



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

6:00 PM

1) Call to Order

A) Zoom participation link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/530098538>

2) Roll Call of Members

President Lori Ann Feibel, Troy Markham, Monique Lampke, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Jen Robinson, Richard Sharp

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Presentations/Special Guests

5) Public Comments

Leah Turner, 993 Francis Avenue - She wanted to talk about the property next door and she knows that they are all very smart people but she wants them to consider the impact on the neighbors.

6) President's Report

President Feibel reminded everyone that the second meeting is at the end of March due to Spring Break.

7) City Attorney Report

Mr. Fishel said he met with Chief Rinehart and some other officers and made sure that the "8 Can't Wait" requirements with the help of our law enforcement.

8) Administrative Update:

A) Finance Department Update
No report.

B) Police Department Update

Chief Rinehart said nothing beyond his written report.

C) Recreation Department Update

Mr. Price said nothing other than his written report. Ms. Lampke asked for a brief update regarding the Jeffrey Mansion expansion. Mr. Price said they are now working on the northside of the building along with the porch. The exterior should be completed by early April. We have events starting in May. Ms. Lampke asked if it was on budget? Mr. Price said it is really tight right now and we are pushing the budget.

D) Service Department Update

Mr. Bashore said nothing other than his written report.

E) Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler provided the highlights of his report. March 24th will be the public workshop for the Bexley Friendly Bike Plan at 5:30 p.m. We have several events coming up this spring. We are working on a Memorial Day Jazz in the Park on June 4th with designated areas and guidelines in place. We are planning on a Main Event season and he encourages everyone to be vaccinated when possible.

Board of Control is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Friday. We will have another meeting for the vote to take place. The Sewer Remediation Program went live today and sent to everyone who has completed a form. Mayor Kessler thanked Andy Bashore, Service staff, Recreation staff and the Mike Price for making the Jeffrey Wood Program a success.

Mayor Kessler said he wanted to briefly speak about the proposed Sheetz business coming to Livingston Avenue in the City of Columbus. We would certainly have some strong feelings if the City of Columbus or Mayor Ginther started telling Bexley their thoughts on our developments. It is a sensitive subject. It is a "rezoning" issue and asking for a legislative process because it goes beyond what the zoning originally anticipated. We are of course concerned with the traffic and safety in that area so the proposed use would further a "highway" type of situation vs. a pedestrian type of area that we are striving for. He presented a letter that he had prepared for Council to review and discuss further.

Ms. Saad asked about the pool bubble concept and asked for an update? Mayor Kessler said we have been looking at this idea since 2016 and more recently approached by residents who are interested. We have been meeting with those parents to bring them up to speed and we have found that it is not a financially feasible option at this time but keeping dialogue open to explore for the future.

Mr. Sharp thanked the Mayor for his work on the letter regarding Sheetz and would like to have further discussion during the first readings this evening. President Feibel agreed with Mr. Sharp.

9) Consent Agenda:

Motion made to adopt Ordinance 06-21, 07-21 and the Minutes made by Ms. Lampke and seconded by Mr. Markham. Vote 7-0 PASSED

- A) Ordinance 06-21 to authorize a transfer from the Road and Alley Fund of \$5,256 to the Bond retirement Fund and to appropriate \$5,256 from the Bond Retirement Fund, to

appropriate \$52,559 from the Water Fund to to appropriate \$7,884 from the Sewer Fund to pay debt service related to the South Roosevelt and Ashbourne Improvement Project, (Introduced by Mr. Markham on February 9, 2021)

B) Ordinance 07-21 to establish a special fund designated the South Drexel Avenue and Grandon Avenue Comprehensive Improvements Fund to record all revenue and expenses associated with the South Drexel Avenue and Grandon Avenue project, to appropriate \$5,158,807 from this fund to pay for the cost of the project and to authorize transfers from the Water, Sewer and Road and Alley Funds of \$134,181, \$31,572 and \$97,347 respectively to the South Drexel Avenue and Grandon Avenue Comprehensive Improvements Fund to pay the City's portion of the project (Introduced by Mr. Markham on February 9, 2021)

C) 2-23-21 City Council Minutes

10) Ordinances/Resolutions with visiting presenters

11) Second Readings:

