

**XENIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 24, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER: President Engle called the October 24, 2019, Regular Session to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Administration Building.

2. INVOCATION: Pastor Andy Wagner, Faith Community United Methodist Church, and Associate Pastor Mike Sprouse, Liberty Worship Center, provided the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilman Dale Louderback led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL: Vice President Edgar Wallace, Councilman Will Urschel, Councilman Dale Louderback, Councilman Wesley Smith, Councilman Levi Dean, Mayor Sarah Mays, and President Michael Engle were present.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to approve the October 10, 2019, Regular Session meeting minutes as written. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Engle

Abstain: Mays

Nays: None motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the October 10, 2019, Special Session meeting minutes as written. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Engle

Abstain: Mays

Nays: None motion carried.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S): President Engle invited Joe Braden, West Regional Liaison for the Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber, to make his presentation. Mr. Braden said he was pleased to make the presentation on Mr. Faber's behalf and present Finance Director Ryan Duke, the Finance Department, the Mayor and Council members, and all employees who strive each day to achieve accounting excellence with the *Auditor of State Award with Distinction* for the FY 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). He said the Auditor of State audits 5,900 entities and only about 4 percent meet the following eligibility criteria of a "clean" audit report:

- The entity must file financial reports with the Auditor of State's office by the statutory due date, without extension, via the Hinkle System, on a GAAP¹ accounting basis and prepare a CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report);
- The audit report does not contain any findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Uniform Guidance (Single Audit) findings or questioned costs;

¹ Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

- The entity's management letter contains no comments related to:
 - Ethics referrals
 - Questioned costs less than the threshold per the Uniform Guidance
 - Lack of timely annual financial report submission
 - Bank reconciliation issues
 - Failure to obtain a timely Single Audit in accordance with Uniform Guidance
 - Findings for recovery less than \$500
 - Public meetings or public records issues
- The entity has no other financial or other concerns.

(Applause followed.) Mr. Duke thanked Mr. Braden and the Ohio Auditor of State's office for taking the time to come to Xenia to present the award. He acknowledged and thanked Assistant Finance Director Jason Lake who did a tremendous amount of work on the CAFR as well as the Finance Division staff who work hard to make sure they are all following the appropriate protocol procedures, policies, etc. He said all department heads, supervisors, and support staff also work very hard to ensure compliance, and all of their efforts contribute to the City's eligibility for the award.

7. AUDIENCE COMMENTS: President Engle explained the procedures for audience comments and invited anyone who wished to speak to come forward.

Tom Koogler, Greene County Commissioner, 35 Greene Street, congratulated Mr. Duke and the entire City team. He noted Greene County recently received the same award, and he knows that it is achieved through a team effort. He was present to share information and invite citizens to a Greene County Commissioners town hall meeting, which they will be doing every three months. The next one is scheduled at the REACH Center in the CSU portion of the building on Tuesday, October 29, at 6:30 p.m. He explained that each event is open to any Greene County resident, and meetings will be scheduled at different locations throughout the County. There would not be an agenda other than a brief overview of the "State of the County" and the organization of County agencies; otherwise, residents are invited to attend and speak about whatever is going on in Greene County.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. President Engle presented **RESOLUTION 2019-HH ADOPTING A FIVE-YEAR (2020-2024) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE CITY OF XENIA, OHIO**, originally introduced by Councilman Smith, and it was read for a second time.

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to adopt Resolution 2019-HH. Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Urschel commended Assistant City Manager Jared Holloway and all staff who worked to put the Five-Year CIP together. Council and the Budget Committee have had many discussions over the last year, and the plan reflects many of those items. He said the plan anticipates capital improvement needs and funding. He said the PCI street assessment will be completed shortly, and he anticipates recommendations for street improvements based on those results that may or may not be included in the Five-Year CIP. He noted the City is in desperate need of additional funding for stormwater removal, which is a critical part of street maintenance.

