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CITY OF NORTH CANTON, OHIO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

**TRANSCRIPT OF
FEBRUARY 17, 2021, MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING**

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Transcript of Proceedings of the North Canton City Council, taken by me, the undersigned, Laurie Maryl Jonas, a Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, at North Canton, Ohio, on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

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APPEARANCES:

- Daniel Jeff Peters, Council President, Ward 2
- Daryl Revoldt, Council Vice President, At Large
- Doug Foltz, Ward 1
- Stephanie Werren, Ward 3
- Dominic Fonte, Ward 4
- Mark R. Cerreta, At Large
- Matthew Stroia, At Large
- Patrick A. DeOrio, Director of Administration
- Catherine A. Farina, Deputy Director of
Administration and Development
- Jina Alaback, Director of Finance
- Robert G. Graham, Engineering Services
- Stephan B. Wilder, Mayor
- Benjamin R. Young, Clerk

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1 MR. PETERS: Good evening, everyone. I'd
2 like to call to order the North Canton Committee of
3 the Whole meeting Wednesday, February 17, 2021. The
4 time is 6:30 p.m.

5 Ben, would you please call the roll.

6 MR. YOUNG: Member Peters.

7 MR. PETERS: Here.

8 MR. YOUNG: Member Revoldt.

9 MR. REVOLDT: Here.

10 MR. YOUNG: Member Stroia.

11 MR. STROIA: Here.

12 MR. YOUNG: Member Werren.

13 MRS. WERREN: Here.

14 MR. PETERS: Mute your phone. We've got a
15 lot of background noise, guys.

16 MRS. WERREN: Here.

17 MR. YOUNG: Member Fonte.

18 MR. FONTE: Present in the background noise.

19 MR. YOUNG: Member Foltz.

20 MR. FOLTZ: Here.

21 MR. YOUNG: And Member Cerreta.

22 MR. CERRETA: Here.

23 MR. YOUNG: Seven present.

24 MR. PETERS: All right. Thank you, Ben.

25 First up on the agenda, we have Finance and

1 Property. Chairwoman Werren.

2 MRS. WERREN: Okay. This is about
3 appropriation for Arrowhead. And as you know, we've
4 done a lot, a lot of improvements on Arrowhead
5 throughout from the inside, different pool, working
6 with the pickleball. And the management has
7 changed -- not the management but the people, and we
8 feel like there's a really good system working over
9 there. So this last request kind of puts an end cap
10 on all the things that we've been doing and we hope
11 will make it look very nice. So it is \$30,000 for
12 new carpeting.

13 And Patrick and I had a great conversation
14 yesterday about where it is and kind of the
15 trajectory, and he thought it would be a good idea to
16 share all the updates with you in a short little
17 PowerPoint presentation. So if that's okay, we're
18 going to do that and then we can discuss this more
19 and vote on it. Does that work?

20 MR. STROIA: Sounds good.

21 MRS. WERREN: Patrick, take it away.

22 MR. DEORIO: Thank you, Chairman Werren. And
23 Ben.

24 Okay. So we're going to do an overview just
25 kind of where we are, and to remind you that under

1 the previous triple net lease the city was
2 hemorrhaging losses due to a lack of capital
3 investments and payment of rents as required under
4 the agreement in place were not being made. So what
5 did we do? You recall that an RFP was issued for
6 services under a different management model. We're
7 getting away from the triple net lease and getting
8 into a true management model similar to what we did
9 at the YMCA.

10 While we were working on that then we needed
11 somebody to just, you know, run the place. So an
12 interim management agreement was put into place in
13 May of '19 and that ran through January 31, 2020.
14 While we were doing that, the council listened to
15 discussions about all the people that were vying for
16 that five-year agreement and so we entered into one
17 with NPG, North Canton Golf, February 1, 2020,
18 through January 31, 2025, and there's a possibility
19 of extensions. Again, the administrators' objective
20 here was to try to preserve the flexibility for city
21 council to deliberate over the next five years what
22 do they want to do if anything different than what is
23 currently being done. But in order to do that, I
24 felt, you know, we needed to get this operation on
25 solid footing.