A) Ordinance 08-21 to certify special assessments for the repair of sidewalks where the work was not done by the owner after being ordered by the City in accordance with Bexley Code Section 1490.15(b)(4)A or Bexley Code Section 1492.04(b)(1) and it was necessary to do the work and assess the owner, introduced by Mr. Sharp (Introduced on 2-23-21)

Mr. Sharp said in summary, this is basically two years worth of sidewalk assessments because some residents asked to be billed through their property for these repairs. If you feel you are on the list inadvertently, please contact the City and we can correct this prior to the third reading. President Feibel said we likely will have some amendments to this Ordinance prior to voting.

B) Ordinance 09-21 to unappropriate \$86,971 from the Urban Redevelopment Tax Increment Equivalent Fund more commonly known as the City Hall TIF Fund, introduced by Mr. Markham (Introduced on 2-23-21)

Mr. Markham said this is a correction of revenue vs. estimated income for the TIF Fund.

Ms. Robinson wanted to publicly thank Mr. Harvey and Mr. Markham for answering her questions regarding the TIF today. President Feibel said TIFs do a great job and do some wonderful things.

Mr. Markham said this could be placed on the Consent Agenda for the next meeting.

C) Ordinance 10-21 creating a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area in a specified portion of the Main Street District and enacting regulations and declaring an emergency, introduced by Mr. Klingler (Introduced on February 23, 2021)

Mr. Klingler said this Ordinance would create an Outdoor Refreshment Area for Main Street. Mayor Kessler said he spoke with Capital and they do not want their parcels included in the DORA, but the sidewalks are fine to include. Mayor Kessler said we need to publish a Notice of

Public Meeting on March 30th for the next two weeks in the newspaper.

Ms. Robinson asked if there were any additional restaurants who have agreed to be a part of this program? Mr. Klingler said he would be contacting more businesses. Mayor Kessler said we are at the required number, but he thinks most restaurants will participate. President Feibel thanked Mr. Klingler and Mayor Kessler for their work on this project.

Mr. Sharp asked about the Notice of Application published, starting the thirty days but not more than sixty days of approval. This will need to be Tabled for twenty to twenty-five days based on the Notice date. Mayor Kessler said that is correct. Mr. Sharp said it is worded, "City Council should review the DORA every five years". Why five years before revisiting the issue? Mayor Kessler said the State authority says "shall" review every five years but it is certainly not limiting City Council to review this sooner or more often. Mr. Fishel said the Mayor is correct. It does not limit the number of visitation or even elimination at any time by the Council. Mr. Sharp said Hilliard had a DORA last year and are now considering expanding the duration this summer. He thinks Bexley have a DORA would help to increase visitors.

Ms. Lampke asked Mr. Fishel about having some adults with open containers on the sidewalks. Is there any additional liability if alcohol plays a part in an accident or injury? Mr. Fishel said absolutely not. Ms. Lampke asked about the safety plan with a minimum of one officer. Mayor Kessler said the Chief spoke with Gahanna and we are not saying that we have a "dedicated" officer for the DORA - rather that we have adequate "staffing" for the DORA. The Chief felt comfortable with this after speaking with the City of Gahanna. Mayor Kessler said this will not be a burden on the police department, but if we experience different results, we can come back and make needed changes. Ms. Lampke said are people pushing strollers, walking, on the sidewalks be affected? Mayor Kessler said the street will remain open so there won't be any changes.

Ms. Saad said she thinks great language is placed in the safety portion of this DORA plan. She said it is noted that the Mayor and Chief will be meeting at least monthly to discuss this plan. She feels confident we will be talking this into account for adjustments as needed.

Ms. Charity Justman, 936 College Avenue- She said earlier Mayor Kessler had said he wanted to do a publication about the public meeting notice. Is there a place where residents should look to keep up with these notices? Mayor Kessler said the Bexley Blast is the best source. The newspaper requirement is an Ohio Revised Code requirement for papers that are circulated within our community such as The Dispatch. The day to day important information is best found on the Bexley Blast. She said someone said there is no additional liability for the DORA. She does not think that is correct, the State has strict requirements on this topic. Mr. Fishel said there are specific legal insurance factors and requirements. He was speaking of something like if someone became intoxicated and fell on the sidewalk, etc. there is no additional liability on the part of the City.