The City's stormwater utility is critically underfunded for maintenance and improvements. He encouraged the Stormwater Committee to convene a meeting and start talking about stormwater removal issues in an effort to make some additional recommendations in the budget and CIP to deal with that critical funding shortfall.

The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

9. PUBLIC HEARING(S):

A. Introduction of Resolution 2019-KK Authorizing Amendment to the 2018 CDBG Allocation Grant and Further Authorizing Use of CDBG Program Income from the City's Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund for the Shawnee Park Playground Equipment Project. Assistant City Manager Jared Holloway said grant funded projects on W. Second Street came in under budget; therefore, staff would like to make a request to the state to allow use of the remaining \$28,623 towards the replacement of Shawnee Park playground. Staff also requests use of \$61,377 of the City's CDBG Program Income funds in support of the same project. These funds must be used in conjunction with HUD's stated national priorities, specifically in this case is that it will benefit low- to moderate-income (LMI) individuals. The existing playground equipment is over twenty years old and has begun to deteriorate due to age. The total project cost of replacement of the playground is currently estimated around \$340,000; therefore, breaking the project into several phases, seeking local charitable donations, and applicable grants, staff was hoping to have it replaced in its entirety in the coming years. Staff is requesting Council conduct a public hearing both tonight and on November 14th, and introduce this resolution for the amendments to the CDBG Allocation Grant (\$28,623), and authorizing the expenditure of the City's CDBG program income (\$61,377) towards the Shawnee Park Playground Replacement.

President Engle opened the public hearing and asked those who wished to speak in favor of the amendment to come forward to speak. No one came forward to speak. He then asked those who wished to speak against the amendment to come forward to speak. No one came forward to speak. He then asked for those who wished to speak neither for nor against the amendment to come forward to speak. No one came forward to speak.

President Engle said he serves as the Chair of the Board for Recreation, Arts, and Cultural Activities (BRACA). The board heard a presentation last year and fully supports this initiative. Shawnee Park is the City's premiere park, and the equipment is in desperate need of replacement.

President Engle presented RESOLUTION 2019-KK AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE 2018 CDBG ALLOCATION GRANT AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING USE OF CDBG PROGRAM INCOME FROM THE CITY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR THE SHAWNEE PARK PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PROJECT, and it was read for the first time.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ORDINANCE 2019-20 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2019-16 TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF XENIA, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance Director Ryan Duke said the Public Service Department is requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$600,000 for certain EPA-required gas abatement activities at the old City landfill including studies, the purchase of materials and rental of equipment for trenching, and/or hiring a contractor to do the trenching. The urgency of the trenching work is in response to recent correspondence from the Ohio EPA. Council has also instructed staff to complete buildout of the basement at the City Administration Building for IT Department offices, which will make space available in the future should it be needed for building inspection services. In order to facilitate this, staff requests an appropriation of \$108,000. These expenses will be distributed in the same manner as the City Administration Building's debt service.

President Engle entertained a motion to pass Ordinance 2019-20 as an emergency as presented.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Louderback, to adopt Ordinance 2019-20 as presented. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Urschel said the landfill has been closed for quite some time, and at that time, they were required to put 6' of dirt on top of it, which essentially trapped the gas. The gas migrates horizontally, and abatement of that gas is required. Permanent vents are installed along Towler Road where the bikepath used to be. Additional costs associated with abatement are certain in the coming years—even decades. Regarding the basement buildout, the City paid to construct the facility, and the appropriated funds will be used to build out and use the remaining one-third of the space located in the basement. He noted that some staff are working in closets. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

