

**MINUTES
ST. CLAIR SHORES CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 19, 2012**

Regular Meeting of the City Council, held in the Council Chambers, located at 27600 Jefferson Circle Dr., St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Present: Mayor Walby, Council Members Caron, Frederick, Rubino, Tiseo, and Vitale

Excused: Ms. Rusie

Also Present: Acting City Manager Smith, City Clerk Kotowski, Director Rayes, and City Attorney Ihrle

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Walby called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Kotowski, City Clerk, called roll with a quorum present. Ms. Rusie asked to be excused from the meeting.

Motion by Caron, seconded by Tiseo to excuse Ms. Rusie from the meeting.

Ayes: All – 6

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Walby explained that former City Manager Ben Hughes resigned on November 2, 2012. Things occurred in Mr. Hughes' personal life and it was in the best interest for Mr. Hughes to resign. He was with the City of St. Clair Shores for 2 ½ years, and had much success. Mayor Walby stated he wished him well.

Mayor Walby stated he has heard rumors about Mr. Hughes and illegal activity. Mayor Walby stated there is no illegal activity. The rumors are absolutely false with no truth to them at all. Sadly less than a week later a tragedy struck Mr. Hughes, and we are praying for him, and will continue to pray for him and his family.

Mayor Walby introduced Mr. Smith, who will be filling in until a new City Manager is chosen. He is very familiar with the City and the budget. He has worked here for seven years. Mayor Walby added that the pursuit for a new City Manager will be more aggressive after first of the year.

Mayor Walby also stated that it is unfortunate that there were five individuals, four from St. Clair Shores, and one from New Baltimore, who were involved in an automobile accident recently in South Dakota. Wesley Frasad, Ledger Frasad, and William Petrocy all from St. Clair Shores and Nikdaos Andreopoulos from New Baltimore, all passed away. Thomas Thorngate of St. Clair Shores is hospitalized with life threatening injuries. Our hearts go out to those families.

Mayor Walby stated the City has hit a rough patch and needs to stay on course. We will continue to push forward. He continued with a saying by Winston Churchill; "When going through hell keep going."

2. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM

At the Council Meeting of October 29, 2012, Council voted to hold this organizational meeting at this regular meeting.

Motion by Caron, seconded by Rubino to nominate Mr. Frederick as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: Rusie

Mr. Frederick thanked Council and stated he is honored to be nominated as Mayor Pro-Tem after serving six years on Council.

3. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Walby presented the following proclamations and congratulated John Blumline and Ken Kinney on their achievements.

Agenda Item 3 (cont'd)

a. **Senior Olympic Winners**

PROCLAMATION to JOHN BLUMLINE

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores wish to acknowledge persons who attain significant achievements; and

WHEREAS, participants in the 33rd Annual Michigan Senior Olympic Summer Games held in Michigan, deserve such acknowledgement for their perseverance and determination to excel in the event of their choice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores, on behalf of the entire community, congratulate **JOHN BLUMLINE** on winning five Gold Medals in the swimming events; 100 Freestyle, 100 Individual Medley, 200 Freestyle, 200 Individual Medley and the 500 Freestyle.

Proclamation to KEN KINNEY

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores wish to acknowledge persons who attain significant achievements; and

WHEREAS, participants in the 33rd Annual Michigan Senior Olympic Summer Games held in Michigan, deserve such acknowledgement for their perseverance and determination to excel in the event of their choice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores, on behalf of the entire community, congratulate **KEN KINNEY** on winning Gold Medals in the 50 meter dash and the triple jump, setting a new State record in the 50 meter dash, Silver medals in the 200 meter dash, the discus and high jump and Bronze medals in the 100 meter dash and the shot put. **KEN** also plays senior softball and volleyball in the 55+ year old leagues and also participates in the Bass Tournaments each year.

b. **St. Clair Shores Goodfellows**

**Proclamation to ST. CLAIR SHORES GOODFELLOWS
In Honor of their 86th Anniversary**

Whereas, the **Goodfellows** were founded in Detroit on Christmas Day, 1906, when a cartoon by Thomas May entitled "Forgotten" inspired the Detroit News to provide Christmas baskets for the City's poor; and

Whereas, on a cold, wintry night in December, 1926, Tom Daly had the idea of establishing a **Goodfellows** movement in St. Clair Shores to assure that there will be "No Family without a Christmas"; and

