

## Regular Council

March 13, 2008

Presiding Officer, Mayor Donald Kuchta called the March 13 regular meeting of Macedonia City Council to order at 7:34m.

**Present:** Council members' Shane Barker, David Engle, Kenneth Martin, Nicholas Molnar, Peggy Spraggins and Janet Tulley; Assistant Law Director Thomas Hanculak and Council Clerk Josephine Arceci

**Absent:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Council President Dave Engle was followed by an invocation led by Councilor Jan Tulley.

**PRESENTATION** A presentation was made by the Ohio Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Park Committee regarding the Ohio Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Park to be located in historic Clinton Ohio within the Clinton Cemetery at 8005 Cleveland Massillon Road. The main focus of the Memorial Park it was explained will be a black granite wall that will list the 3,095 Ohio natives who gave their lives during the Vietnam War. Bricks paving the way to the center of the park will include the names of those who served in all wars and branches of service. The various levels of donations that can be made will purchase more than 68 Flowering Pear Trees, 63 monuments, 32 granite benches and hundreds of ground bricks. The website for the organization is [www.ohiovietnammemorialpark.org](http://www.ohiovietnammemorialpark.org)

### **INTRODUCTION, READINGS & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION**

#### **ORD. NO. 2-2008**

Mrs. Spraggins moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded for **ORD. NO. 2-2008: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY to remain at its second reading.** (First reading, January 10, 2008)

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

#### **ORD. NO. 12-2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 721 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA REGARDING EXCESSIVE FALSE ALARMS was offered by Mr. Barker for its third reading by title only. Second not required.

Mr. Barker moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded to **amend ORD. NO. 12-2008 to conform with the Version 2 (V2) introduced this evening.**

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

Mr. Barker moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded, to **adopt ORD. NO. 12-2008 (V2)** and post same according to law.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried. **ORD. NO. 12-2008 (V2), adopted.**

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Relative to ORD. NO. 12-2008, Councilor Barker explained that as a result of the Safety Committee's recommendation the proposed registration fee of \$25 was deleted. However, a \$25 fee was added to the hearing process, which will be refundable if it is determined that there was in fact no violation.

**ORD. NO. 13 -2008**

Mrs. Spraggins moved, Mr. Barker seconded, to **table ORD. NO. 13-2008: AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY'S EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE PLAN until such time as law director can advise on an apparent statutory provision that allows elected officials to receive health insurance.**

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

**ORD. NO. 17 -2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1129 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA REGARDING SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS MANDATING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF BUILDING PLANS FOR HOMES OF THE DEVELOPER OR THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION ASSURING CONFORMANCE TO THAT SUBDIVISIONS' COVENANT AND DEED RESTRICTIONS was offered by Mr. Martin for its **second reading by title only**. Second not required

**RES. NO. 18-2008**

A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO IMPROVE SOUTH FREEWAY DRIVE BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI BY GRADING, PAVING, CONSTRUCTING DRIVEWAY APRONS, REPLACING GUARDRAILS WHERE NECESSARY, REHABILITATING THE RELATED STORM SEWER SYSTEM BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI BY CONSTRUCTING STORM SEWERS, CATCH BASINS, MANHOLES, JUNCTION CHAMBERS AND A CONCRETE HEADWALL, AND ACQUIRING ANY NECESSARY REAL ESTATE AND INTERESTS THEREIN, ALL TOGETHER WITH THE NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was offered by Mrs. Spraggins for its **second reading by title only**. Second not required

**ORD. NO. 20 -2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MONTROSE FORD FOR THE PURCHASE FOUR (4) POLICE VEHICLES FOR USE BY THE MACEDONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT AT PRICES LOWER THAN OR EQUAL TO THE STATE PURCHASING PROGRAM was offered by Mr. Barker for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required

**ORD. NO. 21-2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH NITV, LLC TO PURCHASE OF A COMPUTER VOICE STRESS ANALYZER was **offered** by Mr. Barker and moved Council to waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Mr. Engle.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

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Mr. Barker moved, Mr. Engle seconded, to **adopt ORD. NO. 21-2008**, and post same according to law.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried. **ORD. NO. 21-2008, adopted.**

**ORD. NO. 22-2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO PURCHASE A 2009 INTERNATIONAL CAB AND CHASSIS FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FROM INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORP was **offered** by Mr. Molnar and moved Council to waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Mr. Engle.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

