc. Branches over 1 inch diameter and/or 4 feet long will not be collected with yard waste; you must call the Service Department at 216-524-9191 for FREE chipper service. 216-524-9191. Branches under 1 inch in diameter is yard waste.

Street Light Outages & Power Outages:

CEI is responsible for street light pole outages, flickering, and damaged poles, and power outages. If you need assistance from CEI for any of these items, please call 1-800-589-3101 or visit www.firstenergycorp.com. Please have the pole number and address or location of the pole prior to calling CEI.
I would like to tell you about an absolutely amazing woman who graces one of our Hometown Hero Banners here in Independence. Kimberly Kilbane took an unconventional route to the Air Force. After raising three successful children while working full-time in the financial industry, Kim wanted a new challenge, deciding to embark on a career in nursing. While still working full-time, she enrolled in nursing school at Cuyahoga Community College, known as one of the most demanding nursing programs in the state. After graduating with her R.N., Kim accepted a position as a medical-surgical nurse at Parma Community Hospital. While working at Parma, Kim completed her bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree from Ohio University and obtained board certification in medical-surgical nursing.

The next step in her journey was to accept a position in the surgical ICU at University Hospital's main campus, one of the busiest and most demanding ICU/trauma centers in the state. Kim also became aware of a critical shortage of trauma qualified flight nurses in the Air Force, and she took on one of the most challenging and rigorous training programs in the Air Force. She successfully completed Commissioned Officer Training and was commissioned as a First Lieutenant. The subsequent training included flight crew school, Survival, Escape, Resistance and Evasion (SERE), water survival training, and flight nurse school. Kim was going through these demanding courses with other students half her age, and consistently finished at the top of her class. Upon graduation from the flight nursing school at Wright-Patterson's School of Aerospace Medicine, Kim was presented the Distinguished Graduate Award, given to the student who displayed the highest leadership and professionalism standards.

Currently assigned to the 914th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron in Niagara Falls, New York, Lieutenant Kilbane has flown training and medical missions throughout the United States, as well as missions to Puerto Rico and Germany. As a Flight Nurse, she is in command of medical crews that are responsible for the care and treatment of patients while being transported. One of their main responsibilities is to take care of wounded soldiers being flown from combat areas to facilities offering higher levels of treatment in the United States or Europe. She also serves as her squadron’s safety officer.

Kimberly and I have three children, Ashley, a U.S. Navy Gulf War veteran, Tyler, a rescue swimmer for the U.S. Coast Guard, and John, a nuclear engineer for the Navy.

– Police Chief Michael Kilbane
COUNCIL MEETING - MAY 8, 2018

MAYOR TOGLIATTI’S REPORT

Mayor Togliatti said we currently have many projects ongoing around the City. The Hemlock Trail Towpath connector is under construction. The play equipment at Liberty playground has been removed and the site is being prepped for installation of the new playground. Engineering work for the extension of Rockside Woods Blvd. continues along with engineering work for improvements to both Brecksville and Brookside Roads. These are just some of the new projects that are currently underway within our City.

Meanwhile, every department within the City has been preparing for the coming of summer. I have to applaud each of our Department Directors and every City employee for going above and beyond on a daily basis to make Independence the great City that it is. The amount of work that it takes to run the City’s operations, programs, and services is immense, not to mention the addition of all the major projects that I referenced earlier. The residents of Independence have much reason to be proud.

Tonight Council is acting on two purchases for our safety forces. First, Ordinance 2018-79 authorizes the purchase of a new brush truck for the Fire Department. This new truck will replace a 36 year-old brush truck that has been serving the City since it was purchased in 1982. The brush truck is smaller than a fire engine and can access brush fires off road within the National Park or in tighter areas that the large engine cannot access.

Ordinance 2018-80 authorizes the purchase of a new Police sedan for the Police Department. This vehicle will be used as part of our partnership with the DEA Opioid Task Force. By participating in this Drug Task Force we are not only helping to remove drugs from the streets, but we also receive a percentage of the Task Force forfeitures. So, this new vehicle and partnership will facilitate a revenue stream for our Police Department.