B. Introduction of Ordinance 2019-21 Amending Sections 1236.10(b)(2) and 1236(c)(2) of the City of Xenia Land Development Code. Mr. Holloway said as requested by Council at the October 10, 2019, Council meeting, this Ordinance amends the City's Land Development Code (LDC) to address the unique situation at the Alan Besco site. Currently, the existing temporary sign regulations in the LDC regulate square footage on a per-lot (parcel) basis. Up to 32 sq. ft. of temporary signage is permitted per lot in the B-3 Business District with a zoning permit, for up to 60 days per year. Inflatable signs are restricted to the same square footage limit, a maximum of 12' in height, and no more than 14 days per year. The purpose of these restrictions in the LDC—originally enacted in 2016—is to avoid excessive signage clutter that damages the character and aesthetics of the community and can contribute to traffic safety problems due to visual distractions and confusion. After much staff discussion, including the individuals from Alan Besco and several council members, the proposed changes would allow owners of multiple lots in the B-3 Business District that are contiguous to aggregate their permitted square footage into a single, larger sign and allow for increased sign height. With this change, the Alan Besco dealership, which occupies 11 lots that are contiguous, will have enough square footage that they will be able to display their inflatable eagle. The proposed amendments would also remove the 14-day limit for inflatable signs and instead subject them to the same 60-day per year limit as other types of commercial temporary signs. The proposed amendments will extend this additional signage option to all similar aggregations of lots under common ownership in the B-3 District. While there are relatively few

other locations in the City that consist of multiple lots, these amendments will allow all such locations to aggregate their lots and increase signage on their properties. Upon introduction of this Ordinance, it will be referred to PZC, who will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments at their November 7, 2019, meeting. If the Commission makes a recommendation at that meeting, the matter will then be returned to City Council for a public hearing and vote at the November 14, 2019, Council meeting for final consideration.

President Engle entertained introduction of Ordinance 2019-21 as presented.

Councilman Urschel presented ORDINANCE 2019-21 AMENDING SECTIONS 1236.10(b)(2) AND 1236(c)(2) OF THE CITY OF XENIA LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, and it was read for the first time.

Councilman Urschel thanked City Manager Brent Merriman, Law Director Donnette Fisher, and others for holding a great meeting with Alan Besco to look at opportunities to move forward. He said the Land Development Code is the planning and zoning laws for the City of Xenia. He feels they reached a great compromise even though it did not achieve everything that the Alan Besco representatives desired. As an ordinance change, if approved, it will apply to the entire City of Xenia. If approved, there will be a 30-day waiting period for the ordinance to become effective. Ms. Fisher agreed, noting the 30-day waiting period allows an opportunity for the public to file for referendum petitions per state law. Councilman Louderback also commended the Law Director; he agreed it was a good compromise. Alan Besco is a good business and good for this community. He noted Xenia is a Charter City, and they can make and change the laws.

President Engle asked Ms. Fisher is a motion to defer to the Planning and Zoning Commission was necessary. Ms. Fisher said it was not needed since it was stated in the Ordinance.

C. Administrative Motion Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Work Order Nos. 2019-09 and 2019-10 with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., for Landfill Post-Closure Gas Monitoring Studies under the Existing Master Services Agreement. Mr. Holloway said staff is requesting Council's approval of two work orders with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. The first work order is for a Landfill Cap Assessment Plan for prioritization of landfill cap activities over the next ten (10) years, which will provide a needed roadmap for meeting EPA requirements at the landfill site and assist staff in planning the financial expenditures tied to our annual capital improvement planning. The plan cost has been estimated at \$20,981. The second work order would be for a Landfill Gas Abatement Plan which will recommend gas abatement strategies for landfill Areas A – G; this plan cost has been estimated at \$20,958. Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., has performed gas and groundwater monitoring at our closed landfill since 1996 and has a body of knowledge that offers unique insight and capacity relative to our specific landfill area. The associated services will be provided under an existing Master Services Contract. It is the recommendation of City staff that Council authorize the City Manager to execute the work orders with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., for landfill post-closure gas monitoring studies required by the EPA in the total amount of \$41,939.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Councilman Dean, to authorize the City Manager to execute Work Order Nos. 2019-09 and 2019-10 in the total amount of \$41,939 with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., for Landfill Post-Closure Gas Monitoring Studies under the Existing Master Services Agreement. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle
 Nays: None motion carried.