Mr. Molnar moved, Mr. Engle seconded, to **adopt ORD. NO. 22-2008**, and post same according to law.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried. **ORD. NO. 22-2008, adopted.**

**ORD. NO. 23-2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DAWN FRIESON TO THE POSITION OF PAYROLL/PERSONNEL ADMINISTER FOR THE CITY OF MACEDONIA was **offered** by Mrs. Spraggins and moved Council to waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Mr. Engle

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

Mrs. Spraggins moved, Mr. Engle seconded, to **adopt ORD. NO. 23-2008**, and post same according to law.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried. **ORD. NO. 23-2008, adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 23-2008, Mayor Kuchta welcomed Ms. Frieson to Macedonia. The mayor described Ms. Frieson as being very knowledgeable in the area Human Resources. Ms. Frieson's expertise in this area the mayor added is a long in Macedonia.

**ORD. NO. 24-2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF KAYLA MILANI TO THE POSITION OF FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT was **offered** by Mr. Martin and moved Council to waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Mrs. Tulley

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Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

Mr. Martin moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded, to **adopt ORD. NO. 24-2008**, and post same according to law.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried. **ORD. NO. 24-2008, adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 24-2008, Mayor Kuchta welcomed Ms. Milani who was in attendance with her family to her full-time position. Ms. Milani thanked the mayor and Council for her appointment and added that she is very happy to have the opportunity to work in the building department with Fred Tufts, Mike Hlad and Patty Kurczak.

### **ORD. NO. 25-2008**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE PLACEMENT OF LAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROPERTY AT 9541 NORTH BEDFORD ROAD ALSO KNOWN AS THE ROBERTSON FARM was **offered by Mr. Tufts for its first reading by title only**. Second not required.

Councilor Engle announced that a public hearing will be held March 27 at 7:15pm relative to Ordinance No. 25-2008.

### **RES. NO. 26-2008**

A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO REPLACE ALL OF EXISTING 0.8 MILL TAX LEVY AND INCREASING THAT LEVY BY 0.2 MILL TO CONSTITUTE A TAX FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AND PAYMENT OF PERMANENT, FULL-TIME FIREMEN AT A RATE NOT EXCEEDING 1.0 MILL PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISE CODE SECTIONS 5705.19, 5705.191, AND 5705.192 AND REQUESTING THE SUMMIT COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO CERTIFY TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF CITY & DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY THAT LEVY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was offered by Mrs. Spraggins for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

Councilor Spraggins announced that a public forum has been set aside around 8:30pm during the April 10 regular council meeting for the purpose of hearing residents' comments relative to Resolution No. 26-2008, the fire levy. At this point Mrs. Spraggins stated Council has really not determined if the levy will be placed on the ballot in November or at a special election in August. Knowing how resident feel will determine Council's decision she added.

### **MOTIONS OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS:**

~ Mrs. Spraggins moved, Mr. Martin seconded, to ratify the Capital Assets Policy as presented by the Audit Committee.

Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: None  
The motion carried

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~Mr. Molnar moved, Mr. Martin seconded, authorizing the Service Director to advertise for bids relative to the purchase of a Tandem Dump Truck Body Equipment Package.

Roll call:           Ayes: Barker, Engle, Martin, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
                      Nays: None  
                      The motion carried

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

~ A letter of appreciation was received from Harry Abraham of ProQuip Inc to Mayor Kuchta, Council, Chief Golden and Law Director Diemert relative to what Mr. Abraham described as excellent police support.

~A letter of appreciation was received from the Mercer Family to Mayor Kuchta and Service Director Crevar relative to Macedonia's clean and passable roads during recent snow events.

~A letter of appreciation was received from Fred & Lee Teske to Sergeant Ennis relative to the help Sergeant Ennis provided the Teske's during their recent trip to Macedonia.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chuck Loparo of Bradford Lane read an excerpt from an article in the July 14, 2004 edition of the NewsLeader in which Mr. Diemert supposedly stated that a proposed Charter amendment relative to a residency requirement by the then Charter Review Commission could be challenged.

With regards to another matter, Kathy Thomas of the Longwood Manor Historical Society asked if the Manor House could be made accessible so the items that have been donated can be retrieved. Since many of the pieces are heirlooms they should be returned to those who donated them she said. Ms. Thomas realizes her request poses a problem given the home has been condemned. She however thought that perhaps the home could be opened under supervisor for a brief time on a Saturday so the items may be picked up by their donors.

