

Wilmington City Council met on Thursday, March 15, 2012, with President Scott Kirchner presiding.

Roll Call: Jaehnig, present; Wells, present; Stuckert, present; Wallace, present; Mead, present; Siebenaller, present; McKay, present.

Assistant Chief Duane Weyand was also present.

President of Council asked cell phones to be set to silent mode.

Council gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

President of Council

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by Mead to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting, March 1, as received.

Motion passed.

Minutes approved as received.

President Kirchner: Item two tonight is three readings on the new council rules. We will be asking that it be declared an emergency. We have reviewed the Rules of Council and updated them to more modern times to reflect what we are doing, and we have also added something that we are going to be trying out tonight, which is a new roll call vote procedure which will rotate it. So, I will encourage all of council to stay on your toes and listen for your name. It won't be in the same order you have been used to for a while.

[Banter]

Councilman Jaehnig: Having not had a piece of legislation out of ad-hoc in a long time, I have a question in regards to procedure. Is that something that a council member has to put forth in a motion?

President Kirchner: It is.

Councilman Jaehnig: Then, I would gladly do that.

President Kirchner: That is fine. I would gladly accept it.

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by Stuckert to give the first reading only on the ordinance Amending Codified Ordinance §110.10 Regarding Rules of Council and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion passed

Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by McKay to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Siebenaller, yes; Mead, yes; McKay, yes.

Director of Law read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by McKay to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll Call: Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Siebenaller, yes; Mead, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 5017 passed as read.

President Kirchner: I just realized an edit problem I have on that sheet. I don't know if anybody else caught that. I apparently switched Siebenaller and Mead, so we will be revisiting that again. The next item on the president's portion is the announcement of a public hearing to discuss electric aggregation. In the Ad-Hoc Committee, we also visited the question of whether or not the city might consider getting into aggregation. It was the Ad-Hoc Committee's desire to send it to full council and to advertise an opportunity for

the public to come and have input to it, ask questions about, and we will be doing that during the regular council meeting on Thursday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m. We just want to make sure that got out to the public. There are copies of the press release over there for anybody in the audience. And there's one up here for you Gary, the original, if you would like it for the News Journal. We would love to get the word out to folks so they can come and find out about it and give any input. There is no more under my part of the agenda; however, I did, just before this meeting, get indication that we have a date...that is correct?...that we will be calling a special council meeting for the purpose of holding a public hearing. It will be the only item on the agenda, regarding potential legislation on licensing fees for games of skill, electronic arcades, whatever you want to call them. But, we will doing that meeting here in council chambers on Thursday, April 12. It is my understanding that is at 7 p.m. So, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 12, there will be a special meeting for a public hearing only on that item. Then, one last item I had in my packet was that the Clinton County Solid Waste Management District is needing volunteers in March, April and May for cleanup. Groups who wish to contact them can call them at 382-6177 to get involved in volunteering on cleanup days. That is the completion of my portion of the meeting. Our mayor is on vacation, I believe, so we will have no mayor portion. We will jump right into committee reports.

Mayor –In the absence of Mayor Riley, there was no report.

Asset, Acquisition and Use –Chairperson Bob Mead: No report this evening, Mr. President.

Auditor – In the absence of Auditor David Hollingsworth, there was no report.

Finance Committee – Chairperson Bob Mead: No report this evening, Mr. President.

Water Committee – Chairperson Mike Wallace: No report, Mr. President.

Streets Committee – Chairperson Mark McKay: No report, Mr. President.

Solid Waste/Recycling Committee: Chairperson Don Wells: Mr. President, I have no report this evening, but something has come to my attention. We have got...where the railroad crosses Sugartree, close to the Shoppes at the Old Mill area, along the railroad property, which would be to the south, there is illegal dumping going on right there in that area. Has anyone looked at that? Have you seen that, Larry?

Service Director Reinsmith: No, but I think has been going on for years. Hasn't it, Bob?

Councilman Mead: They clean it up and then it comes back.

Service Director Reinsmith: Yeah...they clean it up and then they start it again...they clean it up and it starts again.

Councilman Wells: I was out there and looked at it the other day and... What can we do about that? Anything at all? Who cleans it up? Do we clean it up? The City?

Service Director Reinsmith: I don't know. I think that we have had some trucks out there before and they loaded them. We've done a couple of neighborhood cleanups out there and brought trucks out there and everything. We have the same problem on Hawley Avenue.