1 So keep in mind, I know this seems like a
2 long time ago, COVID, you know, but that first full
3 year budget prepared in 2019 for calendar year 2020
4 did not contemplate a COVID-19 shutdown. We got the
5 budget in November, December of '19. That was three
6 months before COVID. And so this budget was prepared
7 and the shutdown occurred just as golf was beginning
8 to open. And then, you know, that had a spillover
9 effect on the Arrowhead pool. It opened over a month
10 late. And then, as we know, banquet events all but
11 disappeared. So it's a hell -- heck of a first year
12 to have to be dealing with the first year of this
13 management agreement and we end up with all these
14 existential circumstances beyond our control and
15 trying to make it work.

16 So what happened? Well, the operating budget
17 that was submitted in 2019 for 2020 forecasted that
18 we thought by the end of 2020 we could come out ahead
19 about \$14,000. That's the skin of your teeth, guys,
20 but there was a lot to clean up from the previous
21 management arrangement. It took a lot. What did we
22 actually end up having happen then? In spite of
23 COVID and all, we turned out minus 37,521. Very
24 close, and quite remarkable, in my opinion,
25 considering everything that was going on down there.

1 That's not a bad place to be.

2 Now, what happened? Well, in 2020, we've
3 seen other area golf courses are closed or being
4 sold. We believe that in 2021 that is going to drive
5 more golfers to the limited golfing places they can
6 go to, which we are one. So the budget that was
7 submitted for calendar year 2021, that's like now,
8 forecasts a net income of plus 88,000. The important
9 part here is that are we trending in the right
10 direction. We know that the numbers can adjust based
11 on what happens. We still don't know what's going to
12 happen in 2021 in all -- with all the COVID, you
13 know, will this vaccine be distributed in enough time
14 to make life get back to normal; will there be
15 another strain that causes us to shut down again?
16 Who knows.

17 But what we've seen now is we're starting to
18 see the banquet business pick up. We have a wedding
19 booked and is happening in early March. A spring
20 wedding. And with all the things that we've done
21 down there, we think that this is a positive thing.
22 There's a lot of promotion on the Internet that they
23 do for us.

24 What did the city do in the interim here in
25 the last few months? We've made capital investments

1 long overdue, should have been done years ago, but
2 improving the kitchen conditions, water service to
3 the area, the swimming pool, banquet accessories,
4 dining rooms, fire protection services being made
5 operable, walkways improved, and just in general the
6 overall appearance in and around the main facility
7 has made a difference that the people who are going
8 there are remarking how wonderful it is and that they
9 intend to be back.

10 So, after the golf season had closed in
11 November 2019, all right, and until it reopened in
12 the mid-pandemic, the city had to advance two
13 payments of \$50,000 for the operating account in that
14 agreement. You recall that we had no carryover from
15 the previous team that was down there. We had
16 nothing to work with. And to get this up and
17 running, we made the presentation, council agreed and
18 we advanced two payments of \$50,000. Now --

19 Did that work, Ben?

20 MR. YOUNG: Hold on for a second. Apparently
21 Patrick and I's sound is breaking up.

22 MR. DEORIO: Okay. Got a text from Bill the
23 sound is breaking up.

24 MS. FARINA: Yeah, Ben, I also got a text. I
25 believe the livestream to YouTube is not streaming

1 audio. Is that possibly an OBS issue?

2 MR. YOUNG: I believe -- I'm checking the
3 audio settings now. Ah. My Zoom audio got
4 disconnected. That's the problem.

5 MS. FARINA: Okay. They have audio now.

6 MR. DEORIO: Can you hear me now?

7 MR. REVOLDT: Yes.

8 MR. DEORIO: How is that?

9 MR. REVOLDT: Yes, I can hear you. It's
10 Daryl. I can hear you.

11 MS. FARINA: And yes, Ben, those that are
12 watching it on YouTube do have audio now. Thank you.

13 MR. DEORIO: Do you want me to come over
14 there?

15 MR. YOUNG: You might want to run quickly
16 back through your --

17 MR. DEORIO: How do I go backwards? Take me
18 back a couple slides.

19 Okay. So we'll pick it up -- we're going to
20 pick it up from here. There might be a little
21 overlap but we're not quite sure when the sound went
22 out for our viewing audience.

23 So again, the first full year the budget was
24 prepared for 2019 for calendar year 2020. We did not
25 contemplate, you know, obviously the COVID-19

1 shutdown happened in March just as golf was getting
2 ready to open, and then that continued to have a
3 spillover effect. The pool at Arrowhead opened up,
4 you know, over a month late and then throughout the
5 course of the year banquet events all but
6 disappeared.