Mayor Kuchta commended Ms. Thomas on her commitment to the Manor House. However, as it stands right now no one is permitted on the premises. For certain he added there cannot be a large congregation of persons in the home at one time. Perhaps arrangements can be made for a few people at a time to enter the home he said.

Mr. Tufts said arrangements can be made with his department or the service department to have City representation during the time of removal. As the mayor had indicated Mr. Tufts said, a limited number of persons will be permitted to enter the home at any given. Removal can be over a period of several week-ends to achieve this goal he added.

With regards to another matter, Republican Randy Cole, an Akron resident announced his candidacy to Congressional District 41. Mr. Cole mentioned that he is very familiar with Macedonia and its road issues as he was the Summit County Engineer's representative to local government in 1990's. He congratulated Macedonia officials on the City growth and accomplishments, particularly with regards to the SR82 widening project.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Attached at end of this document.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Planning Commission** Mr. Martin reported that the meeting of March 24 has been canceled due to Easter week.

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### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Service Department** Mr. Crevar thanked the mayor and Council for approving the purchase of the tandem axle dump truck. Mr. Crevar reported that approximately 800 tons of road salt was used during this past week-end's storm event in which the City received 18-22 inches of snow. Residents overall were understanding and grateful of the great job performed by Macedonia's service crew. Mr. Crevar stated Some residents however complained that their streets were not immediately plowed. Mr. Crevar explained that during major storm events, constant attention is given first to primary roads. Crews cover secondary roads only after the primaries are cleared. Given the rate of snow fall on March 8, secondary roads were not completely cleared until Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Crevar also reported that cold patch crews will be working this week-end, concentrating primarily on SR8 north of SR82, South Freeway Drive and North Bedford Road. Mr. Crevar reminded motorists to drive cautiously through work zones. He mentioned that beginning March 17 there will be a partial road closure through March 21 at the Highland Road rail crossing. Summit County will post detours signs. Mr. Crevar mentioned that trimming of street trees on Bishop, Eaton and Long in the Springhill subdivision will resume when fair weather returns.

**Building Department** Mr. Tufts was present. While he had no formal report he thanked the Mayor and Council for the appointment of Kayla Milani to the building department. Regarding another matter, Mr. Tufts mentioned the bid opening relative to the N. Bedford Road rehabilitation is tomorrow at noon.

**Recreation Department** Ms. Gmerek encouraged residents to visit the Macedonia Recreation Center both at this week-end's Nordonia Hills Chamber of Commerce Business & Community Expo. The Expo will be held at Nordonia High on March 15 between the hours of 9am & 5pm. Ms. Gmerek reported that 725 registrant's participant in swimming lessons and aquatics fitness classes. Revenue from these specific classes of \$32,000 is up 20% up from last year she stated. Ms. Gmerek said the Annual Aquatics Easter Egg Hunt is March 15 between 1-3pm. The event will include the presence of the Easter Bunny and floating eggs in the pool for younger children and sinking eggs for the more advanced swimmers. Ms. Gmerek mentioned that a second bus has been added to the casino day trip to Seneca, New York for Monday, April 14. The cost of the trip of \$27for members, \$29 for residents and \$31 for non-residents includes \$20 in gambling coupons as well as food coupons. The Spring-Summer program guide she mentioned will be included in the April 2 edition of the NewsLeader.

**Finance Department** Mr. Brunot thanked the mayor and Council for the appointment of Dawn Frieson to the position of payroll administer. He also thanked Patty Kurczak for doing an excellent job while serving in that position. Mr. Brunot reminded residents that representatives from the Regional Income Tax Authority will be available in the Community Room of the City Center on March 17 and March 18 between the hours of 9am to 7pm to provide help completing local tax returns.

**Fire Department** Chief Black thanked Mr. Crevar and service department personnel for ensuring passable roads during the March 8 snow event. The fire department received numerous emergency calls that day Chief Black stated and service crew made certain that the 2-wheel drive emergency vehicles got to the calls. Regarding another matter, the chief reminded residents to check the batteries of their smoke alarms. The spring and fall when clocks are reset are the best times to check batteries and to make sure smoke alarms are operational he added.

**Police Department** Chief Golden thanked the mayor and Council for the purchase of the voice stress analyzer. The chief reminded residents of the parking ban when snow exceeds 3" or more during a 24-

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hour period. Vehicles can be ticketed or towed if found in violation he added.

**Law Department** Mr. Hanculak had no report.

Mayor Kuchta asked Mr. Hanculak to explain his understanding of the situation in which Mrs. Spraggins' has stated that District 4, ODOT Director Eric Czetli conveyed to her his disappointment in Macedonia's administration for not filing SIB loan documents with state officials only. According to Mrs. Spraggins Mr. Czetli said the SR82 bid opening may be delayed because of the City delay in filing.