Councilman Wells: I had not noticed this before. This time I did. I looked at it and I was stunned; I didn't know anybody was doing that. So, I didn't know what we had to do to... Of course, it's illegal to do that in the city. Now, that is railroad property, is it not?

Service Director Reinsmith: I'd say it is. It's almost up to your building, Bob. I don't know.

Councilman Mead: It's railroad.

Councilman Wells: I wanted to bring that to the mayor's attention tonight, but he's not here, so... I do hope maybe we can take a look at that.

Service Director Reinsmith: Well, I'm going to talk to the railroad, so maybe I'll mention that to them. I'll tell you about it then.

Councilman Wells: Thank you.

Councilman Jaehnig: Could you mention again the regulations in regards to box springs and mattresses. I know spring cleaning must be going on because all of a sudden they are ending up on the lawns again.

Councilman Wells: As far as I know, on the box springs, they are supposed to be wrapped in plastic. Is that correct?

Service Director Reinsmith: Yeah. But, we've modified that a little bit.

Councilman Wells: We have?

Service Director Reinsmith: Yeah. Right before I went for my surgery I think I told Donnie, if we have stuff out there that sits out there for more than a week, we've got to get it picked up. We can't let that stuff lay around. If it means we do a pickup one day a week, we'll go and do the whole city and the boys who do it wear Tyvek suits because of the bedbugs. We will do it that way, but we can't continue to let these things sit around for two or three weeks and hope that somebody picks them up.

Councilman Wells: Okay.

Councilman Siebenaller: One other question in regards...you made me think of this when you mentioned the Sugartree Crossing with the railroad there. I think it was back in the fall the question was asked about that particular crossing. I notice that is really rough. I think you had mentioned that you had talked to the railroad....

Service Director Reinsmith: You know, the business out there had filed a complaint with PUCO and they came down in October and did an inspection and said, "Yes, it's a mess." So they notified the railroad and gave them 30 days to clean it up and said they would be back in 30 days to inspect it. So on November 18, I think, they came back and inspected it. They said, "No, he hasn't done anything." Then in December they wrote us a letter saying, "We did this and they didn't do this and we're going to close the case." But they say the city has the right under ORC 4920 to do something. Of course, I didn't do anything in January or February because of the winter. But today I wrote them a letter and I gave him 30 days. I told him he has 30 days to fix the crossing adequately – not just throw in a little bit of cold mix – you've got to do a good job to our satisfaction, or we're going to go ahead and...That Ohio Revised Code section allows a municipality to have somebody repair the crossing and then we make the railroad pay for it. I gave a copy of that letter to the Law Director. We sent it certified down to them.

Councilman Wells: That's good. That's good. Anybody else? Any other questions?

Mike Mandelstein asked if the awareness factor for the disposal of mattresses and box springs was high enough. He asked if there could be an assessment added to the utility bills to cover the expense. He said the city could pick a number they thought was reasonable. Mr. Mandelstein also asked if there was a minimum standard for repair that could be presented to the railroad to ensure that the job was completed to the city's satisfaction and so there was no question as to what is expected.

Service Director Reinsmith said he thought they would repair it to a minimum standard.

Mike Mandelstein asked if both sides know what the minimum standard is and if there was the potential for misinterpretation.

Service Director Reinsmith said that is really was not that difficult.

Mike Mandelstein asked about a situation in Greenfield where cars went off the tracks and they had to come back with a crane days later.

Service Director Reinsmith explained that they had a broken rail right there and they went in and repaired that rail. He further explained that they did not do a full repair at the time because of weather or some other reason. He said that they had never come back and finished the repair.

Councilman Wells asked about the special fees.

Service Director Reinsmith: I know we've talked about that. I know Don, he wants the ability to assess a special fee on things like that.

Councilman Wells: It's not been very effective because when you make a special fees, sometimes people will just heave it out somewhere in the middle of the night and leave it, and we still have to go pick it up.

Mike Mandelstein: Would you say that compliance would be in a majority then as far as the special fee or you're just saying, "Why waste the time?"

Paul Hunter: Many of those are evictions. You're not going to get any money out of those people.

Mike Mandelstein: Could it not be assessed to the owner of the property then?

Councilman Wells: We can do anything, but, you know...

Councilman Jaehnig: There's no guarantee that the owner of the property is actually the... I have people drop garbage in front of my house to be picked up. There is no reason to believe that the same thing wouldn't happen with a mattress.

Mike Mandelstein: Human nature being what it is, I understand, but gentleman, if you...