7 So the operating budget submitted for 2020
8 forecasted a net income of plus 15,000, just under
9 \$15,000. And that's a very narrow, thin margin but
10 we had a lot of ground to overcome from the previous
11 management that was there, left us in a bad spot.

12 What did we end up actually doing? Well, the
13 actual operating income was a minus 37,521, so, you
14 know, all in all, given, you know, a \$1.2 million
15 operating fund there, almost a breakeven in the COVID
16 year, that's quite remarkable, all things considered.

17 So in 2020 there have been some other golf
18 courses closed or sold and we do believe that's going
19 to bring even more business to the facility in 2021.
20 The budget that was submitted for 2021 forecasted a
21 net income of plus 88,000, and we want you to keep in
22 mind that, you know, we're looking at the trend here.
23 The trend is in the right direction. We know that
24 things will change. We don't know how the COVID will
25 play out this year, if we'll actually get back to

1 normal, but we did book an event, a banquet in March
2 for a wedding, and we think that's a good thing to
3 come in 2021.

4 These are the capital investments that we've
5 made here kind of in the offseason. We've improved
6 the situation in the kitchen. We had some health
7 code issues there as well. The swimming pool was
8 improved. Water service throughout. Banquet
9 accessories. Fire protection services. The dining
10 rooms walkway. The overall appearance in and around
11 the main facility all have been improved and we're
12 getting tremendous amounts of positive feedback from
13 the people that are going down there.

14 Keep in mind that after golf had closed in
15 November of '19 and then until it reopened in the
16 mid-pandemic, the city put in \$50,000 twice into the
17 operating account per the management agreement. We
18 have to keep that operating account at 50,000 when it
19 falls below. Now, also, we had said at that time
20 that, in the event when the operating account was
21 above 50,000, the city seeks to get that money back.
22 And the first return of that money came in October of
23 2020 when we received \$50,000, and then the second
24 one occurred in December of 2020 when we got the
25 other 50,000 back. That is a remarkable place to be

1 given where we've come from.

2 So when we look at the 2020-2021 offseason,
3 like now from November of '20 to March of '21 here,
4 that offseason, you know, where we're at today is
5 we're able to make it through that time without a
6 request for additional funds to the operating
7 account. So you think of where we were a year ago,
8 you know, 15 months ago compared to where we are now,
9 it's a tremendous improvement for down there.

10 So the additional capital improvement
11 considerations for this year as you budgeted earlier,
12 you budgeted for pickleball courts and building
13 maintenance, but due to all the improvements down
14 there you now have on your agenda tonight first floor
15 carpeting. With all the improvements that were made,
16 the 30-year-old carpet now really stands out as an
17 eyesore and now is the time to get it done before the
18 facility opens back up. And that is the nature of
19 why we're here tonight. And I just thought it would
20 be helpful for you all to understand a quick recap on
21 the journey before you make deliberations on this.

22 Thank you, Stephanie.

23 MRS. WERREN: Thank you for that. No problem
24 with any of the little issues. That was very
25 informative.

1 Does anybody have any questions?

2 MR. FONTE: Hey, Stephanie, Dom and Mark will
3 abstain from talking about it.

4 MRS. WERREN: I thought so. Yes. I'm sorry.
5 I meant to even give you an opportunity to not be a
6 part of that. So okay, if there aren't any others
7 then I move that we move that to the agenda.

8 MR. PETERS: And, Patrick, we need this on
9 emergency; correct?

10 MR. DEORIO: Yes, we do, sir.

11 MR. REVOLDT: You won't get it on emergency.

12 MR. PETERS: Oh, never mind. You're right.
13 We can't.

14 MR. DEORIO: Oh, we only have five votes.

15 MR. PETERS: That's right.

16 MR. REVOLDT: Let's do a couple specials,
17 Jeff.

18 MR. PETERS: Yeah. Yeah. That's a good
19 idea.

20 MR. REVOLDT: Quick special. Five, ten
21 minutes and we've got it done. Two days.

22 MRS. WERREN: Great idea.

23 MR. PETERS: Yeah, that works for me.

24 MRS. WERREN: Could we do a special then next
25 week before the other meeting?

1 MR. PETERS: Sure can. Yeah. Well, wait a
2 minute.

3 MR. DEORIO: Yeah, we could.

4 MR. PETERS: Yeah, we can do that.

5 MS. FARINA: This is Catherine. I just
6 wanted to chime in one thing. I talked to the
7 banquet event manager today and actually, Patrick,
8 she now has four events booked.