12) Third Readings:

- A) Resolution 01-21 confirming the Mayor's appointments of members to the Citizen Review Board, introduced by Ms. Robinson (Introduced on February 9, 2021)

Ms. Robinson discussed the process of selection for these members. The Ordinance to expand the Citizen Review Board actually passed in October of last year. We decided to move in a timely manner to fill those spots. In November, we advertised these positions on the Bexley Blast along with our website. Mayor Kessler, Manika Williams and herself began interviews in January and February. She knows there were some concerns raised about the group of people we selected, at no point did we look or ask about a person's political party. These people represent the community and we did have a brief discussion about two of the individuals working at the same company, but decided that it was not an issue since they were both so highly qualified. She said this is not an easy choice because we have a lot of talented people. Ultimately, we had to select the ones that would best handle the tasks at hand. She wants to assure everyone that we are incredibly confident with our selections and it was highly a collaborative effort.

Mr. Sharp said he thinks it might be helpful to have the residents comments first prior to Council expressing their opinions.

President Feibel asked if anyone was in attendance who would like to speak to this third reading. Ms. Lampke said she wanted to share her thoughts that she has reviewed the backgrounds and skill sets of each candidate and said these five collective members will bring a fair and subjective approach to this board.

Mr. Joel Greff, said it is not about this particular issue but people are still not able to get on the meeting and have been trying effortlessly. He wanted to share that information. Mayor Kessler thanked Mr. Greff for sending him the incorrect information and he thinks he has repaired the links. President Feibel said she would suggest we come back to this subject in our Agenda. Council moved to the First Readings in order to provide plenty of time for everyone to get logged into the meeting.

Council returned to this Ordinance and President Feibel apologized for the frustration for those trying to join the meeting. Ms. Robinson repeated her summary of the process stated earlier.

Mr. Marc Abramson does have a prepared speech and he made exceed the five minutes.

President Feibel asked permission from Council to provide Mr. Abramson additional time to speak. All Council members were in agreement to extend the speaking time limit for Mr. Abramson.

Mr. Abramson, 243 S. Stanwood Road - He would like to respond to the Mayor's previous comments. His only interest is that the five members on this Board have no bias. He would like his name to be removed from the list of applicants since he never received an interview. He said it should be apparent as a whole that these individuals do not meet the criteria offered. Mr. Abramson continued stating his objections to the process and to the number of individuals working for the same company. He said one resident sent a message to the Mayor's office after the previously stated deadline and was still permitted to apply. He said it is clear based on some of the Mayor's emails that he did reach out to applicants and basically recruited some individuals. He also reviewed the Oxford Police Review Board documents as a reference. It clearly states that someone who has this type of experience should be sitting on the Board. He asks that City Council not approve this appointment but rather select two other candidates instead.

President Feibel called on Mayor Kessler to speak. Mayor Kessler said he has the utmost respect for Mr. Abramson. He said Mr. Abramson did have the opportunity to go through many pages of information based on his public request but he thinks some of the information was taken out of context. Mr. Abramson was interviewed by President Feibel and myself on July 13, 2020 for over an hour. He spent more time with Mr. Abramson than he did most of the other candidates. We discussed the Citizen Review Board and the Mayor said we did take our time in this process.

Mayor Kessler said if there are other residents who have previously applied unsuccessfully for open boards, it is an obligation to let them know if another opening on a board becomes available. Mayor Kessler said Mr. Nathans also has an insurance background but again, we go with who applies and who is interested in a position. As far as allowing people to apply after the deadline, he feels that it is his right if someone did not see the post earlier to allow them to submit their resume. He was very careful and selected a diverse groups of ages, perspectives, etc. This is the first time he has invited others into the interviews and he stands by the five names that he submitted.

Mr. Sharp said he wanted to comment that similar to Presidential appointments, those are generally at the pleasure of the Mayor with approval by Council. He did think it was unusual to have multiple candidates with similar employers. He did ask about the terms. Mayor Kessler said if the terms are placed on the ballot, the three year requirement would expire at the same time vs. staggered terms. Mayor Kessler said even if the Charter does not pass, we have a plan to stagger those terms. Mr. Sharp asked about the terminology used and suggested considering adding that in our Charter since it could be interrupted differently in the future.