Councilman Jaehnig: Our concern is more for our employees and not wanting them to be bringing bedbugs into the vehicles and, God forbid, into their homes. That's why the ordinance was put into place – to protect our employees more than anything else. Once it's in the landfill, we really don't care. We are just asking our residents to please be considerate and consider those who have to handle them. Even if they were clean when they put them out in the road, they may not be by the time they get them.

[Anecdotal discussion of mattresses ]

Councilman Wells: Well, when we have the next solid waste meeting, maybe we'll talk to Donnie about some of those situations.

Service Director Reinsmith: If you want to impose a fee, I don't think we should go crazy with it. I made a suggestion and I ran it by the mayor and he thought it was good. I said, "If that's the way they want to be, let's just pick one day a week and not do it during the regular route days, one day a week, we'll get everything. They'll make the one run through the town, wear their little Tyvek suits, get them picked up and clean up the town. That was my suggestion and he thought it was pretty good, so that's what I told Donnie.

Councilman Wells: Okay. Thank you.

Mike Mandelstein: How about an amnesty day maybe once a month where they get to bring them down to the landfill and nobody gets to handle them.

Service Director Reinsmith: They can do that any day of the week.

President Kirchner: The issue, Mike, is that many of these are evictions. They can be thrown out by any number of people just on their way out. Sometimes it can be college leaving town...any number of things.

Mike Mandelstein: I understand that. It's just there's a property owner behind these places somewhere.

President Kirchner: I agree. But, it's not necessarily the property owner that's done it. So, I think Larry has a great solution to use our resources effectively and keep our people protected. I think that's the critical thing – keep the mattresses and box springs out of the town and our folks from having bedbugs.

Mike Mandelstein: Any idea where it would play into the costs in the current finances in the city?

President Kirchner: Mike, I'm going to go ahead and move on this one.

Service Director Reinsmith: Mike, before we always picked them up anyway. So, it won't cost us any more anymore.

President Kirchner: We're not adding bodies and we're not paying overtime to do it. I think it's within in the same cost structure.

Councilman Wells: Thank you, Mr. President.

President Kirchner: You're welcome. Thank you.

Wastewater/Sewer Committee: Chairperson Loren Stuckert: Mr. President, we have no report.

Judiciary Committee: Chairperson Rob Jaehnig: We have two items tonight Mr. President. The first item will be a reading on an ordinance. We are looking to impose a six-month moratorium on games of skill establishments, adult gaming parlors, internet sweepstakes café and such while we study this further. We have a few sites that have already leased inside the community and while we get a handle on all the different aspects of this, before we have more and more and more move in, we are going to be looking to put a moratorium in place in regards to that. Are there any questions in regards to this motion?

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by Stuckert to give the first reading only on the ordinance Imposing a Moratorium for a Period for Six (6) Months (180 Days) on the Granting of Any New Applications or Permits Allowing the Operation of Any Adult Gaming Parlor, Internet Café, Sweepstakes Café, or Any Other Facility Containing Sweepstakes Terminal Devices, and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion passed

Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

Jaehnig requested that the second and third reading be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Councilman Jaehnig: The second item: I am very pleased to be doing the first reading on an ordinance adopting new codified ordinances in regards to off-street parking. Off-street is the non-public parking areas. It is the parking area businesses are required to put in when they maybe build a new facility. We have not updated our parking regulations in quite some time. So, in bringing things current with current codes across the nation and statistics of what makes a business successful, we will be reducing the parking requirements for new buildings and new construction and so forth. This is an effort to be more enticing to new development. Some of the reductions will be up to 45% reduction in number of parking spaces required. An example of that is if you think of the Staples development. All of you have driven by there. Rarely is that lot more than a fourth full. The reason they have that much parking is because those were the regulations at the time. So, we're going to right-size our off-street parking regulations to bring them into

line. This will also help with some of the developments that currently exist to freeing up land that could be developed as out spaces, which gives us a great opportunity for development without tearing up green space. So, there is a lot of good here in this particular ordinance to take that first step toward helping with economic development. Are there any questions in regards to this?

Councilman McKay: Like in the Staples situation, once this ordinance is passed, is there a way for them to go back?

Councilman Jaehnig: They would have been able to go back at any point through the PUD system and ask for a variance. This just says that the city is more open to that idea than they were in the past. The new developers are the ones that we are really trying to catch their eye. Because, unfortunately, if you have a development like Kohl's at one time – they were looking at what we were doing and looked at our ordinances, without talking to us, they may have made a decision about the fact that “Ooh, this is going to cost us an extra quarter of a million dollars in parking.” Now, a facility of that size is usually going to always be a PUD and that will all be negotiated out. But, again, we want to make sure that we are putting our best foot forward and really showing our openness for being current with the legislation and the codes.