Whereas, we gratefully acknowledge the influence for good accomplished by our local **Goodfellows** whose members have contributed so much in the way of leadership, personal service and monetary assistance to the needy of our community during the past 86 years;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores, ask that our fine community wish the **Goodfellows Organization** much success for their next 86 years as we declare **December 1, 2012 "St. Clair Shores Goodfellows Day."**

Mr. Mike Cook, Goodfellows, thanked everyone for all of their support and encouraged them to make donations on December 1, 2012. He explained that the staff is not paid and every dollar collected goes back to the community. He invited anyone who is available to help sell newspapers on December 1 between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is meeting at the Central Fire Station. If you cannot help by selling, please donate. Also, the Goodfellows need to know who the needy families are. Please call 586-980-0400 if you have any information regarding needy families. They are taking calls the day after Thanksgiving.

i) **Approval of Annual Goodfellow Paper Sales at City Intersections on December 1, 2012, from 6:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. Along Harper, Little Mack and Mile Roads**

This is an annual event that is held every year.

Agenda Item 3 cont'd.

Motion by Rubino, seconded by Frederick to approve the request from the Goodfellows of the City of St. Clair Shores Annual Paper Sales at City intersections on Saturday, December 1, 2012, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the intersections of Harper, Little Mack and the Mile Roads.

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: Rusie

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (2 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

Dennis Marinette, St. Clair Shores resident, spoke regarding Item 5. He stated that on October 10, he sent members of Council an invitation to the Sheet Metal Training Center in Warren for a tour to explain why they are worth the extra cost. He said he didn't receive a response from anyone. Recently, he sent another invitation from his home computer, and received only one response. Mr. Vitale replied but was unable to attend. Mr. Marinette feels that even if members couldn't attend, it is very inappropriate not to respond to the invitation. Mr. Marinette stated members of the sheet metal union all attend additional schooling and continue with their education. They feel that education very important.

Nelson Lacross, St. Clair Shores resident, spoke regarding Item 7. He stated he lives on Centennial Street, and has a serious rodent problem. He lost his dog in September, and another neighbor lost her dog also. The veterinarian told them it was from leptospirosis, which is a disease from rats. Mr. Lacross stated he contacted Mr. Rayes, Community Services Director, who sent out an inspector and nothing was done. He stated he baits himself and plugs the burrows whenever he sees them. Mr. Lacross stated there is a drain at the back of Centennial on the north side of street, and every third house has one of these drains, which are helping the rats to survive. Mr. Rayes told Mr. Lacross that this is a county issue.

John Lossman, St. Clair Shores resident, spoke regarding Item 5. He stated that collective bargaining, as understood, cannot be transplanted into public service, and it is not City Council's place to collective bargain for others.

J.R. Kettler, St. Clair Shores resident, spoke regarding Item 5. Mr. Kettler stated he has been in this business for 23 years. He added that Mr. Frederick said the average wage is \$9 an hour. If that were the case, he wouldn't be doing it for 23 years.

Mark Saba, Shelby Township resident, spoke regarding Item 5. He explained he is the business manager for Sheet Metal Workers #90, and he offers skilled trade and a skilled wage.

5. 40TH DISTRICT COURT BUILDING – REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION REGARDING STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH BERNCO, INC.

Mr. Smith explained that as directed, there were a series of meetings with the general contractor and unions, and on November 7, he sent a letter to those involved. He stated he received one letter back from a union, and there were no changes on the target funds. Target funds are a provision where the union taps into a pool of internal money generated from membership fees that are used to make up the difference. Some of the unions already had factored in target money, while others had no target funds available.

Mr. Rayes stated he also participated in meetings and also with Bernco. After the meetings concluded, he asked them to provide spreadsheets. He added that some union personnel were already part of the Bernco proposal.

Mayor Walby stated that the original number to use unionized workers with prevailing wages would have added about \$400,000 to the cost. Mr. Rayes replied it was closer to \$370,000.

Mayor Walby stated the City did not just put its faith in the general contractor. He had spoken with the City Attorney who confirmed what Bernco stated and spoke with the unions to insure these meetings were held.

Mr. Frederick asked if any of the unions came back to Bernco with numbers. Mr. Rayes replied that none returned with any changes from their original number. He was hoping to get a couple more unions in. He also asked Bernco to go back to those that proposed numbers to see if they could close the gap, but they did not rebid. Some of them said they didn't have the target money to offer.

Mr. Rubino asked if anyone knew where the figure \$9 an hour came from. Mr. Frederick replied it was mentioned at the last Council Meeting. Mr. Rubino stated he spoke with some of the workers who told him they make much more than that.

Agenda Item 5 cont'd.