Mr. Hanculak answered that the filing is not going to be late. Mr. Hanculak questioned Mr. Czetli making any of the statements Mrs. Spraggins claims. If he did Mr. Hanculak stated it would be like the director of a hospital explaining to the wife of a patient who is under going brain surgery that the reason the surgery is taking so long is because the doctor doesn't know what he is doing. Mr. Hanculak explained to Council that the finance department did not receive the loan documents until the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>. When the law department finally received them Mr. Hanculak said he gave them a cursory review. He did not approve them because their content is not his area of expertise. Had he approved them could be considered malpractice he added. Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, the firm that handles Macedonia's bond issues would have taken several weeks at a cost of several thousand dollars to look them over. Mr. Hanculak explained that the review of documents by Ms. Calta, who is an expert in this area, should be complete by tomorrow. Mr. Hanculak added that there was no specific time line relative to the filing set forth in the transmittal document received from the office of the Attorney General, had there been, concern may be an issue. Mr. Hanculak assured Council that any adjustments or recommendations made by the law department to the office of the Attorney General will be minor and will not prove troublesome given the availability of email and quick transmission of information.

Mayor Kuchta interjected that it is the complexity of the situation that is really at issue. The SIB loan has been approved already. All that is required now are the final adjustments or recommendations he added. The mayor wasn't concerned until Mrs. Spraggins brought up Mr. Czetli's comments.

Councilor Tulley added that Mr. Czetli required the City to guarantee its financial ability to fund the remaining cost this project, which the City did by passing appropriate legislation. Why Mr. Czetli has chosen to criticize city official now is baffling Mrs. Tulley said.

Mr. Brunot stated that Macedonia is very grateful to ODOT and the State Infrastructure Bank for what Mr. Brunot described as the monumental help they've provided in the last hours of finalizing financing. There are no ill feelings from the City's point of view. Mr. Czetli's ill will towards the City was unknown to anyone in the administration Mr. Brunot stated. Mr. Czetli did not personally relay any of his feelings to any member of the administration. Mr. Brunot reiterated that documents have only been in the City's possession about a week. The City received the confirmation receipt relative to the term sheet on March 4. He assured Council that the documents will be on file in Columbus no later than March 19. Given the nature of the documents it is incumbent that they receive a complete and thorough review he added. Mr. Brunot foresees no substantive changes, just minor additions or recommendations as the mayor had indicated.

Mrs. Spraggins asked if Mr. Czetli has been explained any of this to which Mayor Kuchta answered no. Mayor Kuchta added that Mr. Czetli made no attempt to call the mayor or any one else in the administration to conveyed what he conveyed to Mrs. Spraggins. Mayor Kuchta suggested to Mr. Brunot and Mr. Hanculak that a conference call be arranged with Mr. Czetli tomorrow to discuss what Mr. Czetli apparently discussed with Mrs. Spraggins.

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Mr. Hanculak responded that he thought the more urgent issue was finalizing the documents so they can be filed with the Attorney General. The conversation purportedly held between Mrs. Spraggins can be dealt with at a later date he said.

Councilor Spraggins interjected that she was very careful to document the conversation she had with Mr. Czetli. Mrs. Spraggins said Mr. Czetli called her today frustrated that the City has not yet forwarded the documents to the state given the loan was approved on February 14. Mr. Czetli said when he called Mr. Brunot about the documents he was told they were still in legal review. Mr. Czetli said the City is causing a delay which could cause the project to be rebid. If this happens Mr. Czetli told Mrs. Spraggins that construction could be delayed until 2009 and any delay would mean a 10-12% cost increase. Mr. Czetli also told Mrs. Spraggins he did not want ODOT to receive bad publicity because of delays caused by the City.

Mr. Hanculak reminded Mrs. Spraggins that it is the responsibility of law department to ensure that any and all legal instruments are in the best interest of Macedonia taxpayers. Therefore the loan documents cannot and will not be filed until they has been thoroughly reviewed. The office of the Attorney General has not called to badger the law department, Mr. Brunot or the mayor Mr. Hanculak stated. Why then did Mr. Czetli call Mrs. Spraggins Mr. Hanculak asked.

Councilor Engle interjected that the reason Mr. Czetli called Mrs. Spraggins is because ODOT is the other principle party in this agreement. It is important that the City foster their relationship with ODOT because of the magnitude of the agreement. Mr. Engle feels Mr. Hanculak and Mr. Brunot should call Mr. Czetli as the mayor suggested.

