

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 20, 2010

I. ROLL CALL & ORDERING OF AGENDA

Acting President David Silvestri called the regular meeting of Wooster City Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers by asking everyone to rise and join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present: Jon Ansel, Mike Buytendyk, Mark Cavin, Barbara Knapic, David Silvestri, Jeff Steiner and Jon Ulbright.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Cavin, to approve minutes of the December 6, 2010 meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Robert Fowler, Director of Administration, updated council on various activities in the city: 1) An Open House honoring the VSP retirees will be held on January 5, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Center. 2) Wooster Community Hospital has been certified as a Primary Stroke Center. 3) On Friday, December 17th, Congressman-elect Jim Renacci visited the OARDC campus. 4) Mayor Breneman sent a memo to council recommending the following individuals be reappointed to the various boards:

<u>HOSPITAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS</u>		Ward	Term-4 yrs.
Jerry Packard	1530 McNutt Drive	2	1/1/2011 - 12/31/14
Jeff Perkins	1011 N. Grant	4	1/1/2011 - 12/31/14

<u>INCOME TAX BOARD OF REVIEW</u>		Ward	Term-3 yrs.
James Lanham	3451 Cross Creek Circle	3	1/1/2011 – 12/31/13

<u>FAIR HOUSING BOARD</u>		Ward	Term-3 yrs.
Steve Andrea	421 N. Bever Street	1	1/1/2011 – 12/31/13
Martha Junkin	1457 Bellevue	2	1/1/2011 – 12/31/13

Ms. Knapic questioned how many terms these individuals have served and expressed the importance of bringing new members onto our boards and commission while striving to achieve diversity. Mr. Benson indicated a recently enacted charter amendment would max out service on boards and commissions after twelve consecutive years. He said council will likely be looking at legislation in the near future to reconcile terms on boards and commissions with that charter revision.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to accept the recommendations from the Mayor on the referenced board appointments. Upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC (none)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Ansel said a Finance Committee meeting was held and that he would elaborate further during the final budget review.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Third Reading - AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 2010-33 ADOPTING REGULATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF INDOOR FIRING RANGES WITHIN THE CITY OF WOOSTER (Buytendyk)

Mr. Ulbright recused himself from discussion. Mr. Buytendyk said this was the third reading and also a public hearing was held with an extensive presentation. He indicated he had only received positive feedback. An amendment had been made to the ordinance.

Mr. Buytendyk moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to adopt the amendments to Ordinance No. 2010-33. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes and Steiner-yes).

Mr. Buytendyk moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes and Steiner-yes).

2. Third Reading - **ORDINANCE NO. 2010-37 APPROPRIATING FROM VARIOUS FUNDS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF WOOSTER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2011, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)**

Mr. Ansel said this is the 2011 annual operating budget for the City of Wooster. Since the last council meeting, a very detailed and exhaustive worksession was held to review the final line item. Mr. Ansel complimented city council and the administration for their efforts in working together on the budget. He also commended city administration for their hard work and diligence in driving expenses out of the budget. He said in the final meeting there was an additional \$155,000 removed from the semi-proposed budget. Mr. Ansel said we are expecting an operating expense shortfall with receipts at \$16.3 million and expenditures at \$17.7, which is a record low for the last nine years of published history. Mr. Ansel said the \$1.3 million shortfall is inclusive of the \$1.6 million eliminated from the operation overhead through the Voluntary Separation Plan. Mr. Ansel reiterated that city administration has done a remarkable job controlling and minimizing their operating expenses, but they are currently facing a revenue problem, not an expense problem for 2011. He said there are things citizens have become accustomed to in the city which will be reviewed in terms of the city's ongoing ability to provide those quality of life services. On behalf of the finance committee, Mr. Ansel said they are going to begin the microscopic review of the city's bi-monthly operating expense performance. Traditionally the city has moderately under-projected their revenues and expenses and have performed consistently in years past, but the unknown is if the \$1.3 million can be made up in 2011. Mr. Ansel said council will stay apprised of the city's current financial status in the upcoming year as it is one of council's primary responsibilities. He also highlighted that through the Voluntary Separation Plan, the city's daily operating expenses went from approximately \$55,000 per day to \$49,000 per day, which is a significant reduction. Mr. Ansel said there is reason to be optimistic and the city will continue to emphasize their financial status and what must be done to mitigate the consistent erosion of the rainy day fund, currently at 128 days. The appropriation budget is required to be approved by December 31st and Mr. Ansel indicated he was prepared to pass the budget unless there were further questions. Ms. Knapic thanked the finance committee, fellow council members and the city for all their hard work. Unfortunately she was unable to participate due to a personal health commitment with a friend, but said she did review all the financials and realize a lot of hard work went into this.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading - **ORDINANCE NO. 2010-39 AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE (Steiner)**