Councilman McKay: I was just thinking that that would give more opportunity for development, especially in that area.

Councilman Jaehnig: And it definitely does, like the old Kroger/Wal-Mart complex. That will give them the opportunity for multiple opportunities there. Do you have a question, Bob?

Councilman Mead: Yes. The first time I saw this was yesterday when I got my packet. Are you saying...and this doesn't show what has been changed; it just shows what it is or what is proposed. Are all the numbers of parking places reduced from what they were in the old one?

Councilman Jaehnig: No. Not all. The retail ones were probably the ones that were affected the most.

Councilman Mead: Were all of the commercial ones reduced?

Councilman Jaehnig: Those were the ones that were reduced the most. A lot of the apartment parking spots and so forth almost remained unchanged.

Councilman Mead: I didn't have any problem with the residential. That seems reasonable.

Councilman Jaehnig: And these are minimums. This is the minimum amount of parking. They could put more in.

Councilman Mead: My point is, as a small businessman, there are a lot of small businesses out there, and these regulations could be quite difficult for a small business person to produce that many parking places.

Councilman Jaehnig: One of the changes, if you read in the text of the very first paragraph, is on the usable space, so it doesn't count the back room area or the warehouse area as it used...or the space that the shelving units take up...so, that's a major reduction in the square footage. This also doesn't apply to a facility like yours. It's already built.

Councilman Mead: It does apply, because it says if you alter or expand your business, you must comply with these regulations. Which means...

Councilman Jaehnig: And that's not a change.

Councilman Mead: Well, that's what I'm asking.

Councilman Jaehnig: That has always been the case.

Councilman Mead: What that means is that, with my little business, or anybody like me with a little business, which doesn't do very much business, I would have to install 60 parking places to comply with this regulation. Now, you are saying it's the same as the old one. Okay. So, I'm out of compliance now. But if I alter my building or...

Councilman Jaehnig: If you expand your building.

Councilman Mead: Or alter it.

Councilman Jaehnig: It really means expand. The intention is expand.

Councilman Mead: Well it says alter or expand and we have to go with what it says in the law. That would mean 60 parking places, and I probably have 15 now, which is 15 more than most stores. That has always been very adequate. If I make another expansion like I did a year or so ago, I would have to create another 40 or so fully paved parking places, which would negate the ability to even expand. So, I make an exception to...

Councilman Jaehnig: And you can still get variances in regards to that. Most of the ones that have been asked for have been approved. There are very few that have ever been turned down. But with businesses and buildings that already exist, there is very little enforcement going on. Unless, all of sudden, you decide and come and tell us "We're going to double the size of our facility." Okay, that's fine, but where are you going to put all of these people that are supposedly coming there. But, there are variances that have already been approved for many people that could be approved for your situation. With this new piece of legislation, maybe it does say 60 based on your square footage, my bet is before we made this change, it was closer to 100.

Councilman Mead: What I have a problem with is needing that many parking spaces for a business that small.

Councilman Jaehnig: But we're basing it under volume. If you put a different company in there that is a high volume company in the same square footage and we lower it that much, then they are not going to have enough spaces.

Councilman Mead: My problem is, I'm a law and order man, and I figure if we have an ordinance, we should enforce it. And you're saying, "Well, maybe we won't enforce it." I can see if this was a guideline for the people who approve new building. I could understand it being a guideline. The other thing that at least we're making clear is this is better than it was. My objecting to it is not changing anything because it's already in there – just like that. Right? Altering or expanding.

Councilman Jaehnig: Correct. That has not been a change.

Paul Hunter: Bob, you can go the Board of Zoning Appeals at any time and they would consider your situation and give you a variance. That is not breaking the law but that is giving you permission to do something less than the law.

Councilman Mead: I understand. I like to obey laws.

Paul Hunter: That is obeying the law. You go to the Board of Zoning Appeals and ask for a variance because you don't have the volume.

Councilman Mead: Okay. You're just asking for one reading. Right?

Councilman Jaehnig: We're just asking for one reading. That is correct.

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by McKay to give the first reading only on the ordinance Rescinding Codified Ordinances §1165 and Adopting New Codified Ordinances in Chapter 1165 Regarding Off-Street Parking.

Motion passed  
Director of Law read ordinance by title only.