9 MR. DEORIO: Wow.

10 MS. FARINA: I mean, things are already
11 turning around. Four events. And they're just so
12 appreciative and excited about the improvements being
13 made there. People are seeing them, and more and
14 more people will see them. And this carpet situation
15 up there, it is not just dated, it's damaged. And
16 it's bad. So they think once they get that replaced
17 it will be even -- even more of a notice and even
18 more people wanting to book things at that beautiful
19 event center.

20 MR. PETERS: Yeah. I agree.

21 MRS. WERREN: Okay. Great.

22 Patrick, you had also -- I'm sorry, Jeff.
23 Patrick, I don't know if you want to add it now or
24 not, you wanted to talk about electric aggregation
25 under my committee. Do you want to do that right

1 now?

2 MR. YOUNG: We have to vote on the item.

3 MRS. WERREN: Oh, I'm sorry about that.

4 Okay.

5 MR. REVOLDT: I was going to say, Jeff --
6 Daryl here. You know, you could do -- you could do a
7 special on Friday, just a quick one on Friday
8 afternoon at 5:00 and maybe one Saturday morning at
9 9:00 or something and then do your third reading on
10 Monday. Or you can spill it over to next week. Your
11 pleasure.

12 MR. PETERS: Daryl, why don't we discuss --

13 MR. FOLTZ: That's a good idea, Daryl.

14 MRS. WERREN: I wouldn't do it on Saturday
15 morning.

16 MR. PETERS: Friday is not good for me.

17 MRS. WERREN: It's not great for me either.

18 MR. FOLTZ: Just a piggyback, I wanted to
19 comment, Patrick, on the PowerPoint. That was --
20 that was a great recap, and, you know, I'm in a
21 league out there and the guys are really excited
22 about all the improvements. I think we're going to
23 pick up pool memberships, if we haven't, from year to
24 year. I don't know that, but the pool looks great.
25 And just cutting down the trees and getting the

1 greens right and taking care of the sandtrap areas
2 has made a world of difference to people that golf on
3 that course. I wanted to compliment the
4 administration for their leadership on this with the
5 management team we have out there.

6 MRS. WERREN: Patrick, I would say I would
7 agree, too. I was just talking to some friends, and
8 they said they couldn't believe the difference from
9 the fence to just the upkeep around the outside of
10 the building, the walking that they have done, the
11 greens. It was a world of difference.

12 Oh, which, okay, on a side note, did you guys
13 know that -- oh, my gosh, the one guy who is now
14 working up at the Medina Country Club? I'm sorry.
15 The past person who was there. Scott. Scott
16 DeMuesy.

17 MR. DEORIO: We don't talk about that, Steph.

18 MRS. WERREN: Well, I just wanted you to
19 know.

20 MR. PETERS: Okay.

21 MRS. WERREN: Lucky them.

22 MR. PETERS: So we're moving this forward
23 then to council; correct?

24 MRS. WERREN: Yep.

25 MR. REVOLDT: You have a motion and a second,

1 I think.

2 MRS. WERREN: I have a motion, yeah.

3 MR. REVOLDT: Revoldt will second.

4 MR. CERRETA: Okay.

5 MR. YOUNG: President Peters is experiencing
6 audio difficulties at the moment. So hold on.

7 MR. DEORIO: I'm sure Vice President Revoldt
8 would love to jump into the spotlight if he got four
9 votes to move it forward.

10 MR. REVOLDT: Yeah, I do. I have -- are
11 there -- all in favor of moving this forward? Well,
12 I tell you what. Because we've got two on the
13 sideline, I probably ought to have a little roll
14 call.