D. Administrative Motion Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Quantum Network Integrators for Fiber Installation and Maintenance Services. Mr. Duke said staff has already completed several projects in recent years to expand the City’s fiber network, but there is much more work to be done to connect numerous City facilities and sites. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised beginning September 12, 2019, seeking proposals for the expansion of the City’s fiber network to both enhance internal service capacity by connecting many remaining City assets and to promote economic development by providing connectivity to underserved areas. Proposals were accepted until October 8, 2019, and two proposals were received; one proposal was non-responsive. The proposal from Quantum Network Integrators, after estimating the first project and all equipment needed, was as follows:

Company Name	Cost per foot 96 count*	Cost per foot 144 count*	Cost per foot 288 count*	2012 Fiber 12, 24, & 96
Quantum Network Integrators	\$11.10	\$11.69	\$13.25	\$12.84
<Non-Responsive>	\$16 per foot and we only receive an OPTION to lease the installed fiber			

*All Costs are estimated based on path, current equipment costs, and equipment used.

Quantum Network Integrators provided an equipment per item cost sheet and an installation per item cost sheet. It is expected that the equipment costs will come in even lower once items can be priced through multiple vendors for each project. The bulk of the expense would be for labor for boring, splicing, etc. For comparison, the cost per foot is lower today from when the fiber was ran from Fire Station 31 to the Justice Center and then to Shawnee Park in 2010. Another requested item was maintenance costs, and Quantum quoted \$63.00/hour during business hours and \$72.00/hour during non-business hours with no minimum per year. The non-responsive submission was a contracted maintenance cost of \$35,000 per year. The projected expansion would be executed over the following thirty-six (36) months; therefore, any fiber expansion project to be done over the 36-month period would be done by Quantum at the quoted prices. He explained that as each section of fiber is ready for buildout, work orders would be presented to Council for approval under the main contract. The first project will be the fiber run to the Industrial Park at Innovation Way, which will be done as soon as possible to get the Greene County Career Center connected and ready for the new school year. Another high priority fiber extension will connect to Hawkins Road and the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant on Ford Road. The positive side of getting the fiber infrastructure in the ground is the City will own the lines and can then lease strands to other providers who are interested in using the City’s network. As the fiber network is built out, the ultimate goal is to completely eliminate the City’s dependency on Spectrum, which will also eliminate transport costs and greatly reduce the monthly fees.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to authorize the City Manager to execute a 36-month Master Contract with Quantum Network Integrators for the expansion of the City's fiber network to connect remaining City assets and to extend fiber to underserved areas, as well as to provide maintenance to the City's fiber network, at the prices submitted in Quantum's Proposal and in accordance with the requirements of the RFP. Discussion followed.

Vice President Wallace asked Mr. Duke about the estimated savings amount. Mr. Duke said the savings on the actual internet costs would be about \$1,000 per month, but that was just for internet service provider (ISP) services. The City will lease lines to a provider (MVECA) who has already committed to provide services to the Greene County Career Center. Staff is also working with Athletes in Action and Legacy Schools to lease additional lines and provide services to those entities. He noted these revenue generating opportunities will help offset the fiber project costs, which benefits both the City as well as the institutions because they currently do not have access to any high speed internet. Vice President Wallace asked if there would be varying internet speed options. Mr. Duke said yes.

Councilman Louderback asked if any of the businesses in the Industrial Park have any access to high speed internet. Mr. Duke said they may have access to internet, but they do not have access to any high speed broadband because there is no fiber in that area. He noted several businesses have already expressed an interest in the City's fiber when it is constructed to connect the City's water tower in that area.

The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle
Nays: None motion carried.