Lastly, in an effort to ensure a pleasurable swim season for all of our residents, we are upgrading the boilers and pumps that heat the outdoor pool prior to opening up the pool this season. Over the last two months we have experienced issues with the existing pumps and boilers, so in an effort to be proactive and eliminate the chances of issues during the peak swim season, we are currently replacing the equipment.

FINANCE DIRECTOR VERES’ REPORT

I am writing my report and handing it to the Clerk of Council as I will be attending the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Annual Conference in St. Louis from May 4th through May 10th.

On the agenda is Ordinance 2018-87 which is an amendment to our Annual Appropriations. There is a Memo attached to the Ordinance explaining the changes and I ask for passage on First Reading so the changes can be implemented.

As a part of the Appropriations Amendment this month there is a new Fund called Strike Force. This is a new fund we were asked to handle because of how efficient we have been with handling the HIDTA Fund activity. I thank Maggie Osysko and those in Finance for their willingness to take on the HIDTA work initially and now Strike Force. Strike Force funding is a reimbursement process, therefore the need to advance $100,000 that we can pay ourselves back as we accumulate money in the fund as a result of our administration % earned as we move forward. In addition to the $100,000 advance in from the Municipal Income Tax Fund (210) I have included an estimated $100,000 to be received as a result of future seizures.

Other legislation on the agenda that has a monetary value has been explained in my Legislative Review as to how we are paying for that item or service and whether or not the current year budget needs to be amended.
Vision Statement:

and who we really are. The images we project will determine if
telling our businesses and the surrounding communities of what
law with many speaking about their issues of their fears.
We both have encountered thousands of Independence citizens
denied. Our Vice Mayor has also expressed this issue as the fear
booth for the above reasons, even though the reasons have been
reason for these signs to be here in Independence. They are
signs along Chestnut have not sprung up. There is no valid
The sign on Pleasant Valley is back with us, and so far, the 13
employees, the citizens of Independence, the Council, and the
depends on several factors; our image, our businesses and their
begin to fill the needs of our citizens who want to downsize and
allow affordable housing for their children who want to move
back here.

Every time we have a downsizer retire and move away, we have
lost another asset to the community, especially our seniors
and their knowledge and experience. We cannot afford this.

The continued economic growth and development
depends on several factors; our image, our businesses and their
employees, the citizens of Independence, the Council, and the
Administration. They do not act alone but as a synergistic team.

Spring brings daffodils and the no multi-family signs arising.
The sign on Pleasant Valley is back with us, and so far, the 13
signs along Chestnut have not sprung up. There is no valid
reason for these signs to be here in Independence. They are
based on fear, phobias, prejudices, and racism. I consider a vote
against this change as a racist vote. This is my opinion.

They will be a hot issue failing multiple times in the voting
booth for the above reasons, even though the reasons have been
denied. Our Vice Mayor has also expressed this issue as the fear
of our people in the last Charter Review Commission Minutes.
We both have encountered thousands of Independence citizens
in the many years of our professional practice of medicine and
law with many speaking about their issues of their fears.
This will be an election issue that the world will be watching,
and who we really are. The images we project will determine if
we are to continue to grow businesses or lose businesses. It is
a very, very sensitive barometer, especially for our customers,
our businesses. Society and societal norms have changed since
1972, the year the Charter change on multi-family housing. It
is time for Independence to update that Charter to 2018.

Now is the time to meet our seniors downsizing needs and
the future families. It is not time to wait for a dropping hammer
to force this change. We no longer live in an Independence
buble.

GRENDEL – FINANCE

Vice Mayor Grendel reported that all three items on the
agenda at the Planning Commission meeting held on May 1st
were approved. Hub Valley Realty requested a consolidation of
numerous parcels to one in order to create a dedication plat for
the lot consolidation for the proposed Rockside Woods Blvd.
North extension. Ultimately, five lots were created, and Hub
Valley Realty donated to the City approximately 4.125 acres of
land for the extension of Rockside Woods Blvd. North.