15 Revoldt votes yes.

16 Werren?

17 MRS. WERREN: Yes.

18 MR. REVOLDT: Stroia?

19 MR. STROIA: Yes.

20 MR. REVOLDT: Foltz?

21 MR. FOLTZ: Yes.

22 MR. REVOLDT: And I'm missing. We've got
23 four. So we're ready to go on.

24 Can I have a motion to amend the agenda
25 tonight to add Item 3B, Electric Aggregation?

1 MRS. WERREN: So moved. Werren.

2 MR. STROIA: Second.

3 MR. REVOLDT: Revoldt seconds. Everyone in
4 favor, say "aye."

5 ("Aye" in unison.)

6 MR. REVOLDT: Okay, Mrs. Werren.

7 MRS. WERREN: Patrick, I'm going to let you
8 take over.

9 MR. DEORIO: All right. Thank you so much,
10 and I apologize for having to ask to amend the agenda
11 tonight but this is a -- the process has been
12 started, you know, a couple of months ago and I just
13 met with our electric aggregation team at three
14 o'clock today. And so it happened to be having a
15 committee meeting tonight, I couldn't resist trying
16 to speed this process up, being efficient.

17 Our current electric program expires in June
18 of this year and there's a lot of steps that need to
19 be done in order to make sure there's a seamless
20 transition. So that's kind of the sense of urgency
21 that I had in wanting to get this on tonight.

22 So we have quotes that have come in, and
23 they're good for 30 days. We received those quotes
24 in to our broker on February 10, so we have until
25 March 10 or the pricing won't be good. So we will

1 need to move this on an emergency to continue this
2 electric aggregation program when it gets to council
3 for its first reading.

4 As a recap, last cycle, the last two-year
5 contract that we did the aggregation rate that the
6 City of North Canton had achieved was 5.15. 5.15
7 cents. That's what it was. That's the program
8 that's expiring June 21. So we received a quote this
9 time around from eight different suppliers. That's
10 an increase. And we received 65 different proposals
11 from those eight suppliers. We were looking at all
12 kinds of multiple variations. I wanted to see a
13 12-month contract, 24-month contract, 36-month, and
14 if somebody could even offer a 48-month, I was
15 interested in seeing that as well. We also made it a
16 standard pitch on this that there are no early
17 termination fees. So if you get into this program,
18 you opt into this and you want out because you think
19 you can find a better deal and you find a better
20 deal, more power to you. You may opt out and there's
21 no penalty for opting out of our plan. That's not
22 true in all the other plans that you can get in where
23 you may sign up for 12 months and if you want to
24 leave early they're going to ding you for a penalty
25 on that, but ours is not like that way.

1 So the electricity environment today is --
2 it's currently trading lower than where we were two
3 years ago when we struck. And this is a low point
4 that we haven't had like probably ever. So this is
5 really low. It's my, you know, recommendation that
6 we, you know, obviously continue this program but
7 enter into a 47-month -- four seven -- 47-month
8 contract and the rate would be .0434. So that's
9 .0434 cents.

10 MR. PETERS: Wow.

11 MR. DEORIO: So that's a reduction over what
12 we had before at .0515. The difference is .0081 and
13 that adds up to our customers. We have seen, on
14 average, about pretty close to 3,000 households be
15 involved in this program on average. We have had
16 higher peaks. You know, people come in, people get
17 out, that kind of thing. It's been as high as like
18 4,000, but still a very nice benefit to those that
19 sign up for it. And we need to get the word out the
20 energy supplier that we're -- that had the best
21 number for us is the Energy Harbor. And they had the
22 .0434 rate. So we would like to go with them.

23 Now, one of the things that you all probably
24 hear about in your regular work and where you're at
25 and when you socialize is the whole thing with the

1 coming wave of electrification for vehicles. And you
2 probably heard that the new president, Biden, talk
3 about having the entire fleet of the United States
4 government on electric vehicles by 2025. Many other
5 countries are moving that way, states are moving that
6 way by 2025. In any event, what I think is a
7 situation that our consultants agree with is that if
8 there's going to be large demand for electricity in
9 the next few years, it would make sense to lock this
10 up for almost a four-year period and avoid a lot of
11 that potential early demands that could cause prices
12 to spike until they're able to build out an electric
13 grid to support all those vehicles.