E. Administrative Motion Changing November and December Council meeting dates due to upcoming holidays. Mr. Holloway said this administrative motion would change the second meeting date in November from November 28 to Tuesday, November 26, due to Thanksgiving and change the second meeting date in December from December 26 to Monday, December 30 at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate end of year financial closeout.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Councilman Louderback, to change the second meeting in November from November 28 to Tuesday, November 26, due to the Thanksgiving holiday and change the second meeting in December from December 26 to Monday, December 30 at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate end of year financial closeout. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle
Nays: None motion carried.

Administrative Motion Authorizing Additional Holiday Days Off. Councilman Louderback said he wished to make an administrative motion to grant City employees additional holiday days off at Christmastime.

President Engle entertained said motion.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to authorize additional holiday days off on Monday and Tuesday, December 23 and 24, 2019; essential personnel would be granted two (2) days [16 hours] of personal time to use at a later date with the terms of usage to be determined by the City Manager.

A brief discussion followed on whether the additional days off should be the two day preceding the holiday, following the holiday, or on either side of the holiday. Mr. Duke said either way, staff will greatly appreciate the time off; however, if they are traveling for the holiday, Monday and Tuesday would probably be better. From an operational standpoint, coming in on Monday and Friday only was not preferred. Vice President Wallace asked about the cost of granting the additional days off. Mr. Duke said the cost is really a loss of productivity time and reduced customer service for administrative staff. On the public safety side, the City Manager would set the terms of usage for the additional time off so as not to create the need for overtime. There would still be adequate coverage of personnel, but it could possibly be slightly above minimum coverage based on the average per shift.

The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

F. Administrative Motion Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Xenia Community Schools (XCS) for the Services of a School Resource Officer. Mr. Holloway said over the past few months, staff has been in discussions with the Xenia Community School Superintendent and his staff about a cost-sharing contract for the salary and benefits of a School Resource Officer (SRO). The City of Xenia has provided these services at no cost to the Xenia Community Schools for well over 10 years with no formal written agreement. In August 2018, the Ohio Legislature passed HB318, requiring all school systems to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the law enforcement agency providing an SRO by November 1, 2019. The attached draft MOU calls for an equal sharing of the cost of a School Resource Officer between the City and the School, for the Officer's base salary, benefits, some overtime. The MOU is for a one-year period, postdated from August 1, 2019, to July 31, 2020. If the School desires to retain a Resource Officer, a new MOU will have to be executed for the subsequent school years. Staff recommends that Council, authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Xenia Community Schools for School Resource Officer Services, upon terms and conditions as approved by the Law Director.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Councilman Dean, to authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Xenia Community Schools for School Resource Officer Services, upon such contract terms and conditions as are approved by the Law Director. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Louderback commended staff noting they have been talking about this for years. He was glad the school finally agreed, which he believed was fair to both parties. Councilman Smith clarified the MOU was based on the school year and retroactive back to August. Mr. Holloway said yes; the first payment is due November 1. Vice

President Wallace asked if the MOU was for only one SRO. Mr. Holloway said at this time, yes. For future school year contracts, the number of SROs could be negotiated.

The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

G. Administrative Motion Approving the Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$289,526.25.
Mr. Duke requested the payment of bills in the amount of \$289,526.25.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Mayor Mays, to approve the schedule of bills in the amount of \$289,526.25. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

11. APPOINTED OFFICIALS REPORTS AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

A. City Manager, Finance Director, and Law Director:

Mr. Holloway thanked XCS and all agencies that participated in last Friday's emergency response exercises and active shooter scenarios with Xenia Community Schools. Although he did not have the final report from that event, initial indications show that it was very helpful for the many surrounding Police and Fire agencies who were involved as well as the faculty and staff at Xenia Community Schools. He expressed his appreciate of Xenia's Police and Fire Division personnel who put the training exercise together. He noted there is a need for a City Council Special Session to discuss the City's health insurance update for 2020.

Mr. Duke did not have anything further to share. Councilman Smith congratulated Mr. Duke on the award received this evening.