McDonald’s restaurant request for a variance to allow
reduction of two parking spaces from the previously approved
site plan from 1987 was approved. The applicant was seeking
compliance with the current ADA regulations and to make
a safer traffic pattern for the drive-thru. As I went there, it’s
still one of the most beautiful McDonald’s, probably the most
beautiful McDonald’s in the country. We have one member of
Planning Commission that questioned how the McDonald’s
looked, and I think it looks beautiful. The only thing is the
parking lot could maybe be repaved, but other than that, I
think the grounds and everything makes that a unique structure
in our town.

Finally, the Commission approved the proposed hotel
renovation remodel for the Holiday Inn and the newly created
Candlewood Suites. That will be two hotels operating out of
where there was just the Holiday Inn before. Mayor, do you
know the amount of money they are putting into this? It’s a
tremendous amount.

Mayor Togliatti said it’s approximately a $12 to $14 million
dollar project.

Vice Mayor Grendel said it’s a tremendous investment that
they are putting into our City, and the convention center is
going to be upgraded. It’s going to be the Independence
Conference Center, and again that whole area with all the
improvements that the City helped in conjunction with them,
it’s going to be tremendous. There’s going to be a new node sign
out front that will have the three hotels that are back there as
well as the restaurants. It’s going to be a
very nice commercial neighborhood
that we are going to have there, and money well invested. They keep reinvesting in their operations there, which we are really appreciative of.

I also support Ordinance No. 2018-82, 2018-83 and 2018-84 which are being sponsored by the Finance Committee. Ordinance No. 2018-82 accepts the bid of Joshen Paper & Packaging Company for the supply of janitorial goods for all City departments not to exceed $36,000 for the period from July 1st of this year until June 30th of next year, and that will be kept on First Reading.

Ordinance 2018-83, really it has our names from Finance, but it’s really a Streets & Sidewalks, and probably Dale will be expanding on that, but that is authorizing Change Order No. 1 to the professional engineering service contract with Donald G. Bohning & Associates in connection with the upper Brookside Road Sidewalk Improvements project for an amount not to exceed $50,000. The construction cost for this improvement is actually $1.2 million dollars. Ultimately, this upper Brookside Road paving project will stretch from Sprague Road to Eastview, but the sidewalk will go north from Lake Charles to Eastview Drive. Sidewalks will be on the western and northern side of Brookside Road, and there will be curbs and gutters on both sides of the street. There will be a full width asphalt pavement, tree lawns, and improved drainage. I think that summarizes it.

Finally, Ordinance 2018-84 approves an additional $50,000 for QCI-CE, Inc. for professional construction and inspection services in connection with the West Creek Road Improvement project. That will be kept on First Reading also.

Ordinance 2018-83 will be voted upon this evening.

My wife and I attended the National Day of Prayer service as well as many Councilpersons. It was held at the Civic Center last Thursday. Thank you, Mayor, to you, your staff, and our City’s clergy for leading the attendees in prayers; it was again a wonderful, enriching event.

There will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Hemlock Trail that is scheduled for Saturday, June 2nd at 10:00 am. The Mayor said to bring your shovel, and I still have an old one from some groundbreaking ceremony, so I guess I will bring that. It will take place at 6801 Brecksville Road behind the Cleveland Clinic Business Operation Center.

Finally, I get a lot of positive feedback on reporting on our high school sports teams, and I want to start off with congratulating the girls’ softball team. They had won 156 straight. They won yesterday over Wickliffe 7-2, and they were having a tournament game today. It’s the first game in the tournament for them I believe against Brooklyn, and they won. That will make their record 18-2. The only losses were both by one run down at Disney World against teams from New York and South Carolina respectively. Their one-two punch of quality pitchers, Chief Rega’s daughter, Kim, and Sara Piteo; when you have good pitching it can carry you a long way. They not only have great pitching, but they have timely and good hitting too. Sometimes it overcomes some of the errors that they make and that. Again, it carries the theme for the whole year; State Championship in golf for the girls. The volleyball team went to the final four in the State, and now the softball team is looking very impressive. Hopefully, they can get over the hump too as far as the State tournament goes.