Mr. Caron stated he reviewed the list of sub-contractors being used and all of them except for Novi are Macomb County contractors. Bernco is located in St. Clair Shores.

Motion by Caron, seconded by Rubino to reconfirm Bernco's bid for the 40th District Construction of \$3.5 million.

Ayes: Caron, Rubino, Tiseo, Walby
Nays: Frederick, Vitale
Absent: Rusie

6. AMENDMENT TO ORD. NO. 22.100, STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE ORDINANCE FOR FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS

Mr. Rayes explained that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has revised the Flood Insurance Rate Map that is being presented tonight. These revised maps will minimally remove additional residents from the current map. The City is required to adopt this map in order for residents to be able to secure mortgages from federally insured institutions. The map will go into effect on December 4, 2012.

Motion by Rubino, seconded by Tiseo to approve the request to adopt the amendment to Ord. No. 22.100, State Construction Code Ordinance for Floodplain Management Provisions which reads as follows:

22.100 STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE ORDINANCE FOR FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS Ord. No. 22.100 Effective: September 29, 2006

An ordinance to repeal the existing ordinance number 25.300--25.363 and designate an enforcing agency to discharge the responsibility of the City of St. Clair Shores located in Macomb County, under the provisions of the State Construction Code Act, Act No. 230 of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended.

The City of St. Clair Shores ordains:

22.101 Agency designated.

Sec. 1. Pursuant to the provisions of the state construction code, in accordance with Section 8b (6) of Act 230, of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, the Building Official or designee of the City of St. Clair Shores is hereby designated as the enforcing agency to discharge the responsibility of the City of St. Clair Shores under Act 230, of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, State of Michigan. The City of St. Clair Shores assumes responsibility for the administration and enforcement of said Act throughout its corporate limits. (Amended 7/06/2011)

22.102 Designation of regulated flood prone hazard areas.

Sec. 2 The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Macomb County, Michigan and Incorporated Areas dated September 29, 2006 and the Flood Insurance Rate Map(s) (FIRMS) panel number(s) 26099C 0342G, 0343G, 0344G, 0361G, 0363G, 0406G, 0407G, 0408G, 0409G, as revised by the L.O.M.R. dated June 22, 2011; 0428G, dated September 29, 2006 are adopted by reference and shall serve as the official maps and supporting data establishing flood hazard areas for regulation by the Michigan Building Code and Michigan Residential Code. (Amended 7/06/2011)

SHALL BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

22.102 - Designation of regulated flood prone hazard areas.

Sec. 2 The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Study (FIS) entitled Macomb County, Michigan (All Jurisdictions) and dated 12/4/12 and the Flood Insurance Rate Map(s) (FIRMS) panel number(s) 26099C 0342G (dated 9/29/06) and panels 26099C 0344H, 0361H, 0363H, 0407H, 0409H, 0428H dated December 4, 2012 are adopted by reference and shall serve as the official maps and supporting data establishing flood hazard areas for regulation by the Michigan Building Code and Michigan Residential Code. (Amended 7/06/2011 and 11/19/2012)

22.103 Repeals.

Sec. 3. All ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

22.104 Publication.

Agenda Item 6 cont'd.

Sec. 4. This ordinance shall be effective after legal publication and in accordance with the provisions of the Act governing same.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF MACOMB)

We hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance is a true copy of an ordinance as enacted by the City Council on the 19th day of November 2012, and that the necessary Charter provisions have been observed.

KIP C. WALBY, Mayor

MARY A. KOTOWSKI, CITY CLERK

I, Mary A. Kotowski, Clerk of the City of St. Clair Shores, hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was published by posting true copies of the same in each of the following places: Police Station, 27665 Jefferson Avenue, Fire Hall, 26700 Harper Avenue, and City Hall, 27600 Jefferson Circle Drive on the 27th day of November 2012; which is the effective date of this ordinance.

Mary A. Kotowski, City Clerk

Amendment effective November 27, 2012

Ayes: All – 6
Absent: Rusie

7. RODENT PROGRAM OPTIONS

Mr. Smith stated he has reviewed a lot of material on rats. He explained that when residents call, the City goes out to inspect their property. They also bait for no charge. He feels there is a need to go further to be more effective. He suggested the baiting of sewers, but every 3rd house has a catch basin. He feels they are not getting food there, but we need to take care of where they are harboring and feeding.