Mr. Steiner stated the police division has applied for a \$30,000 OCJS Grant which will not be decided upon until February 2011 and if the grant is awarded, a 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4 will be purchased for use as the shift lieutenant patrol vehicle. The current lieutenant's car will be converted to the canine car and the current canine car will be retired. Not all the funding will be covered under the grant and therefore \$12,000 will be paid out of the division's 2010 Equipment line item by transferring that money in the Capital Account and rolling it over into 2011. Chief Glick explained that the current Ford Crown Vic model used for police cruisers will no longer be available after 2011 and what models will be replacing it.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

2. First Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2010-40 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ADVANCE MONIES FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, BEALL AVENUE STREETSCAPE AND STATE CAPITAL GRANT FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel said three separate financial issues are combined into one piece of legislation which need to be completed before year end as accounting principals mandate that no funds will have a negative cash balance entering the new year. While the city is awaiting monies from the state, the open balances for three particular projects must be funded. Mr. Ansel said we have done this in the past, advance monies for a limited period of time (less than twelve months) in order to maintain a positive cash balance for funds for which a reimbursement is pending. The three projects are: (1) Community Development Block Grant Fund, in the amount of \$100,000.00 from the Ohio Department of Development; and (2) State Capital Grants Fund, in the amount of \$1,501,226, for the Secrest Road expansion of the job-ready sites for the BiOhio project; and (3) the Beall Avenue Streetscape Fund, in the amount of \$290,216.00. Mr. Starlin explained requests for funding have been made and approved by the state and all funding should be received by the middle or end of January 2011.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

3. First Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2010-41 AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE (Steiner)

Mr. Steiner stated this ordinance is to fund the Voluntary Separation Plan. Council adopted Ordinance No. 2010-17 which authorized the implementation of a Voluntary Separation Plan (VSP) for the purpose of reducing payroll by offering financial incentives to employees who were eligible to retire. The amount will not exceed \$946,000.00 and is appropriated from balances in the following funds: General Fund, \$585,000.00; Water Fund, \$210,000.00; and Sanitary Sewer Fund, \$151,000.00. Mr. Steiner said these funds are to pay for accrued vacation and accrued sick leave, as well as the VSP bonus. All VSP retirements will be effective on or before December 31st and it is necessary to fund the retirement incentives now due.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

4. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-88 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A TECHNICAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SUNGARD PUBLIC SECTOR, INC. OF CHICO, CA FOR APPLICATION SERVICE PROVIDER (“ASP”) SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated since 1999 the city has contracted with Sungard Public Sector Inc. who is a leader in public administrative financial support for Application Service Provider (ASP) services. This contract provides a number of amenities such as the hardware and software, off-site disaster recovering, hosting the central server with a back-up for disaster recovery and the supplemental support services. Mr. Ansel said this is a routine matter and is a budgeted contract. The current contract price is \$77,547.12, which price has been held constant by Sungard through 2009 and 2010 due to national economic conditions. For 2011 they are taking a CPI + 2%, that is covered in their contract, of \$2,020 for the year which is in addition to the \$77,547.12. Resolution No. 2010-89, for the ongoing maintenance, help desk and supplemental services, is in conjunction with Resolution No. 2010-88.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

5. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-89 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ENTER INTO A TECHNICAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SUNGARD PUBLIC SECTOR, INC. FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION SOFTWARE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated this resolution goes hand-in-hand with Resolution 2010-88. It is the supplemental maintenance agreement that allows the city to continue with updates, including year-end tax tables and all other software upgrade/versions, access to a 24/7 help desk, account management services, etc. There are also a number of secondary functions such as using Sungard forms to print checks in order to minimize check fraud exposure. Mr. Ansel said the current contract price is \$39,678.99, which again their pricing was held, with a CPI + 2% increase, of \$1,035. Saralyn Lash answered council's questions and indicated the help desk was called 23 times in 2010 for various reasons.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Cavin, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

6. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-90 ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WOOSTER TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO EXISTING ENTERPRISE ZONE AND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT AGREEMENTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel explained that Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) is a comprehensive non-partisan review board that reviews the existing Enterprise Zone (EZ) and Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) agreements each year. Mr. Ansel said the process can be easy if all the targeted projections are achieved, but it becomes a little more tedious when there are issues of under performance or non-achievement to the committed projections. Mr. Ansel listed the positions/members serving on the TIRC committee and said their exclusive responsibility is to review the requests and judge on the continuance of the EZ or CRA agreements. He said this year some businesses have over-achieved and some have under-achieved. With the economy being what it is today, several of the current EZ's have not achieved their level of commitment, in terms of new jobs, business expansion, growth, additional incremental revenue for the City of Wooster. Mr. Ansel said there have been past discussions on council floor on some of the highly emotional incentives regarding take backs, claw backs, etc. In mutual cooperation and understanding, council can each year, through the recommendations of the TIRC, approve or disapprove the continuance of these agreements. He said there are seven EZ agreements being monitored and two major projects are under performing. Eldorado Stone is tied into the residential home real estate construction market and their \$4.5 million building expansion investment is receiving real estate tax incentives. TIRC is requesting continuance of this abatement primarily for the reason that the property can be marketed much more competitively and aggressively to new companies as they could come in and take over the 7 year balance. Mr. Ansel said Eldorado Stone is the biggest

dollars but it is also the biggest investment on behalf of the property owner. Of lesser financial impact, Mr. Ansel said, are the CRA agreements as they do not have the up front investment generally speaking. Most of the CRA's are renovation projects and not ground breaking new facility constructions, so the dollars are not nearly as significant, nor is the job creation. Mr. Ansel said he is not making light of that, but if the report shows a company is committed to two new jobs and they've only added one job, that isn't a catastrophic situation as long as the TIRC feels they are trying and doing everything in their power to create that additional job. Mr. Ansel said albeit the news is not all good with the city's EZ and CRA agreements, but 95% good news is still positive in light of the economy. With that said Mr. Ansel said that based on the recommendation of the TIRC he would be ready to motion for third and final reading.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

A lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Ulbright expressed great concern that the Eldorado Stone EZ agreement was being recommended for another year's approval as last year it was the same situation, the same argument and the same recommendation. Mr. Ulbright questioned if the recommendations could be amended so they are not all lumped together for approval. Mr. Ansel said he would champion the cause and suggested that council review these agreements very boldly and very aggressively with the TIRC next year to find out what they plan to do regarding this recommended approval. Although, Mr. Ansel said he would stand behind TIRC's recommendation as there may be information council is not hearing. Mr. Starlin explained TIRC's logic on the Eldorado Stone abatement saying it is a local company and if TIRC decided they are going to terminate this abatement, the claw back would be going to that company who would be liable for the taxes due, not the property owner Chesterland Estates, but the company. Also, he said the building is actively being marketed for sale by many parties. He said the other point the TIRC makes, especially from the school board prospective, is that prior to this project, taxes collected on the property were \$1,800 a year and with the tax abatement in place property taxes are approximately \$35,000, whether the building is utilized or not. Mr. Starlin said the lease on the property will be over in another year and a half and TIRC will then take that into consideration. Mr. Ulbright wanted assurance that council won't be at the same point next year at this time and wanted a guarantee that council will be invited to TIRC's meeting, be able to listen to their discussion, have an opportunity to voice opinions and that the meeting will take place at least a month or two before the last council meeting of the year. Mr. Ulbright said he is afraid approving Eldorado's abatement may be sending the wrong message to other companies and will hurt Wooster's economic development program as opposed to showing leniency. Mr. Ansel added that the Eldorado Stone facility is an exceptional building at a premier location for WEDC to market to interested companies. Mr. Starlin indicated the annual report for the EZ needs to be submitted to the state by the end of March and anticipated a TIRC committee meeting will be held in mid-May 2011 and said the meeting invitation would be extended to council. Mayor Breneman said the Eldorado Stone abatement did generate much discussion with the TIRC. He said their thought process was how has it harmed the city or how has it done damage to the city and they felt it hasn't. Essentially, he said the schools are impacted the most from a tax abatement because they are giving up tax revenue as they are the largest recipient of property tax revenue. As mentioned, the tax revenue on that property went from about \$1,800 up to \$38,000 a year, so the schools are approximately \$36,000 to the good. Mayor Breneman said the one fear of the schools is new employees moving in the area and bringing children that need educated which increases the cost to the schools. Right now, that is not a problem because there are very few employees there, so the schools have not been harmed. He said the city itself wants to increase the job base in the City of Wooster as that is how the city derives revenue through income tax, but the jobs weren't there to begin with, so the city has not been harmed at this point and time by the abatement. Therefore, TIRC's view was the Eldorado Stone abatement did not perform the way everyone was hoping it would, due to the economy of the housing and residential trade, but the city has not been harmed by the construction of the building which is now being marketed as a large new manufacturing building. Mayor Breneman feels TIRC should hold a meeting next year to decide if the Eldorado Stone agreement is moving forward or if a claw back position should be considered, which council has the authority to do. He also said that all meetings of the city are open to the public and are advertised. Mr. Buytendyk expressed he too does not feel the Eldorado Stone abatement has hurt the city and said anyone who has invested \$4.5 million wants it to work. He said this abatement program is in place and he believes this shows other companies interested in coming to Wooster that our city is willing to work with them. Ms. Knapic said she has the same concerns, but weighing everything, her concern was if the city claws back this