I think Sara Piteo has thrown two no hitters this year. Does Kim have any?

Fire Chief Rega said both of them have done really well.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that’s a tremendous accomplishment.

Fire Chief Rega said the highlight was Kim having a grand slam walk off home run against Tallmadge.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and Tallmadge is a D1 school too. Hopefully, the boys can catch up to them with the success that they have had.

I want to give congratulations to our boys baseball team. I mentioned to Don Ramm, his son plays on the team. They upset 9th ranked Chagrin Falls yesterday 4-2. They seem to be peaking at the right time, and we are Division 3 in baseball, whatever the lowest division is, so they have a chance to excel in that division.

I got some email from one of the fathers from the wrestling program, and he wanted to point out that they have had a historic season as well. They set a school record for dual meet victories with 21 this year. They also won their third conference championship in four years. Previous to that, Independence in all the years they had wrestling, they had only won two conference championships in the history of the school. So, that program has been excellent also. They were regional runner up this year, and they won their second sectional championship in school history.

From an individual standpoint, they have three young men who have won over 100 career wrestling victories which is quite an accomplishment. Nick Mroczynski and Josh Stasek have both this past year earned their 100th career victory. They are seniors, but Michael Kucera went to the State tournament. He’s over 100 victories also, and he’s only a junior so he has one more year of wrestling.

Finally, Happy Mother’s Day to our Independence mothers. I wish to congratulate my daughter Katie on the birth of her second child, Tessa Mae. That is our fifth grandchild who was born on March 20th.

**KAPUSTA – COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Councilperson Kapusta said I would like to express my
sympathy to the families of Hampton Shadrach, Viola Kuthan, Marie Sidor, and Betty Velotta. I am so sorry for the loss of your loved ones.

Recently Reverend Donna Barrett announced that she will be stepping down from her Pastor’s role at Rockside Church. In this role she has served the congregation and the Independence community for over 15 years. At this time, she has been selected by her church to assume an upper level position in Springfield, Missouri. This truly attests to the talent and commitment which Reverend Barrett demonstrates daily in her ministry work. I would like to personally acknowledge her for the countless contributions she has made to our community. Although she will be greatly missed, it is a well-deserved accolade for a remarkable lady.

The Employee Healthcare Committee met on April 19th. The meeting began with a historical review of medical and drug claims. A representative of Be Well gave a Power Point presentation on the company’s Corporate Wellness Program. The committee identified priorities such as ease of access, accountability, a balance, and a sense of community that they want to work on. The group discussed a target-based versus a participatory-based employee program, working towards a target-based program in 2020. Contribution rates for the single tier health plan for those in HSAs were adjusted. The next Healthcare Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 17th at 10:00 am in the Council Caucus Room.

The next Community Services Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 29th at 5:00 pm in the Council Caucus Room. All are invited to attend.

I would like to also add my wishes for all the mothers of our community for a Happy Mother’s Day. We appreciate all you do for your families and the impact you make upon our community.

On Sunday, May 20th, please come to the Kiwanis Chicken BBQ at Elmwood Park. For decades the Kiwanis have served the Independence community, and your support would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, as we cheer on our amazing Cleveland Cavaliers through the playoffs, Independence has yet another special connection with the team. Our own resident, 93 year old Nancy Bontempo, was featured on Channel 8 news last night. She was acknowledged for her ongoing support of the team, including attending the game that evening. Go Cavs, and keep on going, Mrs. B!

NARDUZZI – PUBLIC LANDS AND BUILDINGS

No report.

TRAKAS – UTILITIES

No report.

VEVERKA – STREETS & SIDEWALKS

Councilperson Veverka reported that the Streets & Sidewalks Committee met April 17th. During that time we discussed the progress of various projects along with plans during this year’s building season. Both Don Ramm and Leon Karas provided background information to help the committee make some of the decisions that we made and some of the recommendations that we pass along to this body. The West Brookside Sidewalk project, among others, the East Brookside/Bramley project, the Lafayette project, as well as Brecksville Road, were all topics of discussion as we became better informed and better prepared to make these decisions and recommendations to this Council.