### Unfinished business

Jan Tulley thanked Mr. Crevar and his service crew for having Macedonia streets cleaned in time for Sunday services. Mrs. Tulley mentioned that although classes at the Recreation Center were canceled the Center was nonetheless very busy. Unlike many other communities Macedonia's streets were clean enough for many members to venture out on an otherwise miserable day she said.

New business: None.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**At 9:05pm, Mrs. Spraggins moved, Mr. Engle seconded to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel and discipline of Personnel.**

**Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Engle, Molnar, Spraggins, Tulley  
Nays: Martin  
The motion carried**

At 9:35pm, Council reconvened into their regular meeting and there being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned.

Mayors Report

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Earlier this week and last weekend I was in Washington. While Macedonia was buried in snow I was involved in classes and seminars to improve my functionality as a Mayor. The event that I was there for was the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference to deal with a range of important issues affecting citizens across the United States and here in our own home town. Our workshops and leadership seminars dealt with the affect on finances due to the mortgage foreclosure crises and the slowing economy, sustainability, the need to address crumbling infra structure, rising gang violence emanating from the drug world that is encircling us.

At this conference were Mayors and Council representative from municipalities ranging from the farthest reaches of our County. I would sit in road table discussions with people from the State of Washington to the State of Florida, from Arizona to Maine. Once I got past the accents and we started to relate, I can honestly say that the same theme is evident for Cities across the U.S. Each conversation led to the very important conclusion that our local governments should put aside personal agendas for creative collaboration. With the way things are going in our Country puts more and more pressure on the local governments to come up with, and finance their own solutions. The path to the presidency and the success of his or her term in office leads right through our towns. As we go ...they go. I sometimes think at that level of government, they forget that we exist. In order to rise to the challenges, your local government has to get along by trying to collaborate and we need to stay true to our City. Hopefully this would create a common ground that nurtures the Cities future. Commitment to a joint cooperative effort between Council and the Administration is a key issue and priority to us all.

While in Washington I was able to spend over one half of an hour with our Congressman Steve LaTourette. The main topic for discussion was, of course, the Route 82 Bridge. There are many ways to benefit from a Congressman that is as committed to our bridge project the way Congressman LaTourette is. It has been suggested many times to just ask for more money. The problem in this situation is that money enters the same room (the project) through many doors. It is hard to enter that room through the same door once it has been used. First of all, because the bids for the bridge have not been opened, we are completely unaware whether or not additional funds will be needed! The good news is that we have eager participation by our Congress man. I think that whether he comes in the back door, or a side door, or maybe even a window,...he will be there for us when the chips are down.

With all of that being said I can only feel that the time in Washington was well spent. (Whether we had all that snow that I missed, or not). I also will be looking for direction from the League of Cities in the future so that we continue to be on the cutting edge of dealing with our pitfalls as a municipality.

I would like to make sure that everyone is aware of a District Meeting that will be held by our Summit County Councilman and Council President Nick Kostandaras. This meeting will be held at 7PM on April 8<sup>th</sup> in our Council Chambers. So Nick wants to have your input and has arranged this meeting to do just that.

Just to let people know that I am still trying to get another Grocery Store here I have brought along our latest rejection with me today. I am constantly writing letters, or phoning companies, and extending our welcome. This latest company that I had written was Buehler's Fresh Foods. The good thing is that they at least answered my inquiry. Most don't even have the courtesy to acknowledge my offerings. Even though it says that they are not considering any new sites, it was still an answer. I shall continue to pursue getting another store so that our residents have more options. I have a meeting scheduled for next week with the Developer of the Commons. They will update me as to their plans for that building (if any) and just how long the lease with Tops will continue.

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The bids for the Route 82 Bridge are scheduled to be opened on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Once again I need to tell you of my concern for the businesses in the immediate vicinity of the road construction. We all need to do whatever we can to make sure they stay in business.

We will be experiencing road closures in the near future in many different areas and times. I would like to impress upon you once again the importance of subscribing to the Macedonia Messenger. It is an email attachment that goes out to those who sign up for it, once a week. Messages that have your well being and needs addressed every week is an invaluable tool. You can sign up for it on our website. Go to [www.macedonia.oh.us](http://www.macedonia.oh.us) and sign up today.

Think Spring! Family fishing day will be the first Sunday in June!

The Mayors Court revenue for February was \$41,366.00