project, would the company go into foreclosure and become an eyesore for that area. She feels the city should show willingness to work with these companies. Mr. Silvestri said there is a year and half left on Eldorado's lease and feels without knowing what their plans are, maybe that would be a benchmark or a possible end in site for them to make a change. He said he would be keeping his eye on that time frame to see how they do. Mr. Cavin felt the way the recommendations were presented were unfortunate, being lumped all together, but he said he could not go along with the Eldorado abatement and he feels there is a time when you have to say its done. He said he therefore would not support the legislation. Mr. Ansel summarized saying this was a very healthy discussion and that in light of the current economic crisis, the city is very fortunate to have twenty projects that fall under EZ expansion, 5% questionable and 95% either exceeding or coming close to their projections. Mr. Ansel is optimistic there will be a business in the Eldorado Stone building with jobs and a functional use for that facility. After listening to all the comments, Mr. Ulbright said it was hard to say no to all the other businesses and again reminded city administration to inform city council when the TIRC meeting will be held.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried 6-1 (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-no; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

7. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-91 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO RENEW A CONTRACT WITH THE CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEES FOR THE FURNISHING OF EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES TO A PORTION OF WAYNE TOWNSHIP, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Steiner)

Mr. Steiner said this is an annual item to renew the automatic aid agreement with Central Fire District to respond to emergency medical service for the piece of Wayne Township that abuts the City of Wooster. The area that we are serving is the same as it has been in the past. There are only two changes in the proposed contract. The city will waive the bi-annual fee of \$1,875 for response. In exchange, the Central Fire District will provide services for the city when we are in training activities.

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

8. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-92 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH REA & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE PREPARATION OF THE CAFR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated this is a new and different piece of legislation coming before council. It is an outsourcing initiative to provide a required governmental accounting standard format to the City of Wooster. This resolution is to provide for the preparation of an annual comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) and the Director of Finance has recommended entering into a three-year professional services contract with Rea & Associates, Inc. of Wooster, a firm that is both qualified and approved by the auditor of state for such purposes, and the cost will be included in the annual appropriation ordinances for FY 2011 through 2013. Previously the CAFR was being completed in-house by the finance staff but with the loss of two full time employees and another full-time employee going to part-time status, it is necessary to outsource this function. Mr. Ansel said Rea & Associates specialize in public financial review and audit processes and they are very cost effective in the services they provide with their level of expertise. Mr. Ansel noted that outsourcing this service is a standard operating procedure for most cities. The cost of the service for a three year period is \$15,000 per year. Mr. Silvestri feels it was a real benefit that the city's staff compiled the CAFR report and was concerned if they would still be providing all the data to the outside firm. The Mayor and Stacy Thomas, Deputy Finance Director, further explained the procedure and services provided. Mr. Buytendyk said complying with the GASB are unproductive hours for the finance department as its mainly to make

sure the CAFR meets GASB standards which constantly change. Mr. Ulbright said the bottom line is the city is outsourcing this service due to loss of employees in the finance division but thanks to the VSP the city is still tax dollars ahead.

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Buytendyk wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He wished the VSP retirees well and thanked the city employees that remain, saying he doesn't think any city has a more dedicated group of employees and that is what makes this city great.

Mr. Ulbright wished everyone Happy Holidays and wished good luck to the VSP retirees.

Mr. Cavin said Happy Holidays to everyone. He wanted to clarify that his no vote on the TIRC recommendations does not reflect his feelings on the other 95% of the companies who are trying really hard to make a go of it in this tuff economy.

Ms. Knapic announced that the Save the Christmas Run Pool Committee has reached their goal of raising \$100,000. She said to have that type of participation in a community is absolutely amazing. Ms. Knapic wished the VSP retirees best of luck and thanked the employees still working at the city for all their hard work. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Silvestri wished a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Mr. Ansel congratulated and thanked the VSP retirees. He also thanked council and city administration as 2010 was a very challenging year and he doesn't think a better job could have been done in accomplishing the task at hand, thanks to the foresight, wisdom and initiative of everyone working together for a future that will be prosperous, healthy and good. Mr. Ansel said he is proud to be associated with such a fine group of people. He said there is much hard work ahead in 2011 and its not going to get any easier, but very positive steps have been made to move forward. He thanked everyone for their diligence, vision and hard work and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

David J. Silvestri
Acting President of Council

Cheryl K. Collins
Clerk of Council