Tonight, on First Reading is Ordinance 2018-83. This is the West Brookside Sidewalk, Curb, and Apron Improvement project that will run from Eastview Drive to Lake Charles, along with the paving all the way to Sprague Road. It’s going to be a welcomed improvement in that area, particularly for those walkers.

In addition to that, Ordinance 2018-84, the West Creek engineering and further concrete work can take place. We are going to add some additional sidewalks to make it safer for those folks down in that area as they want to get themselves to restaurants and other places. I know that has been a concern for some of those folks down on that part of Independence.

Ordinance 2018-85, Kingscote and Bexley; these are a couple of areas with Catts Construction Company. They are replacing sections of concrete and other areas that need replacing. Catts has been working with us. The biggest advantage we have with this is that they are maintaining the prices that we were able to get from 2017. So, that’s a big advantage. In addition to that, Catts has completed work on curbing throughout the town, and in most cases, are finishing up catch basins. It is just amazing what can happen to a catch basin as the salt water from the winter gets down there and eats away at the mortar. I went over and took a look and watched the folks from Catts re-working the catch basins and they gave me a description of what needed to be done. I was pleased to observe that.

Also, the Oakwood Drive project will be finished up within the next few weeks. The asphalt plants are now cranked up again. They are able to get that hot asphalt ready and in there. They are also taking care of further landscaping questions along there and then putting the final coats of asphalt down. So, those folks on Oakwood will have a really beautiful street.

I would like to also wish all the mothers to have a wonderful Mother’s Day. If you have the opportunity, just make sure you make a communication with your mom. You will realize that all the more if your mom is gone.
My mom is now gone two years and I miss her.

WISNIESKI – SAFETY/RULES & ORDINANCES

Councilperson Wisnieski reported that the Safety Committee has two pieces of legislation that we are sponsoring on tonight’s agenda. Ordinance 2018-79 authorizing the Mayor and Finance Director to execute such documents as are necessary for the purchase and delivery of a brush truck for the Fire Department from Rosenbrauer America, Inc., through the State Cooperative Purchasing Program, in an amount not to exceed $140,000.

The second of legislation is Ordinance 2018-80, authorizing the Mayor and Finance Director to execute such documents as are necessary for the purchase and delivery of a 2018 Ford Interceptor Sedan for the Police Department from Lebanon Ford, through the State Cooperative Purchasing Program, in an amount not to exceed $24,767. Both of these items were budgeted via the Five-Year Capital Plan.

My second item on my report tonight is I would like to personally thank all the members of the Charter Review Commission. We wrapped up the committee meetings last Wednesday, May 2nd, and introduced to City Council all the recommendations from the committee. So, I would personally like to thank Chairperson Michael Osysko, Co-Chairperson Pete Nelson, Bruce Flower, Gil Freilino, Alex Hannocz, Bob Laski, Cristie Snyder, Jeff Axner, and Kim O’Malley. They did a terrific job. It was very high professional level. They were highly committed to the process and doing a great job. Again, I want to thank them.

Finally, I would like to wrap up my report by just saying a big kudos to anybody from the City who had to do with the Hometown Hero banners. I have heard a lot of fantastic reports from the residents about those. It looks like we extended them as far as we can. So, were those put up by the Service Department?

Mayor Togliatti said they were.

Great job, and again they look terrific, and I have heard a lot of positive comments from the residents about them.

Thank you and Happy Mother’s Day to all our mothers out there.

DIRECTORS’ REPORTS

BUILDING OFFICIAL – GERO

Building Official Gero reported that over the last month, the Building Department sent out 7 sets of construction drawings for plan review. There were 18 commercial permits issued, and 73 commercial construction inspections were performed. Occupancy permits were issued for a 2,777 sq. ft. tenant build out on Rockside Road, a 6,328 sq. ft. tenant build out on Rockside Woods Blvd., and for a 3,433 sq. ft. tenant build out on Oak Tree Blvd. An occupancy permit was also issued to Verso Restaurant in Spins Bowl on Brecksville Road.