14 So that kind of covers it in a nutshell. We
15 need to get this agreement approved by March 10. We
16 have to get out customer -- to our customers, we have
17 to get them notices that they can opt out and then
18 these letters are sent out, there's a 21-day period
19 for the people to opt out of this, and if they don't
20 opt out then they're automatically in. And we know
21 we get a lot of questions from the community at that
22 time. We don't want to put them in a jam where we're
23 behind schedule, so --

24 MR. FONTE: Patrick. Dom here.

25 MR. DEORIO: Yes, Dom.

1 MR. FONTE: So real quick, the difference in
2 the drop in price locked in for, say, four years,
3 roughly, just in English, what does that mean to the
4 consumer constituents? Like, say, for example, my
5 electric bill's 150 a month or even 200 a month, what
6 would that mean? Like, what would that look like?
7 10 bucks a months savings? 20 bucks a month savings?
8 How do you figure out that, real quick? I'm sure
9 people want to know how big the savings is, if any
10 savings at all.

11 MR. DEORIO: Because the savings is so small,
12 Dom, that's .0081 of a cent, that's not even a full
13 cent. That's 81 thousandths of a cent.

14 MR. FONTE: Okay.

15 MR. DEORIO: What does it mean? It means
16 that they probably save 7 to \$10 a year.

17 MR. FONTE: Okay.

18 MR. DEORIO: We're already at a very low
19 number. And now we're at a low number that it's hard
20 to get. There is a site out there for people, the
21 State of Ohio has an Apples to Apples Fixed Rate
22 Comparison where you can go in and see what your
23 electric aggregator is at and where you could go on
24 your own and get a good rate. Or try to. We just
25 did that here for this period of time here in

1 February when we received these quotes and what's out
2 there now for a 36-month, the average is 5.65. So,
3 you know, it's not as much of a savings from the
4 previous time, but it's a very meaningful savings
5 over what you can get out there on your own. So this
6 shows that the electric aggregation program works,
7 it's worth continuing. And, you know, there are like
8 3,000 homes in the city that take advantage of that.

9 MR. FONTE: Thank you, Pat.

10 MR. CERRETA: Hey, Pat. That's great. I'm
11 one of the guys that gets on those sites. I do it
12 for gas and electric. That's low, what you agreed
13 on. That's very low.

14 In answer to one of Dom's questions, it's so
15 low right now, this kind of guarantees you it's not
16 going to go up. That's what people should be
17 thinking about right now. Because I think they're at
18 a very low rate right now. So if you can lock in for
19 a very low rate, you're pretty secure that you're not
20 going to pay more rather than, you know, less. It is
21 pretty low right now. Nice job, Pat.

22 MR. DEORIO: Thank you.

23 MR. PETERS: Yeah, nice work, Patrick.

24 MR. STROIA: That's the lowest rate I've
25 seen, and I completely agree with your outlook. Is

1 there's going to be, you know, drastically more
2 electric use over the next few years. To lock in for
3 that long, I think that's great. So I'm all for
4 that. Good job, Patrick.

5 MR. DEORIO: Thank you, sir.

6 MS. FARINA: I just want to -- this is
7 Catherine. I just wanted to say to Dominic that you
8 get people that reach out to you. We get calls a lot
9 like this. A lot of our elderly residents are
10 confused. They have people, private vendors, you
11 know, knocking on their doors trying get them to
12 switch. Always go to the PUCO website for the Apples
13 to Apples comparison, but they are automatically
14 opting into this program and they have a lot of
15 questions about, you know, opting out. Sometimes the
16 public people locally would come in and talk to us
17 and they would have questions and we try to help
18 them. So in case you get those kind of questions.

19 MR. DEORIO: Out of curiosity, when everyone
20 was listening to Catherine speak, did it sound kind
21 of funky?

22 MR. PETERS: Yes.

23 MR. FONTE: You sound like a robot.

24 MR. DEORIO: Catherine, you didn't come
25 through very well. So what she was basically saying

1 is that we get a lot of people that call us and a lot
2 of people that stop in and want to talk to us about
3 how the program works and what it means to them, and
4 they often bring in their utility bills for us to
5 help them figure it out. So if you get questions
6 like that, I think what she was saying was you could
7 refer them up to city hall.

8 MR. PETERS: Hey, Patrick.

9 MR. DEORIO: Yes, sir.

10 MR. PETERS: Patrick, this is Peters. I lost
11 audio for a little bit there. I missed the first
12 part. Could you real quick give me what the term is
13 you're looking to go for on this?

