MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members And Department Directors

From: Mayor Anthony L. Togliatti

Date: February 12, 2016

Re: Administrative Update

COUNCIL AGENDA RESULTS:

Of the 17 Ordinances and 6 Resolutions on the February Regular Council Meeting, six Ordinances were enacted 6-0 and all six Resolutions were adopted 6-0. Two Ordinances that were enacted 5-1 were Ordinance 2016-15 (Trakas: No) to re-affirm the Cuyahoga County Business Retention and Attraction Protocol and Ordinance 2016-23 (Trakas: No) Approving a Final Settlement Agreement and Release with Bruce Flower.

Out of the remaining 9 Ordinances on the agenda, seven were left on First Reading and two were referred to the Streets and Sidewalks Committee.

Thank you to Council for their unanimous support of additional funding for Road and Right of Way Repairs necessitated by numerous water main breaks. These additional monies will enable us to complete the repairs associated with some ongoing water main issues in addition to possible future repair work.

TEAM MEETING:

Tuesday’s Team Meeting this week provided Directors the opportunity to update me and their fellow Directors regarding issues that each has been dealing with in their individual departments.

Further discussion regarding Departmental Short-Term and Long-Term Goals in addition to any facility improvements, staffing, training, and software needs will be discussed in individual meetings with each Director over the next few weeks.

DARK SIDE OF SOCIAL MEDIA:

I heard great reviews regarding the presentation that was held this past Tuesday evening at the High School sponsored by the Independence Police Department, Volunteers in Police Service
(VIPS), SRT K9 Unit and our 25 & Alive organization. Approximately 150 people attended to hear a number of experts discuss the potential dangers that prey on our children through the various social media websites and apps.

As this event conflicted with this month’s Regular Council Meeting, a special showing of the presentation will be viewed in the Willow Room at the Civic Center sometime next month for Councilmembers and anyone else who was not able to attend that evening.

Please check the City’s Cable Station and/or March Independence Post for the date of this showing.

NEGOTIATION UPDATE:

I received good news yesterday from our Labor Negotiator, Joe Lencewicz, that the Firefighter /Paramedics have ratified the terms and condition of the revised CBA.

A copy of the legislation will be in your packet this weekend as it is being placed on the agenda for the Special Council Meeting, Tuesday, February 16.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:

Finance Committee Chairman Wagner and Finance Director Veres led a thorough review of encumbered, but unspent funds. These funds have been set aside for past projects. Council is aware of these amounts and a future meeting to prioritize these projects or reallocate the funds was suggested.

NORTHEAST OHIO MAYORS AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION:

Senator Frank LaRose, District 27, briefed the group on the recent changes to state funding through the Local Government Fund, as well as other legislative issues currently in the pipeline in Columbus. Senator LaRose emphasized the possible impact of the effects of the current election year on the state legislature and stated, “We do not legislate well when we legislate fast.” This statement holds true on every level of government and I must, again, thank our Department Directors for being proactive with legislative requests and also Council for allowing multiple readings.

ACCELA TRAINING:

Software training took place yesterday and today for Directors, members of the City’s Law Department and all support staff who may be involved in the approval process for legislation.
Thank you to Jim Gibbs for facilitating a well-organized training and thank you to all who participated as we move towards a paperless, more efficient process for requesting legislation and drawing up our Council Meeting Agendas.

NEORSD:

I had a meeting with Julius Ciaccia, Executive Director of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, along with two other representatives from the District to inform me of the upcoming storm water rate changes that will begin the second half of this year. The new rates will be based on square footage of impervious surface. A homeowner who has an average size home between 2000 to 4000 square feet of impervious surface will realize a $5.15 per month increase or approximately $60.00 per year. Larger homes that have greater than 4000 square feet of impervious surface will have an approximate increase of $9.27 per month.

The good news is a homeowner can earn credit to offset this fee by utilizing various options to control water run-off such as rain barrels and other water retention solutions.

A future workshop will be held for our residents to obtain more information on how they can gain these credits, along with information on various cost savings programs the Sewer District offers – Homestead Rates, Summer Sprinkling Program, Low Income, Crisis Assistance.

NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC):

A letter from NOPEC was recently mailed out to Dominion Gas customers detailing two options for those eligible customers participating in NOPEC communities served by Dominion East Ohio.

Just a reminder that if you want to remain with NOPEC, DO NOT opt-out. If your bill does not indicate that you are currently signed up with NOPEC, you will need to call them (855) 667-3201 to sign up and tell them which option you want to participate in.

If you choose **Option 1**, your price will be $2.740 per Mcf for April through June of 2016. After that, your price may be fixed or variable as determined by NOPEC and NextEra Energy Service Ohio.