The department also issued 58 residential permits and performed 55 residential construction inspections. Plans were reviewed and approved for a 1,055 sq. ft. addition to an existing dwelling on Dora Blvd. An occupancy permit was issued to a new single-family dwelling on Oakmont Circle. Additions to existing dwellings on Evergreen Drive and Chestnut Road also received occupancy permits. Fifteen new homes are currently under construction in the City with another in the review process.

CITY ENGINEER – RAMM

City Engineer Ramm reported that last month the Engineering Department issued a total of 16 permits. One residential right-of-way permit was issued for a gas connection for a new home. There were 10 miscellaneous permits issued for a variety of residential concrete work. One miscellaneous permit was issued for a residential retaining wall replacement. There were two grade permits and two landscape permits issued to Pulte Homes for new homes on Sublots 150 and 151, Hawthorn Trace. Site plans were also reviewed and approved for these two sublots.

A pre-construction meeting was conducted Wednesday, April 18th, and the Notice to Proceed with construction was issued to the J.D. Williamson Construction Company for the construction of the Hemlock All-Purpose Trail project. The contractor has since mobilized workers and equipment to the project, set up a field office in an existing office building at the corner of Brecksville and Stone Road, began clearing work along the trail alignment, and made preparations to begin driving piles for the bridge abutments on the project.

We prepared for and attended a Streets & Sidewalks Committee meeting on April 17th. Many project updates were provided and a few topics of discussion at that meeting for various engineering design, inspection, and construction work appear as items on tonight’s Council meeting agenda.

Lastly, we spent time last month compiling data and preparing our annual stormwater report which is due to the Ohio EPA this time every year. This report is a requirement of our MS4 NPDES Stormwater Discharge Permit.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR – SENICK

Community Services Director Marilyn Senick said enjoy a relaxing summer evening at one of our community concerts
beginning on Thursday, June 7th.

Promote your organization and show community support by participating in our Home Days parade. Decorate a boat, car, or trailer and enter our contest for Best Theme or Best Float for the Indy Rodeo.

Any resident is eligible to participate in our annual Home Beautification Award. Share your love of gardening and landscaping and participate in this spirited competition. Check the Spotlight for details.

We will be honoring our volunteers on Friday, June 1st at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

Because of the Community Services grant that was awarded to us by Cuyahoga County, we are able to offer a free lunch on June 22nd for residents 60 years and older. Please check the Spotlight for details.

**FIRE CHIEF – REGA**

Fire Chief Rega reported there are two pieces of legislation on the agenda tonight concerning the Fire Department.

Ordinance 2018-62 is on Second Reading tonight. Again, this amends Section 142.02 of the Fire Department’s Codified Ordinances. It provides for an increase in the maximum number of Firefighter/Paramedics from 20 to 23. This change will allow Council the flexibility to increase full-time shift staffing when needed.

Ordinance 2018-79 allows for the purchase and delivery of a new brush truck for the Fire Department. The new vehicle will be replacing a 36 year-old unit. In addition to the old unit’s capabilities, the new truck will have a much greater equipment carrying capacity and will allow for quicker deployment of equipment that is currently stored at the station. It will also carry rehabilitation supplies for on scene rehab of personnel. Additionally, this vehicle will be capable of accessing the new Hemlock Trail which is currently under construction. I would appreciate Council’s support on both of these pieces of legislation.

Finally, the Fire Department will soon start its annual hydrant maintenance program. Areas to be serviced will be posted prior to the work being completed. If you don’t see our firefighters on the posted day, it’s because they were needed on emergency calls. The work will be rescheduled as soon as possible. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but it is necessary to ensure our fire hydrants and water system are operating properly.

**RECREATION DIRECTOR – WALCHANOWICZ**

Recreation Director Tom Walchanowicz submitted the following report.