Jaehnig requested that the second reading be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Safety Committee- Chairperson Don Wells: We have one item. Tonight we would like to ask for the second and third reading on a resolution giving authorization and support for the application to the Ohio Department of Development, Local Government Innovation Fund, and declaring an emergency. This is to apply for a grant for the study of the dispatching systems. Are there any questions or comments?

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by McKay to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the resolution Giving Authorization and Support for an Application to the Ohio Department of Development, Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF), and Declaring an Emergency.

Roll call: Stuckert, yes; Wallace, yes; Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes.

Director of Law read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by McKay to pass the resolution as read.

Roll call: Wallace, yes; Mead, yes; Siebenaller, yes; McKay, yes; Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Stuckert, yes;

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Res. No. 2278 passed as read.

Downtown Revitalization Committee - Convener Mark McKay: No report, Mr. President.

Parks and Recreation Committee - Convener Rob Jaehnig: No report.

President Kirchner: Mr. Service Director. Welcome back. We trust that you're healing well.

Service Director- Service Director Larry Reinsmith: Yes. I have a couple of items: an update for Mr. Hunter. Our parking lot has not improved.

Paul Hunter: I didn't figure it had.

Service Director Reinsmith: No. I did send out final notice to him. I gave him 15 more days.

Paul Hunter: It's a good chance to test out the new man.

Service Director Reinsmith: I told him that he either gets it done in 15 days or expect court action. So that letter went out to him and we'll see what happens.

Paul Hunter: Thank you.

Service Director Reinsmith: If we have to fix it, we won't have any money to do it with. But, we have to figure something out.

[Discussion of parking lot]

Service Director Reinsmith: The second issue. I've thought about this a lot, is the gaming machine thing. I could care less about it one way or another. It is a business that wants to come to Wilmington that might provide a few jobs. I applaud anyone at this time who wants to come to Wilmington to start anything. I had people tell me that we had council people ask how we could stop the Dollar Store from being built at the location on Main Street. They didn't think it looked right for our city to have another Dollar Store on our Main Street. I don't think anything is going to look as bad as the old Fisher Lumber Company looked there. I also made the statement of how are we going to recruit for a fancy restaurant or anything to go there when it's cattycorner from an old abandoned gas station and next door to a feed mill. You know, the people that want to

build that dollar store there, they built it for a purpose because they want to accommodate college students that can walk from the college and shop at that store. Now, I know some people said we have a food kitchen right down the street and that looks bad. There probably will be a lot of people coming from the food kitchen stop there too and shop. It's hard to say we don't want these Dollar Stores in town. But there are a lot of people who can only afford to go to a Dollar Store. This brings a bigger subject up. It's really concerning. I know everyone wants to bring more jobs to the city, but we really have to open our eyes and we have to save what we have in this city. We just lost the Chinese restaurant on the south end of town. It was a fine little restaurant but they closed up. Granny's Kitchen closed up her food service operation. We lost Fortis at the beginning of the year. I got word that another big company is going to close by the end of the year and we will lose another 350 jobs. They've already started layoffs. We can't afford...it's like we need to create a task force where we go out and reach out to these businesses and sit down and talk to them and say, "Hey, how are you doing? Is there anything we can do to see if we can help you?" By the city...by the state...because this town is disappearing. We are going to end up with more and more empty buildings. Yeah, it would be nice to get somebody out at the air base with 5000 jobs, but we're going to lose everything in between. I wouldn't doubt by the end of the year, our unemployment rate is 14% or 15%. Because, I heard two factories might leave. Two big companies. That's serious stuff. You can't lay off enough people to cover that and still run the city. I think something needs to be created, like a task force to reach out to these businesses, to try to get a feeling for where they are. It's tough on those small businesses. You don't make any money. You pay unemployment, you pay Bureau of Worker's Comp, you pay local tax, state tax. There's no money left. They're all struggling. They all have increased utility bills and tax rates. We're going to have a city full of nothing here before too long. I mean. We got to do something. I know we had UDAG money, but we've always in the past kind of used that money to help businesses. Lately, we've bought more buildings and tore them down. That's created no jobs. You know, we've got empty lots to maintain now. So, we've got some work to do. We want to get new jobs, but we've got to save what we've got here too.