Ms. Fisher provided an update on the Charter Review Commission. They started meeting in July 2019 and are making their way through each article, diligently and thoroughly reviewing them section by section. The meetings are open to the public. The Commission consists of a great group of volunteers, and they anticipate making their report to Council by July 2020. They may recommend presenting a completely rewritten Charter to be placed on the ballot in its entirety, or they may recommend staggering the articles over several elections. Councilman Louderback asked if they have discussed Council salaries yet. Ms. Fisher said they have not discussed that [Article IV] yet, but she noted her recent research of surrounding communities showed that the Xenia Mayor and Councilmembers are underpaid. The average is \$8,000 per year—even for small cities and villages—and Xenia's Mayor and Councilmembers only receive \$4,000 per year. Councilman Louderback felt that they deserve a lot more pay. He asked the Charter Review Committee to consider an increase.

B. Mayor and City Council:

Mayor Mays congratulated the Finance Director and staff on their award based on their fine work. She thanked WPAFB's 445th Airlift Wing noting she was absent from the last Council meeting because she was in Colorado Springs at Peterson AFB and Air Force Academy on a Civic Leaders Tour with members of the 445th. The tour is a great way to see firsthand what community members are doing while serving in the military. She was honored to be a part of it. She reported on several recent speaking engagements including Legacy Christian Academy and Kiwanis. She shared that Kiwanis was just two years shy of being 100 years old, and Walter Sellers from the Xenia Kiwanis was the international president in the late 1990s—that was something to be proud of and she applauded their work. She encouraged everyone to support them in getting to their 100 year mark and beyond. She extended her sympathy to the Haney and Hixson families on the loss of two young Xenians. She participated in one of the vigils, and this community is grieving with them and praying for them.

Councilman Louderback said Xenia Football has a big game tomorrow night vs. Troy, and they look to win a playoff berth if they win. They have had a great season so far, and he wished them good luck. He said the repaving of Second Street looks really great, and those local residents are very appreciative.

Councilman Smith said Beggars Night in Xenia will be held on October 31 from 6-8 p.m. However, there are many alternatives to citywide trick or treat with many trunk or treats in the area hosted by churches, local businesses, and the Xenia Community School trunk or treat is Tuesday, October 29th, at Shawnee Elementary School. They had great weather at last year's school event and over 1,000 children participated. He said the Xenia Fire Division brings their trucks, which the children really enjoy. He echoed Mayor Mays' comments—this community suffered a loss with the tragic passing of those two boys. All life is precious. He said everyone is connected in some way and shared that he was on vacation last week at Disney in Florida and struck up a conversation with a military family from Fairborn. He said they were really impressed with Xenia's new YMCA at the REACH center.

Councilman Urschel said Council recently approved legislation to establish a Special Energy Improvement District, which allows commercial entities to obtain a loan to do energy improvements such as solar, new windows, new HVAC, etc., and the loan is paid back through an assessment on the property. The Board of Directors was established and held their first meeting. He reported the first project has been established with John Zeller, which is probably one of the first ones to get started in the Miami Valley. He noted other businesses have since expressed an interest in projects of their own. He expressed kudos to Law Director Donnette Fisher and Development Director Steve Brodsky as well as John Zeller. This is quite an exciting time because the loan goes with the property, there is very little risk to the business, and unlimited funding is available for these types of loans. Regarding the 2020 City budget, the three Councilmembers serving on the Budget and Finance Committee will not be on Council next year. Therefore, he recommended a special session so they can share pertinent information and bring remaining Councilmembers up to speed so they are prepared to vote on the 2020 budget in the first quarter of 2020. Finally, he realizes that social media has advantages and disadvantages. As they were working through the signage issue with Alan Besco, a lot of slander was directed towards Mayor Mays. As they are doing their work on Council, they are all trying to abide by the laws in place. He encouraged people to do constructive work and provide constructive comments. While he was speaking to the family of one of the boys who was killed, it broke his mother's heart to see negative

