MINUTES OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING March 12, 2012

The March 12, 2012 Utilities Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sharon Spencer at 7:14 P.M. Present were Fred Berry, Jack Ferguson, Amy Michael, Scott Rainone, Bruce Ribelin, Frank Seman and Fran Ricciardi. Also attending the meeting were Kim Cecora, Finance Director; Service Director, Kelly Engelhart; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Utility Billing Supervisor, Mike Reynolds; Elaine Van Hoose, Parks and Recreation Director; Donna Swigart of 528 East Riddle Avenue, Ravenna, Ohio and Marc Resnik of 1102 East Riddle Avenue, Ravenna.

Ms. Spencer said the Honeywell contract is the first item on the agenda.

Ms. Engelhart said that they approved to go forward with the finance aspect so that they could request the energy conservation bonds. They finally got all of the paperwork and the Honeywell contract is several inches thick, which they reviewing between the law director and city engineer. They hope to bring that back at the Special meeting on March 19 with their recommendations as to what they feel is needed in regard to the specificity of the Honeywell contract. There will need to be separate legislation which allows the mayor to enter into that agreement with Honeywell. They do plan on doing that if approved by Council at the special meeting on the 19th.

Mr. Cecora said bond legislation will be included. Roetzel is drafting bond legislation to go with the Honeywell contract. Both pieces will be in order for March 19.

Ms. Engelhart said the other item she would like to discuss is she proposed to the superintendents of both utilities, the water plant and the wastewater plant that they have an open house this spring for the public to come to those facilities to be able to see the infrastructure, where their money goes in regards to their water bill and sewer bill. Her coming in from living in a rural community all her life, she is amazed as to what infrastructure it takes to get potable water and to get rid of the sewage. She thinks, generally, citizens take those things for granted. They would like to have an open house and are proposing the date be May 12th on a Saturday so that it can be open to the public somewhere between 10:00 and 2:00. They would also like to have the Street Department involved and have some of their equipment out there; the Vactor, etc., so the public can see where they use it. They may see those out on the street but not necessarily understand how those pieces of equipment are utilized to provide them services. She would like to ask for an appropriation of no more than \$3,000.00 split between the water and wastewater to market for that. She does think they are going to need to put some educational materials in the paper, develop some pamphlets and also put some signs out so that they can get the public to be aware they are hosting it.

Ms. Spencer said she thinks this is a great idea. She toured all the facilities when she was first elected and it was really interesting.

Mr. Berry said the only concern he would have would be the liability of having the public out there.

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Ms. Engelhart said they already have waivers that they could have everyone sign. When they have school children with field trips, their parents have to sign a waiver. It will be covered under the city's liability protection. They will have staff there at all times. They're not going to let people go up the hill to the EQ basins, etc. They will always have someone with them and they'll try to coordinate taking them out in groups.

There being no questions or comments, it was decided by those present that a tracking sheet would be submitted for Finance Committee approval.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

ATTEST:		
Clerk of Council	Sharon Spencer, Chairperson Utilities Committee	