Mr. Smith stated that Bagnasco Funeral Home area had a severe problem. The City sent a letter to all residents on those two streets stating there would be no cost to inspect or bait property. The letter asked residents to inspect their yards. If a resident did not want the City to enter their rear yard, they were asked to send back the bottom of the letter. Out of 110 homes, only 3 said no. The City baited 51 homes on the 2 streets. A survey was sent out to those who received the original letter. There were 40 surveys that were filled out and returned, with no negative responses regarding being too aggressive.

Mr. Smith added that now we know that we don't have nearly the problem we had because we took a very aggressive approach. Some residents were issued violations because along with burrows, there were wood piles, animal feces, overgrown weeds, feeding of squirrels and birds, standing water and leaking faucets, abandoned vehicles, garbage, fruit on the ground, and compost. These are all things that attract the rodents. The City spent between \$6,000 and \$8,000 on those two streets. It would cost the City over \$2 million to do the whole City. Mr. Smith stated he would like to come up with five more areas of larger size and do the same thing, moving outward. Code Enforcement needs to be involved on these issues.

Mr. Rubino asked if all the restaurants were being made to bait. Mr. Smith replied they were.

Mr. Vitale stated he doesn't think this survey indicates success. He feels that we have no idea if this is working. Sometimes the rodents get food in other locations and not from the bait boxes. Mr. Vitale stated he purchased kill traps that electrocutes the rodents. There are also traps that just kill. He asked why doesn't the City use traps that kill so that we see dead rodents. Mr. Vitale stated he has never seen any dead rats. They also build immunities to poison.

Mr. Smith stated his reasoning is based on literature he has read. The poison is designed so that the rats go back into ground and die there. Mr. Smith added that bait is not their favorite food; dog waste is.

Mr. Vitale stated he wants to hear from a contractor who does rodent control for a living. Also, Code Enforcement has to the follow up on the homes that do have rats.

Agenda Item 7 cont'd.

Mr. Smith stated a better job on follow up is needed, and this program is perfect for that. He asked Council to think about sending a letter to residents asking for entry into yards and how it could be worded. He emphasized that sanitation is the first answer to the rodent problem.

Mr. Frederick stated he likes the approach, but the wording for the opt out is confusing. Mr. Smith replied he will work on rewording.

Mr. Frederick advised that if people are baiting themselves, they have to be sure what kind of bait to use so as not to hurt other animals. Mr. Frederick asked what happens next.

Mr. Smith replied the City will meet with Landscape Services and report back to Council. Also, Mr. Rubino will be taping a Council Connection with Landscape Services on this issue.

Mr. Vitale asked if workers will be opening gates to go in yards or just go in yards that are open? Mr. Smith replied they will be opening gates. He added he will bring this item back in December with a presentation.

8. APPROVAL OF THE SALE OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH TAX FORECLOSURES – 30800 HARPER AVENUE

Community Services Director Rayes explained that the City acquired this gas station property from the County in July of 2012. The property was listed, as approved by Council, by Signature Associates, who fielded several offers on the property. It is their professional advice that this offer of \$120,000 cash was reasonable and acceptable, subject to doing improvements required by the city.

Mr. Frederick inquired about the landscape plan including sprinklers. Mr. Rayes replied they are in the right-of-way now, but he will make sure the purchasers know it is required.

Motion by Frederick, seconded by Caron to approve the request for approval of the sale of a gas station property at 30800 Harper in the amount of \$120,000.00, subject to: 1) Re-brick the exterior 3 sides, 2) Replace broken concrete in the parking lot, 3) Seal and stripe asphalt portions of parking lot, 4) Remove abandoned pay phone booth and bollards – patch asphalt afterwards, 5) Replace canopy lights with recessed fixtures, 6) Install wood gates on dumpster enclosure, 7) Install 30” high knee wall along north property line to screen parking area, 8) Landscape plan, 9) Submit plans for interior build-out, 10) Repaint ground sign and canopy.

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: Rusie

9. BIDS/CONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS

There were none.

10. CONSENT AGENDA – All items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a vote of City Council. There will be no separate discussion of the items unless the Mayor and or a Mr. so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered under the last item of the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Frederick, seconded by Tiseo to approve the Consent Agenda items a – e, which include the following:

a. Bills

November 8, 2012	\$3,378,270.73
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b. Fees

Ihrie & O'Brien	\$ 20,669.00
Kirk, Huth & Lange	2,610.45

c. Progress Payments

C&L Enterprises	\$ 115,257.61
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Agenda Item 10 cont'd.