14 MR. DEORIO: I'm looking to go for a 47-month
15 term, Jeff, at the 4.34 -- .0434 rate. I believe
16 it's been -- both Mark and Matt had said, you know,
17 we anticipate with what's happening in the
18 marketplace that there will be a spike in energy
19 prices, so if we can lock in this low rate for as
20 long as possible that makes a lot of sense --

21 MR. PETERS: Okay.

22 MR. DEORIO: -- to go ahead and do that.

23 MR. PETERS: Yeah. I agree. That's a good
24 rate. All right.

25 MR. FONTE: Patrick, one other quick

1 question. Does that apply to local small businesses
2 in North Canton as well as residential customers?

3 MR. DEORIO: This is for residential.

4 MR. FONTE: Thank you.

5 MR. PETERS: Okay. All right. And that's on
6 emergency as well? Steph, are you on there?

7 MRS. WERREN: Yep. So I will just move that
8 we move it to the agenda.

9 MR. PETERS: Is there a second?

10 MR. CERRETA: Cerreta seconds.

11 MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."

12 ("Aye" in unison.)

13 MR. PETERS: Opposed? Motion carries. Okay.
14 We'll move that on to the next council agenda.

15 And, Patrick, you're good? We're done?

16 MR. DEORIO: Yes, sir. Thank you.

17 MR. PETERS: All right. Moving on, Personnel
18 and Safety. Patrick, I'm going to turn this first
19 part over to you.

20 MR. DEORIO: Actually, it's going to be to
21 Ben and to Jina.

22 MR. PETERS: Oh, I'm sorry. Ben and Jina.
23 No, no, this is you.

24 MR. DEORIO: Which one is this?

25 MR. YOUNG: This is the fire vehicle exhaust.

1 MR. DEORIO: My bad. I apologize. I'm here
2 at city hall with Ben and I didn't look at the
3 screen.

4 MR. PETERS: No worries.

5 MR. DEORIO: Yes. So the North Canton Fire
6 Station 1 is in need of a vehicle exhaust venting
7 system. You know, they pull the ambulances and
8 firetrucks in there, the exhaust is running when they
9 start them up and get in there and open the doors and
10 get out. So for their safety, we want to install
11 this vehicle exhaust venting system. And Chief Bacon
12 did a wonderful job applying to the Federal Emergency
13 Management Agency, or FEMA, and obtained a grant, my
14 recollection was I believe it's \$250,000 grant. Jina
15 may have to correct me on that. But it's a very
16 substantial project beyond that. But it's -- we
17 would like to get this going so that we can get the
18 quoting in, get the grant accepted and begin this
19 project and get it done this year. So we need to
20 advertise and receive bids for that. And we're
21 looking for support from council to move ahead.

22 MR. PETERS: All right. It sounds good to
23 me. Any questions for Patrick from council?

24 MR. FONTE: No.

25 MR. PETERS: Okay. This is on emergency as

1 well. If there's no further questions, I'll motion
2 that we move this to the committee -- or council,
3 council agenda. Is there a second?

4 MR. REVOLDT: Revoldt seconds.

5 MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."

6 ("Aye" in unison.)

7 MR. PETERS: Opposed? All right. Motion
8 carries. Thank you, Patrick.

9 Okay. And the next item, that will be Ben
10 and Jina going over that for us, the dependents fund
11 board. So, Ben.

12 MR. YOUNG: Yes. So the Volunteer
13 Firefighters Dependents Fund Board, or VFDFB, is
14 something we are required to have by Ohio Revised
15 Code Chapter 146 because we employ volunteer
16 firefighters. And how they define volunteer is they
17 don't qualify for the Ohio Police and Fire Pension
18 Fund.

19 So we've had this board in the city for quite
20 a few years. But, unfortunately, last year we missed
21 the election period to select members of this board.
22 And so thankfully the firefighter who has been
23 assisting with this board, Gary Coen, was able to
24 bring this to our attention and there are some
25 provisions in the Ohio Revised Code that give us, the

1 city, some power to make decisions on who sits on
2 this board. And I could not find, in my research, a
3 historical ordinance that made these decisions. So
4 the ordinance that you have before you today makes
5 those decisions about who sits on this board in order
6 for us to hold the special elections we need to have
7 to fill this board for the coming year.