**Option 2** offers a monthly variable price option that could potentially save you up to $1.00 per Mcf, but in order to participate under this option, you must notify NOPEC (855) 667-3201 on or before February 24, 2016.
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MEDICAL MUTUAL NEW SERVICE:

We are happy to have received notice just today that effective May 1, 2016, Medical Mutual will be covering Express Care Online, an online secured video service offered through the Cleveland Clinic. Members will be able to utilize video conferencing only for a consultation directly with a nurse practitioner or a doctor, 24/7. The member cost for the visit will be the same as a primary care office visit. There will be no additional administrative cost to the City for these services and the consultation fee is typically less than an in-person office visit.

More information on this new service will be provided by Medical Mutual and mailed to employees this March.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Following are some highlights of recent activity, updates, events and/or statistics from various departments.

Community Services Director Reported-
- They have begun booking parade participants for Home Days 2016.
- Met with the RIBBS group (Royalton, Independence, Brecksville, Broadview Hts., and Seven Hills) regarding a Senior Center Innovation Grant Application for potential monies to be used for joint activities for seniors of the communities who make up RIBBS.

Building Department Reported—
- 3 Sets of plans sent to the plans examiner
- 8 Commercial permits were issued
- 19 Commercial Inspections performed
- 2 Residential Permit issued
- 5 Residential Inspection performed
- 12 contractors were registered, 304 registrations year-to-date
- Plans were approved for a 6,530 sq. ft. tenant build-out for 4700 Rockside Road, #100, Viaquest.

Engineering Department Reported—
- Daily inspections were performed in the Chestnut Woods Subdivision where timbering/harvesting is being performed.
- They attended the Northern Ohio Damage Prevention Council meeting to hear a presentation given by Safetyman Consulting, Les Hendershot, on "Incident/Accident Investigation – the Contractor’s Point of View."
- The 2016 Crack Sealing Program was advertised in the Plain Dealer on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 and the bid opening date is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2016.
They are coordinating with Smith & Nejedlik on the easement appraisals required for the Rockside Woods Boulevard Sanitary Sewer Extension Project.

They are coordinating with Atwell on the final design and cost estimate for the Rockside Place Streetscape Improvements, including the water main improvements.
  - They are hopeful to advertise the project later this month so that we can award a contract in March, otherwise we may be in jeopardy of completing the work in time for the RNC.

They are coordinating with R.E. Warner on design, schedule and environmental issues regarding the Hemlock Trail Project.

They are coordinating with PSI for soil boring work on the BP Gas Station site in connection with the Rockside Road Widening Project.

Fire Department Reported-
- Response Figures
  - EMS Emergency Calls 30 YTD-122
  - Fire Emergency Calls 7 YTD-45

Police Department Reported-
- Due to the mild weather there is geese activity near Elmwood Pond much earlier this year, and therefore, Animal Control Officer Burrier has already started goose control efforts that include small pyrotechnic devices. If there are any residents who call about noises near the pond area, please advise them of the goose issue or have them contact ACO Burrier.

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<tr>
<th>Misdemeanor Arrests</th>
<th>Felony Arrests</th>
<th>Traffic Citations</th>
<th>OVI Arrests</th>
<th>Accident Reports</th>
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Recreation Department Reported-
- The Tucker Neil Basketball Tournament was held at the Field House using three courts from 8 am to 6 pm.
- That the Rec Management Staff attended the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association’s annual conference and trade show in Sandusky, which showcased a number of new products in the recreation field. One such product that they are looking into getting for the Civic Center and Field House track areas is an electronic lap counter which is relatively inexpensive and works through a smartphone app.
- American Leak Detection Co. had been checking the Civic Center pool trying to locate leaks. They determined that five under water lights had slight leaks which they repaired with under water epoxy. However, the company will need to return to perform more in-depth testing as the pool was still leaking after the repairs.
- A planning meeting was conducted to engage in a general discussion of how to organize and run the new Girls’ Softball Off-Season Skills Camp which began February 7.
Service Department Reported-(for the week ending 2/5/16)

- A crew was out all week repairing lawn damaged as a result of the sidewalk plow.
- They had Three Z begin compost grinding to make room for summer yard waste collection.
- Friday Special Pick-ups totaled 123
- The Chipper was out 5 days
- The litter patrol was out 2.5 days
- Cold patch crew was out 3 days
- Had a crew straighten out City street signs and road signs

Have a great weekend!

xc: John M. Veres, Director of Finance
    Gregory J. O’Brien, Law Director
    Debi Beal, Clerk of Council