C&L Enterprises	13,318.01
Doetsch Environmental Services	58,506.76
RS Contracting, Inc.	63,247.46

d. **Approval of Minutes** - None

e. **Receive & File Boards, Commissions & Committee Minutes**

To receive and file the following minutes:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
Board of Canvassers	November 9, 2012
Beautification Commission	June 13, 2012
Police & Fire Pension Board	August 30, 2012
Police & Fire Retiree Health Care Board	August 30, 2012
Waterfront Environmental Committee	September 18, 2012
Zoning Board of Appeals	September 6, 2012

Ayes: All – 6
Absent: Rusie

11. UPDATES AND FOLLOW-UPS FROM COUNCIL MEETING

- **Sewer Insurance Program** - Mr. Smith stated that there have been a lot of questions over the last six months regarding a sewer insurance program. The company that has been working with City Council doesn't believe in sending out informational packets around the holidays. There is a link to this program which is www.utilitylineprotection.com and is outstanding. This program does cover damage as a result of tree roots.
- **Sidewalk Replacement Program District 1** – Mr. Rayes stated that Harper west to Beaconsfield is complete, and between Mack and Harper will be done in the spring.
- **Jefferson construction stains by Marter Road** - Mr. Rayes replied he thinks it is about as good as it is going to get. He added that the side streets are done, and the sod is planted.
- **Rodent Issue at former Giglio location** – Mr. Rayes noted replied that he had been through the property and there was no sign of rodent activity.

Mayor Walby referred to the last City Council meeting. He stated that when we become members of City Council, we are criticized, and it is our job to handle the criticism with grace. He added that they looked petty at the last meeting, and Roberts Rules of Order have to be followed. Name calling is absolutely unacceptable. They are elected leaders, and should behave like leaders. We want people to be proud of our City and its leaders. People should come to meetings to find out what is going on, not to wonder if there will be a fight. Mayor Walby stated he is going to take better control over the meetings. He feels there should be shorter Council Comments. If you have a 20 minute item, obtain support and place it on an agenda. The meetings need to be less casual and more formal.

12. COMMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILPERSONS

Mr. Rubino stated that no one wants to live next to a house infested with rats or a run down house. He has concerns when the City posts a letter on a house saying their home will be demolished without any inspectors ever being inside. There is a right way and a wrong way to do things. We cannot be putting notices on homes without being inspected first.

Mr. Tiseo apologized to Mr. Rayes about the situation at Fresard and Jefferson. He thanked him for getting the work done. Mr. Tiseo wished Mr. Hughes best of health and everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He added he will be helping the Goodfellows out at Ten Mile and Harper.

Mr. Frederick thanked Council for appointing him as Mayor Pro-Tem. On Saturday, December 8, there will be a Santa visit from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Museum. The Friends Holiday Gift, Book and Bake Sale will be held at the Library on the same day. Call 771-9020 for additional information.

Agenda Item 12 cont'd.

Mr. Frederick congratulated Sarah Roberts as our new State Representative, and Mike Boyle and Victoria Kleinfelt as our new County Commissioners.

Mr. Frederick announced a blood drive on November 23 from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the St. Germaine Campus.

Mr. Frederick wished his son, Brent, a Happy 30th Birthday on Friday, November 23.

Mr. Frederick stated his prayers are with Ben Hughes and his family. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Frederick encouraged people to volunteer with the Goodfellows on December 1 as they need help.

Mr. Vitale resident asked if St. Clair Shores will be represented on the Milk River clean up project. Mayor Walby replied the representative was Ben Hughes. Possibly the Acting City Manager, Mike Smith, might take his place.

Mr. Vitale stated he hopes that everything would always be nice at Council Meetings, but government business can sometimes be rough. He stated he will continue to investigate problems and not just give lip service. He will fight hard for privacy. He wants to make sure things are followed up on.

He sent best wishes to Ben and his family, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Caron wished Ben Hughes a speedy recovery. He wished condolences to the families of the South Dakota tragedy.

Mr. Caron stated the Cops for Kids hockey game was a great success. Mickey Redmond suited up, and Police Chief Walleman did a great job. This was the biggest event raising over \$14,000.

Mr. Caron stated the Chili Wars was a great success.

Mr. Caron stated the City now has over 9,000 likes on its Facebook Page.

The Christmas Tree Lighting will be held in front of City Hall on Friday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Caron stated he met with DPW Director, Brian Babcock, to discuss preparations for this upcoming winter. They are approaching implementing 100% of new water meters across the City. Employees will go door to door with flyers to explain the program, and if a resident is not at home, there will be a number on the flyer for them to call.