President Feibel said Mr. Fishel, Ms. Lampke and Mr. Klingler will keep that on their radar.

Motion by Ms. Robinson to adopt and seconded by Ms. Saad.

Mr. Abramson said he wanted to let everyone know that he will be submitting another public records request. He was not contacted for an interview, he had reached out to the Mayor himself. He said he was never asked for references.

Vote 7-0 PASSED

Mayor Kessler said Mr. Abramson currently has an email string between himself and my assistant asking to arrange for an interview and we never received any response from Mr. Abramson.

13) First Readings:

- A) Resolution 02-2 supporting the Mayor's concerns about the Sheetz proposed gas station/convenient store development at College Ave and Livingston Ave intersection is not in the best interest of Bexley residents, and to declare an emergency, introduced by Mr. Sharp (Introduced on 3-9-21)

Mr. Sharp wanted to explain that Sheetz is proposing a new location at College and Livingston, at the main southern entry point to the City of Bexley. One is on Cassidy, one is on Stelzer just

north of the city. There are already four gas stations within one mile of the proposed location. It seems out of place for our redevelopment and the Southwest Master Plan to have a Sheetz on Livingston. Bexley and the City of Columbus had entered into an agreement regarding future development. There is a high crime rate in this area and there are a lot of Bexley residents using the Jewish Family Services pools and parks. This will add to the congestion and traffic in this area. The Berwick Civic Association has also spoken up against this Sheetz development. One of the reasons that we are bringing it up now and declaring it an emergency, is because the next step will go to the Columbus Development Association and then to Columbus City Council.

Mr. Sharp asked the Mayor to speak on this topic. Mayor Kessler said he feels that he has covered this adequately in his report and asked what Council members think. Ms. Saad thanked Mr. Sharp for taking the time to look into this and bring me up to speed. She appreciates his effort and due diligence on this topic. President Feibel agreed with Ms. Saad. Ms. Robinson asked how the City of Columbus is viewing this project and said technically, it is outside of our boundary. Do you think they would be interested in hearing our opinions on this development? Mayor Kessler said it is hard to anticipate what the City of Columbus is thinking about this business addition. He said he drafted his letter carefully and only felt it appropriate since he was asked by the Planning staff to do so. He thinks it is delicate issue. If we are asked for our opinion, then he thinks it is appropriate to provide feedback. He knows from Jewish Columbus that their leadership is concerned from the safety standpoint. If this business is located on Livingston, it is their plan to construct a masonry wall to divide their property from that property. If we are inspiring to build more residential use, this is certainly an indication that it could be problematic. Ms. Robinson agrees with the concerns of environmental issues as well and she fully supports this Resolution and thanked Mr. Sharp.

Mr. Markham wanted to echo the same thanks and said as we focus on that gateway to the City, Livingston Ave. is especially important to us. He had two comments concerning the language included in the Resolution. He is concerned with the safety issues.

Ms. Lampke asked about the intersection of College and Livingston and whether there are any plans in the near future to consider changing the traffic patterns? Currently it would be numerous directions coming toward this development. Mayor Kessler said there will be concrete installations, along with traffic calming plans. Columbus currently has no plans to restructure the traffic. Ms. Lampke said she supports this Resolution.

Mr. Greff, 834 Francis Avenue, wanted to thank Richard for bringing this forward. He thinks there is some irony about the concern for safety and traffic regarding the Sheetz development when there was no concern for putting the new housing project in this area.

Mr. Dustin , 990 Francis - He said he agrees 100% with these concerns. He wanted to point out that this is important for City Council to consider for the proposed housing project as well with the same concerns for safety and traffic issues.

Ms. Connie Lewis, Euclaire - She thinks it is important to finish the Livingston Corridor Plan. The proposed Sheetz has an exit that only goes south and is not a very well thought out plan. The only way she could see this work would be adding a light at Sheridan. It is poorly planned, particularly for this intersection. She thanked Mr. Sharp.