The month of May brings the start of many summer programs, activities, and facilities. Our spring soccer programs are in full swing. The Little League season is just getting underway with practices, and games will soon follow.

The outdoor pool facility will open its doors on Sunday, May 27th. Both the Recreation and Technical Service Departments have been feverishly working and preparing the facility for opening day! Outdoor pool passes are available for purchase now at the Civic Center. We encourage everyone to buy their passes early to help ease the lines and congestion at the outdoor pool entry desk on opening weekend.

I am happy to report that the Liberty playground Phase 1 upgrades are well underway. The old equipment was removed, the site was cleared of old mulch and wet material, and dry clay was brought in and graded. We did encounter some drainage issues which put us back a few days, but overall, we should still be on track for a July opening.
Additionally, we are currently looking for volunteers to assist with the construction of the playground equipment. If you are interested, please email or call me at the Civic Center. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would appreciate Council’s support of Ordinance 2018-70 which authorizes the expenditures of funds for upgrading the forty-plus year old Zuber field light foundations, poles, and lights along with the addition of two lighted poles on the U-10 soccer field. This will be a great improvement for two of our most used fields. Thank you!

**SERVICE DIRECTOR – KARAS**

Service Director Karas said the department has finally been able to take full advantage of the long awaited good weather, and we have begun landscaping, mulching, and mowing all the City grounds and buildings.

Asphalt crews have been out strip patching Sunset, Wood, and Elmwood in preparation for the sealer that will be applied later on this month.

This past month, the waste and recycling crews picked up 301 tons of rubbish, 55 tons of recycling, and 2 ½ tons of household metal items. Also, 33.62 tons of material was vacuumed out of the curbside catch basins, as well as 12 tons of material collected with the street sweeper.

This year compost delivery is off to a slow start. With cold weather in April, the department has only delivered 126 loads for a total of 630 yards to the residents. There is still quite a bit of compost left, so please call today to reserve your 5 yard load. Also, we would like to hear your feedback on the quality of the compost; and please, if you have any issues, let us know.

**TECHNICAL SERVICES DIRECTOR – SNYDERBURN**

Technical Service Director Dave Snyderburn said on tonight’s agenda we have legislation for the pool boilers, and I hope that passes. Along those same lines, we completed the pool pump installation with brand new pumps; 250 pound pumps, and they replaced the existing pumps that were 25 years old.

I had the windows cleaned campus wide this past week. I know in the past, a cleaning was scheduled 3 times per year. I might have been a little aggressive to cut it back to just once a year, with a few buildings requiring touch ups during the year. The savings are about $5,000 per year.

Next month I will have legislation on First Reading for the lighting upgrade in the Fire Station, Civic Center gymnasium, handball courts, and Phase 2 of City Hall which is all the offices. We will put that on First Reading, but the savings will be substantial. You will have a complete report, but by the time we get our rebates and we use our NOPEC grants, you will be amazed. I will have that next month.

Councilperson Wisnieski said Dave, last month I asked about canyon lights and I noticed that they still aren’t working. The lights out front aren’t working anymore either. Mayor Togliatti said they are working.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said as soon as you mentioned that, we got them on.

Councilperson Wisnieski asked the lights out front are working, along 21?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said they are as far as in the last couple of days.

Councilperson Wisnieski said I will check again. Last week they weren’t. Both of them were out. The lights over by the cemetery were on, but the lights on this side of the street were not.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I will check. Usually somebody tells me, but I believe you. We will look tonight. We had a programming problem last time.

Councilperson Wisnieski said thank you.