President Kirchner: I would completely agree with you, Larry. I know that the Mayor had made a commitment that he wanted to, on a regular basis, begin visiting existing companies here. While we are all hoping for new jobs coming in, one of the things that Mayor Riley had shared with me back during the campaign was why can't we go out and talk to businesses that are here? Is there anything we can do to help you expand? Are there any of our regulations that are inhibiting growth and inhibiting your operation. Randy wanted to do that reach-out and I believe he has actually been working on it with visiting existing companies. I can tell you, from my position, and I believe from every position up here, there isn't a thing that this council isn't willing to do to listen and to try to consider anything that can make business more competitive and fiscally viable in the town. I do believe that's true. The matter of what types of businesses we want in the town is a separate question from the fact that everybody wants to create jobs and good paying jobs. I completely agree with the statement, and I know the mayor has been working diligently with putting together the economic resources we have through CIFT, through meeting with the County Economic Development Coordinator, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, and I don't want to leave anyone out. But, I know that he has put together a task force of all of the resources that are out there to try to recruit jobs. And they're meeting on a regular basis. Correct?

Councilman Jaehnig: That is correct.

President Kirchner: And Rob participates, obviously, as the CIFT representative locally. I think the organization and the effort is getting coordinated and done the best they can. A lot of that focus is new jobs, but you're right, we have to take care of our own too: the ones that are here. Point well taken.

[Banter regarding economic development]

Safety Director – In the absence of Safety Director Russ Burton, there was no report.

Reports:

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by Mead to approve the Auditor-Treasurer's – February 2012, as received.

Motion passed.

Reports accepted as received.

President Kirchner: At this point, I would like to open the meeting up to the general public and/or members of council to address council while in session.

Councilman Jaehnig: Just in reference and to expand on your comments, Larry. The group that Commissioner Curry and Mayor Riley put together – the Economic Development Group – is the Regional Planning Office, the County, the Economic Development Director, Brett Dixon with the County, Mayor Riley, Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, and CIFT. That is to make sure we are all very open and having open discussions about everything that is going on. For two reasons: One is to support each other in the different actions that we're taking and make sure we are working together and not against each other. Secondly, to not duplicate work so that we can get more work done than actually doing the same thing over and over again in different departments. I am very pleased to say that I met this morning with one of our newest businesses in town, with Mr. McKay and Brenda representing the mayor, and that is Sapling Learning. Sapling Learning is based out of Austin Texas. They are very, very high-tech educational systems, mainly for the college field in sciences and biochemistry, regular chemistry, physics and those types of things. But they are also moving into the high school market. The amazing thing that they are doing is they are able to take software that allows the professors in regards to testing the homework that isn't just a simple picture; that it's the right answer. As we all know, in many things, there are multiple right answers. It is able to recognize all of the correct answers. And if the answer isn't correct, it can talk to them specifically about how to work through and get the correct answer. They have grown 50% for three years running. They have just opened up a sales office up here in Wilmington. They have four employees already and they expect to be adding more – maybe as many as another 6-10 by summer. The nice thing is these are all solid jobs. The manager that we met with this morning talked about the fact that they have 33 sales people, 4 of them up here. Three of the top five in sales last month were three of the Wilmington people. So, they are ecstatic by the work effort that they are finding up here. They are very committed to the community and expanding from there. So, while it's not that hundreds and hundreds of jobs, it is a very positive thing and it's very nice to see. We're seeing a lot more of those types of things going on. For the first time, I feel like we are very poised to be able to capitalize on economic development opportunities as an entire work group. We don't have one working against the other or egos involved or anything of that nature. So, I feel very positive about it. The other thing, if you're bored tomorrow and the sun is out, please go to Wilmington College. The largest piece of art in Clinton County is now on display there in anticipation for the food symposium next Tuesday. They have a 70-yard by 50-yard piece of green that they have turned into a palette and have a very large art display on the green. It's really something to see. It's made out of 13,000 plant stakes. Each one of those stakes represents a meal that has been served in Our Father's Kitchen since January 1. So, 13,000 stakes out there to form this piece of artwork. It's an incredible site to see, so please take a stop out there. Thank you.

President Kirchner again asked if anybody else from the public or the council wished to address council while in session.

Councilman McKay: I want to applaud the city employees that volunteered to go down to the Moscow area and help with the cleanup there. I talked with Denny Gherman today. They saw a lot of devastation, but they did a great deal of good, both physically and I'm sure they reaped the benefits of when you volunteer to do things like that for your fellow man. We have a great group of people.

President Kirchner: I agree. Thank you, Mark.

President Kirchner again asked if anybody else from the public or the council wished to address council while in session.

Seeing no one else who wished to speak, President Kirchner asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by Wallace to adjourn.  
Motion passed.  
Council adjourned.

ATTEST:

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President of Council

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Clerk