Ginny Christopherson, 885 Francis Ave. - She is horrified at the Sheetz proposal. We do not need more traffic at this intersection. She hopes someone will listen before someone is run over. She said the City should have some idea as to what kind of businesses we want to encourage.

Laurie Katz - 299 Roosevelt - She thanked everyone for working so hard to make our community better. This Sheetz is just an example of how we need to work with the City of Columbus when we do not have actual control over this project - this goes for all the projects.

Bob Burke, 917 Pleasant Ridge - He said this is a very large development without a comprehensive plan on what they are going to do. The City of Columbus will benefit, but we won't see any tax dollars from this. It is very large and it is premature for the City of Columbus to consider this issue.

President Feibel asked if action needed taken this evening. Mr. Sharp said the comment made about the numbers being spelled out can be changed without a motion. Mr. Fishel agreed. Mr. Sharp said he would like to leave the "Whereas" in regarding the environment and number of gas stations.

Motion by Mr. Sharp to suspend the three reading requirements. Mr. Klingler seconded the motion.

Vote 7-0 SUSPENDED

Motion to approve Resolution 02-21 by Mr. Sharp. Motion seconded by Mr. Klingler.

Ginny Christopherson said they are in strong support of this Resolution.

Vote 7-0 PASSED

Mr. Sharp asked Mr. Fishel to explain the lack of control by City Council on the other Livingston Project referred to tonight by other callers. Mr. Fishel said in regards to the proposed project on Livingston by The Community Builders, City Council members have no legislative ability to lawfully stop that project or make it go faster. Mayor Kessler said Columbus is considering a "re-zoning" hearing so it is not a Quasi Judicial process which is quite different.

Mr. Klingler asked if this project goes before Columbus City Council. If so, it might benefit our residents to email the Columbus City Council members as well.

B) Ordinance 11-20, to amend Amended Chapter 1230, Definitions; Chapter 1252.15, Accessory Uses and Structures; and Chapter 1223.05, Demolition; in order to provide for additional regulations and criteria related to the construction and demolition of accessory uses and structure in the City, introduced by Ms. Saad (introduced on March 9, 2021).

Ms. Saad thanked the members of the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning, the Architectural Board members, Kathy Rose and Karen Boker for their help in creating this Ordinance. She highlighted the changes in the Ordinance that pertains to garages. There are also some additional definitions added including the definition of a "story". Demolition of any garage must receive a permit and have a replacement plan. Mayor Kessler said Karen Boker has worked with

us and created exhibits for us to actually visualize what these changes mean. This is a change to the Zoning Code for the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning. They will have to provide a recommendation to Council and a public hearing must be held as well.

President Feibel said this is a welcome "clean-up" to the Zoning Code and she thanked Ms. Saad for all her hard work on this topic. Mayor Kessler said this Ordinance has taken some time to draft. This group has been meeting since October and it is a complicated text. There will be additional amendments to this Ordinance. He asked Council to be patient because they want to get feedback from the residents as well.

Charity Justman, 936 College - As you are speaking about a publication to go out to the City, what will you be using? Mayor Kessler said the Bexley Blast email, as he stated earlier, also available on Bexley.org and again the newspaper is an "addition" to and our primary communication is the website, Bexley Blast.

Joel Greff, 834 Francis Ave. - Mr. Greff said great Ordinance and good work Ms. Saad. He would suggest that Council introduce an Ordinance for a three-story building with no commercial use be prohibited, rather than just arbitrarily pick a code.

Mayor Kessler said April 27th will be the Public Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at our scheduled City Council meeting.

- C) Ordinance 12-21, to adopt and approve the City of Bexley Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance, and to declare an emergency, introduced by Mr. Sharp (introduced on March 9, 2021).

Mayor Kessler said this was provided as an update by our legal counsel. He would defer to our future meeting and have legal counsel present to discuss this in detail. This will need to be voted on by the 13th of April, 2021.