**LEGISLATION SECOND READING**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2018-62** An Ordinance **Rev. 1** amending Section 143.02 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Independence relating to Fire Department; Composition. Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2018-70** An Ordinance accepting the proposal of Qualite Sports Lighting, LLC for the replacement of eight sports lighting poles in Elmwood Park – six at Zuber Field and two at the soccer field. (In an amount not to exceed $129,039.00). Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2018-72** An Ordinance assessing costs for the installation of the sanitary sewer replacement/extension on Rockside Woods Boulevard North and Declaring an Emergency. Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2018-76** An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Independence City School District and McKeon Education Group, Inc. for professional consulting services in connection with the Early Intervention/Prevention Program. (In a total amount not to exceed $90,800.00 with the City and the City of Independence Board of Education, sharing the costs equally, and the City’s share shall be in an amount not to exceed $45,400.00). Referred to Community Services Committee.


ORDINANCE NO. 2018-79 An Ordinance authorizing the purchase and delivery of a Brush Truck for the Fire Department. (In an amount not to exceed $140,000.00). Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-80 An Ordinance authorizing the purchase and delivery of a new sedan for the Police Department. (In an amount not to exceed $24,767.00). Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-81 An Ordinance accepting the bid of Qwestcom Graphics Inc. for the printing and circulation of the City’s newsletter. (For the period from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed $38,500.00). Placed on Second Reading without objection.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-82 An Ordinance accepting the bid of Joshen Paper and Packaging Co. for the supply of janitorial goods for all City departments on an as-needed basis. (In an amount not to exceed $36,000.00). Placed on Second Reading without objection.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-83 An Ordinance authorizing Change Order No. 1 to the professional engineering services contract with Donald G. Bohning & Associates, Inc. in connection with the upper Brookside Road sidewalk improvements project. (In an amount not to exceed $50,000.00 and for a total contract amount not to exceed $99,750.00). Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-84 An Ordinance authorizing Change Order No. 1 to the City's General Construction Engineering and Inspection Services Contract with QCI-CE, Inc. (In an amount not to exceed $45,632.00, and for a total contract amount not to exceed $95,632.00). Placed on Second Reading without objection.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-85 An Ordinance authorizing Change Order No. 3 to the 2017 Concrete Road Maintenance and Repairs Contract with Catts Construction, Inc. (In an amount not to exceed $320,000.00, and for a total contract amount not to exceed $1,158,050.00). Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-86 Purchase and installation of outdoor pool boilers & inline pumps for the Elmwood Park Pool. (In a total amount not to exceed $41,290.00). Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-87 2018 Annual Amended Appropriation Ordinance. Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-88 An Ordinance enacting a Temporary Moratorium on small cell facilities and wireless support structures within the City of Independence for 120 days and Declaring an Emergency. Enacted 7 yes/0 no.

Minutes of the Council Meeting(s) are unapproved at the time of this publication and have been condensed. These minutes will be available in their entirety at the Clerk of Council's Office after they have been approved, and can also be found on our City's website.

PLANNING COMMISSION RESULTS
– May 1, 2018

6261 Brecksville Road, McDonald’s Restaurant – Request for a variance to allow reduction of two parking spaces from the previously approved site plan in 1987. Approved

6001 Rockside Road, Holiday Inn/Candlewood Suites – Proposed hotel renovation and remodel. Approved

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
– May 17, 2018 Meeting
6631 Hillside Road, Christina & Brian McDermott – Requesting a variance to permit an additional 37’ to permit a front setback of approximately 112’ (75’ permitted, 112’ requested); a variance to permit a reduction from the required 42.35’ rear yard of 32.35’ to allow a rear yard of 10’; and a variance to Chapter 1354 for the riparian setbacks to be determined by the City Engineer. Withdrawn by Applicant.

6315 Brookside Road, Marc Zanath – Requesting a variance of 8 ft. to allow a driveway to be 28 ft. wide (20 ft. permitted, 28 ft. requested). Tabled.

6584 Beechwood Drive, Brian Dalrymple – Requesting a variance of 5 ft. to allow an accessory building to be placed 10 ft. from the side yard (15 ft. permitted, 10 ft. requested). Approved.
**Summer Community Concerts**
**Thursdays: June 7th - July 28th**
Call 216-524-7373 for Info

### JUNE 2018

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**Please confirm Caucus and Council Committee Meeting times by calling the “Council Meeting Line” at 216.328.1477 or visiting www.independenceohio.org**