8 What this board -- the only function of this
9 board is if a volunteer firefighter were to very
10 unfortunately die in the line of duty, this board
11 helps to distribute pension benefits to their
12 dependents. So I'm sure some of you are wondering,
13 the questions that the ORC gives us to decide are
14 first, two members must be elected by the legislative
15 authority either from members of the legislative
16 authority or anybody else. As I've written it
17 tonight, the draft you have sets it as anybody else
18 not two members of council, and it will be my
19 personal recommendation, although you don't
20 necessarily need to follow, the director of finance
21 and clerk of council just sort of traditionally
22 become council's appointees to ensure that we have
23 some continuity there.

24 The second decision is the next two members
25 of the board can either be any member of the fire

1 department or limited to just volunteer members of
2 the fire department. And the draft you have tonight
3 goes with the broader option of any members of the
4 fire department.

5 MR. PETERS: Ben, I have a question.

6 MR. YOUNG: Okay.

7 MR. PETERS: As it stands now, if we were to
8 unfortunately lose a firefighter, how would -- how is
9 it handled now?

10 MR. YOUNG: So it depends on if it's a
11 volunteer firefighter or a full-time firefighter.

12 MR. DEORIO: This is volunteer.

13 MR. YOUNG: So this applies only to
14 volunteers and so they -- their dependents would make
15 a claim through this board, and this board would
16 either approve it or deny it and the State of Ohio
17 would pay out that claim, not the city.

18 MR. PETERS: Right. But sans the board, if
19 that was to happen to a volunteer firefighter now,
20 how would that work? What would it do?

21 MR. YOUNG: There is no other function other
22 than this board. I mean, we have this board right
23 now in name, at least, we just hadn't filled it, and
24 so we want to make sure that --

25 MR. PETERS: Okay.

1 MR. YOUNG: -- if this were to happen, God
2 forbid, we don't end up accidentally denying somebody
3 their benefits simply because we didn't fill this
4 board.

5 MR. PETERS: I got you. I'm following now.
6 Okay.

7 Any questions for Ben, council?

8 MR. FONTE: No. That makes great sense.
9 Thank you.

10 MR. PETERS: Okay. All right. Very good.
11 Good work, Ben.

12 Okay. Anyone else need to weigh in on that?

13 MR. YOUNG: So just for context of where
14 we'll go from here, the plan is that you'll pass this
15 on emergency on the 22nd and then we'll have special
16 elections sometime the first week of March, which
17 will include the seven of you voting for who your two
18 representatives will be.

19 MR. PETERS: Okay. Okay. Thank you. On
20 that -- when we go to -- can you put a one-pager
21 together on the timetable on how we're going to do
22 that for everyone?

23 MR. YOUNG: Yeah.

24 MR. PETERS: Okay. Perfect. All right.
25 Thank you, Ben.

1 MR. REVOLDT: Do you need a vote to get this
2 thing on?

3 MR. PETERS: I do, Daryl. Thank you so much.
4 Is there a motion and a second to move this
5 to the council agenda under emergency clause?

6 MR. REVOLDT: Revoldt will move.

7 MR. FOLTZ: Foltz seconds.

8 MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."
9 ("Aye" in unison.)

10 MR. PETERS: Opposed? All right. Motion
11 carries. Okay. That concludes our agenda. Thanks,
12 everyone.

13 May I have a motion to adjourn?

14 MR. CERRETA: Cerreta moves.

15 MR. FOLTZ: Foltz seconds.

16 MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."
17 ("Aye" in unison.)

18 MR. PETERS: Opposed? Motion carries. We
19 are adjourned. Have a great evening, everyone.

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21 (Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.)

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Attest:


Benjamin R. Young
Clerk of Council

Daniel Jeff Peters
City Council President

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS
 STARK COUNTY)

I, Laurie Maryl Jonas, a Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that this meeting was by me reduced to Stenotype and afterwards prepared and produced by means of Computer-Aided Transcription, and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription.

I further certify that this meeting was taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee of or attorney for any party or counsel, or otherwise financially interested in the event of this action.

I do further certify that I am not, nor is the court reporting firm with which I am affiliated, under a contract as defined in Civil Rule 28(D).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Canton, Ohio, on this 24th day of February, 2020.

Laurie Maryl Jonas

Laurie Maryl Jonas, RMR & Notary Public.
 My commission expires January 6, 2022.