14) Tabled Ordinances:

- A) Ordinance 36-20 amending Bexley Codified Ordinance 648.09 Mayor's Emergency Powers, introduced by Mr. Sharp (Introduced on 8-25-20) Tabled on 9-22-20 until February 9th, 2021

Motion to remove Ordinance 36-20 from the table by Mr. Sharp. Seconded by Mr. Klingler. Removed from Table. Vote 7-0 REMOVED

Mr. Markham said he appreciates the extra time to look this over and he thinks it is a very important issue. He is in support. He asked Mr. Fishel about the legal requirements to declare "a State of Emergency"? Mr. Fishel said any of these things lines out under Section 1. Mr. Markham said the line of succession looks very interesting. He asked what the logic was behind the succession list. Mr. Fishel said after two elected officials, the Chief is probably the best one to take action to handle an emergency. Mr. Sharp said the Chief does have a copy of the Emergency Plans and in any natural disaster, the Police Department is a first responder to any of these emergencies.

Ms. Lampke wanted to voice her support on this Ordinance and she appreciates the balances of power. President Feibel said she liked the cooperation of the Mayor and Mr. Sharp working together on this and she appreciates it very much. Further discussion regarding the chain of command.

Charity Justman - With her experience with the City of Columbus declaring a State of Emergency, they can forego money or bids as well? Mr. Fishel said it is a possibility if the process needs suspended temporarily.

Mr.. Bob Burke - He said if this can be changed and we have a Mayor and Council that do not get along and there is a political fight and Council annuls it, it would seem logical to add a buffer of some type. If it becomes apparent over 30 days, for example. Mr. Sharp explained the previous Ordinance did not give Council authority to do anything if there was a State of Emergency that was unwarranted.

Mayor Kessler this Ordinance has the exact same authority that are currently in place. This simply restates what is in place today, to help make it more clear.

Charity Justman - What happens when you allow the legislative process to be changed. You can't really follow the trail. This is very important and if you sincerely care about residents concerns, this is very important. Almost everything at the end list a "State of Emergencies". There are a lot of people who are upset about the lack of accountability. The current Bexley website is so hard to locate information, and it is quite frustrating. President Feibel apologized if she muted her earlier, it was a Zoom technical issue only.

Motion to approve Amended Ordinance 36-20 by Mr. Sharp and Mr. Markham seconded. Vote 7-0 PASSED

15) Service and Environmental Committee - Richard Sharp, Chair

Mr. Sharp wanted to share an update from the ESAC Committee - next litter pick up coming up and will be listed on the Green Bexley website. There is a lot of litter everywhere and extending into Bexley so please look to participate on that event.

April 24th and May 15th - events looking for volunteers and are asking for a minimum of two hours.

16) Finance Committee - Troy Markham, Chair

No report.

17) Safety and Health Committee - Jen Robinson, Chair

Ms. Robinson said there will be a COVID-19 testing event at St. Charles on March 20th and they are looking for volunteers. We have 506 at home testing kits and looking to have those distributed and the Bexley City Schools also has a supply of these tests as well. Lastly, we wanted to let you know that the Bexley Parent Minority Alliance Series started this evening. You can find more information on their website.

Wear a mask, stay safe and get a vaccination!

18) Zoning and Development Committee - Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad provided the next meeting dates for the BZAP and ARB.

CIC covered the Ferndale Mayfield updates and the property has been officially condemned. This Friday, CIC is hoping to close on the N. Cassady property.

19) Recreation and Parks Committee - Matt Klingler, Chair

Mr. Klingler provided an update from the Tree and Public Gardens Commission. He said Ms. Andrews gave her presentation and they are looking at updating the Jeffrey Park Plan.

20) Judiciary and Strategic Committee - Monique Lampke, Chair

Ms. Lampke said April 11th 4-5 p.m. the Bexley Minority Alliance Program will be holding an event and she hopes all of Council will be able to attend.

Ms. Lampke said she and her driver in the house attended the Road Safety Program. It was very eye opening. She highlighted some programs being offered and updated Council on the Charter Review Sub-Committee update. She said we are currently considering all recommendations. We have met on January 17th, March 3rd and April 7th at 7:00 p.m. and we will be taking public comments as we have in our past meetings. She is currently preparing some updates and additional information to distribute to Council at a later date. We have also discussed the possibility of May 11th to introduce their recommendations to City Council. It is possible that City Council could vote on June 8th or Table the Ordinance. The Ordinance could be Amended or tweaked. This is the process we are currently using.- for this Sub-Committee.

21) Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)

Ms. Connie Lewis - Ms. Lewis asked for an update on the Dog Park and the connection to Main Street project. Mayor Kessler provided the update and said we have started the clear cutting north of the bridge. The staff is making a lot of progress on that trail. The dog park project just had a meeting yesterday regarding the easement.

Joel Greff - Mr. Greff wanted to refer back to the last discussion on Sheetz. Speaking from a resident standpoint, this Resolution was passed about a project in Columbus. Mr. Greff said Mr. Fishel stated Council will not have any part with the Bexley housing project. The CIC is in essence the City and a 44% owner in these projects. How does that not involve the City Council? Some of the Council Members are also members of the CIC. It would be nice if Council had the same concern for traffic in the City, regardless of what the project is when we are over populating the Livingston Corridor. We also know Resolutions are not Ordinances and clearly by design, CIC has 3/7ths of Council on it so it does not seem fair to say there is no relationship.

Ajay Garlapati - Basically, we were just made aware of a bullet that lined up with Livingston Avenue and hit a child. If that is not a priority, how do you expect to keep future residents safe if you can't keep it safe now? This is a priority and he would like a response. Mayor Kessler said there was an incident of a bullet that came through the house after being shot up in the air. He said the point is well taken and important. The safety of the City is paramount. There have been extensive discussions about the safety throughout all of Bexley. Safety is the top priority for all of us in Bexley. He has heard very thoughtful considerations as well.

Brian Newman, 953 Francis - He is very concerned with Mayor Kessler's response regarding the bullet. He said the Mayor seemed very "blasé" with his response. He is very concerned about

the Sheetz business going in and it is incredibly sad that we have chosen such an unsafe area for residents who need affordable housing. It is unsettling because we continue to be told "this is not the forum to discuss this project" and you are putting people in harms way.

Dustin - He wants to reiterate what Mr. Newman said. He keeps hearing "this is not the forum for this information" and then "we really want your input". He said when you listened to us, we were limited to 3 minutes at BZAP meeting but we were silenced when it is such an important issue. He has only been here a year and he expected more from Bexley. He listened to Tim Madison's comments about Council taking away questions from the residents and agrees that he thinks City Council is trying to silence them. He said we don't get answers when we email either. He said the residents need elected officials to help them get their voices heard.

Laurie Katz - She knows everyone who is an elected official is working very hard. She thinks the website is not working properly. People are hearing things and right or wrong- people do not feel heard. If you put more information out in the newsletter or get information to the residents in a timely manner. This was not the case with the housing projects and the way they were introduced. We are all concerned with Livingston and we do not need more residents in this area. The city already has so much on its plate and Franklin County is not going to change the catch and release problem.

Mr. Fishel said people feel like they are not being heard, yet this very meeting is very clear that people are being heard constantly regarding the Livingston Project. They may not like the answers they are receiving, but just tonight, we heard 3 or 4 people talk about the Livingston Project. The fact that people can't speak is totally inaccurate. He also said the 3 minutes at the BZAP being allowed to speak - are simply their Board rules. He also said the comment about City Council not answering questions is ridiculous because tonight, questions were answered constantly when there were answers to be had.

Mayor Kessler said there is nothing "blasé" about the way he is handling crime in our community. He said we have been reaching out with other Central Ohio Mayors. We have a broken system and it is a deep concern and it does keep him up at night. To suggest that I am "not compassionate" or "don't care" about how to provide safe housing to residents who have been living in contaminated landfill for years is ludicrous. He is a neighbor with many of the people speaking tonight along with his children.

Charity Justin - She said as far as someone saying the Livingston Ave. Project has not gone through yet, what is the process? Mr. Fishel said the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning has voted to let the project go forward with certain conditions. There is an appeal right and Council may hear an appeal on this project. Ultimately, after City Council makes a decision to any appeals; any party who does not like that result, can appeal to Franklin County Court of Common Pleas.

22) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Lampke and seconded by Ms. Saad. Vote 7-0 Adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

23) Board of Control to immediately follow City Council Meeting.