Mr. Caron wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Smith stated he has worked in the public service sector for over 26 years, and the tragedy involving Ben Hughes has been the most difficult thing so far. The day after, the City's Facebook Page was suspended for a few hours because sometimes good taste doesn't govern itself. Mr. Smith thanked residents for their patience while buildings were closed the following morning. He stated everyone was very courteous, and he is proud to be a part of St. Clair Shores. He advised residents that if they wanted to send any cards to Mr. Hughes, please send them to the City Manager's office, and they will be forwarded to Mr. Hughes.

14. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

Chuck Hall, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding the rodent problem. He stated he likes Mr. Smith's plan, but would like him to explain when he said that there is no cost to residents, yet he knows of residents who have received bills. Mr. Hall has called the City, and depending on who you talk to, you get a different answer. There have been many foreclosures in St. Clair Shores. Some of the homes are abandoned and some have gardens on the property. There is a home close to him where a City contractor visit and nothing was done to remove the garden, so the rats have been eating it for two months. No one ever follows up.

Mr. Hall stated he attended a meeting in Roseville regarding a construction project on I-94 from 11 Mile to Masonic. Mr. Hall stated no one from St. Clair Shores attended, and the State said no one from St. Clair Shores had contacted them.

Pete Acacia, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he met with Mr. Rayes, Ben Hughes and Hughes and Bernco local PAC, and he still could not get close to the number they were looking for, even reducing their average to \$15 an hour.

Agenda Item 14 cont'd.

Chuck Taormina, Sheet Metal Workers Union, stated he met with Chris Rayes, Ben Hughes, and Bernco. He stated he hasn't received any answers and would like to know who the sub-contractors will be on the court job.

Phil Canton, resident of St. Clair Shores, asked how the decision was made about the court house. It is only 29 years old. In addition, there has been talk about construction but not deconstruction. He stated he was there the last time there was deconstruction, and hopes the City hired an asbestor for the lead, otherwise there will be potential exposure to asbestos.

Mr. Canton stated he came to Council two years ago complaining about rats, pleading to do a killing program then. He has killed 27 rats so far this year. Residents need to help the City out and keep garbage out of reach, pick up dog feces, and keep their property clean.

Jamie Victory, St. Clair Shores resident, stated that on Saturday, December 1, Santa will be at Blossom Heath from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00.

John Lossman, resident of St. Clair Shores, asked how many unions the City has. Mayor Walby replied the City has five unions. Mr. Lossman asked why the City doesn't collective bargain for their own people.

Erin Stahl, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated the Sidewalk Program is out of control. Residents need to come together and speak out. Many squares are being marked incorrectly, and she stated she has documentation from a 2004 FOIA.

Robert Fetter, resident of St. Clair Shores, asked if the City couldn't get a qualified tradesman with the wage being talked about. The Wages and Benefits of the middle class are decreasing. People have to fight for the middle class.

Mr. Fetter stated he has had many disagreements with Ben Hughes, and worked a lot with him professionally. He lives next door to him, and he was always respectful and courteous. We should focus on thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery.

J.R. Kettler, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated there is a house in his neighborhood being torn down that he complained about and thanked Council. He also appreciated Mayor Walby's comments about City Council acting professional.

Eric McPherson, Southfield, Sheet Metal Workers Union, asked how people could afford to live here making only \$9.66 an hour for a wage.

Kathy Joerin, St. Clair Shores resident, spoke regarding the 5th Annual Candlelight Memorial for Bereaved Parents which will be held at Veteran's Memorial Park on Sunday, December 9th. Candles will be supplied. It begins at 6:45 and is for bereaved parents, grandparents and siblings. This is held in memory of our children who have died too soon, but will never be forgotten. For more information, call 293-6176, or email kjmac21@aol.com. A support group is also held the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Jim Kelly, St. Clair Shores Resident, stated his property was measured in 2010, and the City changed dimensions. They said it was five feet wider than it was. His taxes went up and he met with the Assessor. He finally went to Macomb County and found that it was never changed.

Duane Michno, St. Clair Shores resident, stated the rodent trap that Mr. Vitale brought to the meeting is dangerous. Mr. Michno suggested leaving the baiting to the people that do it for a living.

15. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Walby stated that the flags by City Hall look tattered and asked they be replaced. There is a tree blown over on 9-Mack Drive that needs to be staked. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Caron, seconded by Tiseo to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Ayes: All -6
Absent: Rusie

KIP C. WALBY, MAYOR

MARY A. KOTOWSKI, CITY CLERK

(THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD).