

Regular Council

November 13, 2008

Presiding Officer, Mayor Donald Kuchta called the November 13 regular meeting of Macedonia City Council to order at 7:33pm.

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

Absent: Council members Kenneth Martin and Peggy Spraggins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Council President David Engle was followed by an invocation by Councilor Janet Tulley. Mrs. Tulley asked for special acknowledgment of all the veterans who were in attendance.

MINUTES Mr. Barker moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 9, 2008 as submitted by the clerk of council.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT Mrs. Tulley moved, Mr. Barker seconded, acknowledging receipt of the Financial Report dated October 31, 2008 as submitted by the finance director.

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

INTRODUCTION, READINGS & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION

ORD. NO. 105-2008

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE 2009 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was **offered** by Mr. Barker its **second reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 108-2008

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE 2008 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 2-2008 AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TRANSFERS OF FUNDS was **offered** by Mr. Barker its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 109 -2008

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1321 AND SECTIONS 1325.06, 1327.04, 1361.06 AND 1139.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE MACEDONIA REGARDING VARIOUS REVIEW FEES was **offered** by Mr. Molnar its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 110 -2008

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ANTHEM INSURANCE COMPANY FOR MEDICAL AND HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS FOR MACEDONIA EMPLOYEES was **offered** by Mr. Engle for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 111 -2008

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ANTHEM INSURANCE COMPANY FOR MEDICAL AND HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS FOR MACEDONIA EMPLOYEES was **offered** by Mr. Engle for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 112 -2008

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE HARTFORD IN ORDER TO SUPPLY LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS was **offered** by Mrs. Tulley for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 113 -2008

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE OF A SALT WITH THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT FOR USE BY THE CITY OF MACEDONIA SERVICE DEPARTMENT was **offered** by Mr. Molnar for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required

RES. NO. 114-2008

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF

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UNDERSTANDING WITH SUMMIT COUNTY AND OTHER COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT SUMMIT COUNTY FOR JOB CREATION AND RETENTION AND TAX REVENUE SHARING was **offered** by Mr. Engle its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

RES. NO. 115-2008

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE FINAL APPOINTMENT OF JACQUELINE SCHULD TO THE POSITION OF FULL-TIME DISPATCHER was **offered** by Mr. Barker for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

RES. NO. 116 -2008

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF PAT LACHOWSKI AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA TO THE SUMMIT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH was **offered** by Mrs. Tulley for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

RES. NO. 117 -2008

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JOE BIBER TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE was **offered** by Mr. Molnar for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

RES. NO. 118 -2008

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBIN BUGENSKA THE AUDIT COMMITTEE was **offered** by Mr. Engle for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

RES. NO. 119 -2008

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DAN CEGELKA TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION was **offered** by Mr. Molnar for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required

Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Barker moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded to add to the agenda RES. NO. 120 -2008

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING SENSIBLE SALTING PRACTICES, and **ORD. NO. 121 -2008** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1137.06 REGARDING THE REVIEW FEES FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND CODIFYING THE SAME

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

Mr. Barker **offered ORD. NO. 120-2008** for its **first reading by title only**. Second not required.

Mrs. Tulley **offered ORD. NO. 121-2008** for its **second reading by title only**. Second not required.

MOTIONS OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS:

~~Mr. Barker moved, Mr. Engle seconded, to reject all bids received on June 20, 2008, relative to the South Freeway Roadway and Storm Sewer Improvements pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 153.12(A)

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

~~ Mrs. Tulley moved, Mr. Engle seconded, authorizing the Engineer to re-advertise for bids relative to the South Freeway Roadway and Storm Sewer Improvements.

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

~~~Mr. Molnar moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded, canceling the regular meeting of November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving.

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

~~~Mr. Engle moved, Mrs. Tulley seconded, calling for a Special Meeting on November 20 at

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6:30pm for the sole purpose of acting upon the time sensitive legislation, specifically Ordinances Nos. 108, 110, 111, 112, 113-2008.

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

~~~~Mr. Engle moved, Mr. Barker seconded, amending Ordinance No. 107-2008 relative to the 2008 Full-Depth Pavement Repair Program and contract with Tallmadge Asphalt/Concrete by increasing payment from \$29,672.00 to not to exceed \$44,672.00 in order to include the additional streets of Bradford, Barkdale and a portion of Bruce Drive. (Original appropriated budget was \$60,000)

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

~~~ Mrs. Tulley moved, Mr. Barker seconded, to **take off the table ORD. NO-98-2008: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MACEDONIA OCCUPANCY PROGRAM GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTH EAST OHIO**

**Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Tulley, Mayor (pursuant to Article III, 3.03(b)(1))
Nays: Engle, Molnar
The motion carried**

Mrs. Tulley moved, Mr. Barker seconded, to adopt ORD. NO. 98-2008 and post same according to law. (Ordinance No. 98-2008 had it third reading on October 23, 2008)

**Roll call: Ayes: Barker, Tulley, Mayor (pursuant to Article III, Section 3.03(b)(1))
Nays: Engle, Molnar
The motion carried. ORD. NO. 98-2008 adopted. (Pursuant to Article IV, Section 4.10(d) Ordinance 98 become effective December 13, 2008, 30 days from adoption)**

Relative to ORD. NO. 98-2008, Councilor Barker stated he was disappointed he learned Ordinance No. 98-2008 was tabled at the October 23 meeting in his absence. He explained that he was unable to be present that evening due to personal reasons. Mr. Barker questioned the motive for tabling the ordinance. To what end would it have served he asked for the Norandex building to be left empty? The Girl Scouts is a good business, the type of organization every community wants. The Girl Scouts were offered an incentive because of their history and reputation and to insure that a visible location in the heart of the City would not become an eyesore. Who knows how long that building would have remained empty given the economy and the current real estate market he added. Regarding taxes, Girl Scout employees will pay city income tax Mr. Barker stated. This is the City's bread and butter, not the revenue from real estate tax he added. It is unfair to state Mr. Barker said that some of Macedonia's elected officials are insensitive to the financial situation many residents are facing. The reality is turning away new business is not going to improve the local economy nor will it help the residents. Keeping Macedonia going by enticing new businesses and keeping current businesses' viable means keeping taxing revenue steady even in this sluggish economy, he stated. This administration acted in good faith and with good intentions Mr. Barker stated. Council's' narrow mindedness and destruction actions threaten the administration's ability to negotiate future MOP agreements. Mr. Barker asked Assistant Law Director Tom Hanculak to explain to the public the difference in duties between the administration and Council.

Mr. Hanculak answered that in specific regards to the Macedonia Occupancy Program the enabling legislation authorizes the administration to negotiate on behalf of the City within specific perimeters. The administration did just that. The question that stymied this particular Agreement is the issue of whether the MOP program is applicable to nonprofit organizations. Until the enabling legislation is amended and states otherwise, both for-profit and nonprofit businesses are entitled to receive grants Mr. Hanculak stated. The court frowns upon changing rules the middle of the game. The very action Council chose to take in this case. The GSNEO would be justified to take legal action given Council previously approved the standards of the program. Mr. Hanculak reiterated that the administration acted in good faith and within its authority.

Council President interjected that he voted against the incentive because Macedonia's taxpayers

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are not afforded tax relief. Macedonia provided a \$2.1M tax credit for road that was not finished in the time frame it was promised. Earlier in the year a City concessionaire was granted relief relative to his contract agreement and now this eight-year annual incentive of \$30,000 has been granted to GSNEO Mr. Engle argued. The good citizens of Macedonia are not offered these types of breaks or incentives and yet they graciously supported increasing their taxes for a fire levy and for a new sports facility at high school he added. The DSCC (the storm and sewer committee) is asking Council to consider a local fee in the amount of between \$28 and \$48 annually to manage flooding and storm water. Cuyahoga County may be doubling its stormwater and sewer fees. The City cannot continue to give Macedonia's resources away when the residents' tax burden increases. Contrary to what may be perceived Mr. Engle stated he does not dislike the Girl Scouts' organization. It is Macedonia's limited resources and the tax burden Macedonia residents are bearing that are his primary concerns.

Councilor Molnar mirrored Mr. Engle's comments. Mr. Molnar added that many residents asked him not to support the Girl Scouts' incentive. Mr. Molnar also added that he wanted to remain consistent as well in that he did not support the relief granted to 2Club Golf.

Councilor Tulley advised Mr. Molnar that each situation must be considered on its own merits. Providing incentives in the long run helps Macedonia's residents. The income tax revenue the City will receive is more beneficial than what the City would have received from property tax revenue she stated. Mrs. Tulley asked Council President to consider a work session to discuss amending the MOP legislation to preclude nonprofit organizations so that this situation does not become an issue again.

Mayor Kuchta apologized to Dr. Alford-Smith and the GSNEO for what he described as a horribly embarrassing event. Mr. Engle was reminded by Mayor Kuchta that since elected mayor that he has brought \$12M to Macedonia, which ultimately has lessened the taxpayers' burden.

From 8pm to 8:05pm, Council took a five minute recess.

CORRESPONDENCE:

~ Letter of appreciation to the Mayor, Members of Council, Service Director Jim Crevar and Assistant Director Rob Jamieson from residents Jim & Rosemary Filisky, 523 Blue Jay Trail regarding the excellent manner in which service department personnel repaired the Filisky's storm water line damaged by Cleveland Water.

~Letter of appreciation to Chief Golden, Sergeant Gary Ennis and Officer Jeremy Hilton from Patricia Najsztup regarding Sergeant Ennis' and Officer Hilton's kindness and professionalism during an vehicle accident in which Ms. Najsztup was involved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jenny Collins, Macedonia resident, commended those members of Council who supported the Girl Scout Agreement. As a proud Girl Scout, Ms. Collin felt compelled she said to share that nearly 100 years ago 52-year-old Juliette Gordon Low sold her pearls in order to start the Girl Scouts of America. In developing the Girl Scouts' movement Juliette Gordon Low has provided girls of all backgrounds the opportunity to develop self-reliance and resourcefulness. Ms. Collins identified a national list of "Who's Who" of Girls Scouts. Residents should be proud Ms. Collins stated that Macedonia is now home to a regional headquarters because Girl Scout Law mandates that the Girl Scouts leave a place better than they found it. With regards to another matter, Ms. Collins asked that the police department look into what she described as dicey traffic congestion that results every school morning around 7am in the area of S. Bedford Road, IS271 and SR 82.

Chief Golden advised Ms. Collins that the signal lights in that area have been changed numerous times in an effort to regulate and control the traffic congestion a little better. The major cause of the traffic the chief stated is because more students are being dropped off by the parents instead of riding school buses.

With regards to another matters, Summit County Council President Nick Kostandaras thanked Macedonia residents for their overwhelming support of him. Mr. Kostandaras said as a man of his word he will continue his attentiveness and support of Macedonia and the other Nordonia Hills communities. Mr. Kostandaras encouraged members of Council to think more clearly about their public actions. It has always been his philosophy he said that it is okay to agree to disagree but grudges should be left at the door. The community is not better served by bitterness and animosity. Mayor Kuchta has been progressively open-minded and should be commended and respected for all that has been accomplished in Macedonia under his leadership Mr. Kostandaras stated. With regards to another matter, Mr. Kostandaras reported that the Federal Housing

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Authority has released \$3.9 billion dollars to stave off foreclosures. Summit County received \$3.7 million and the City of Akron received funds as well to help in situations that fall within criteria established by HUD. Mr. Kostandaras thanked Mayor Kuchta for being the brain child relative to the County's job retention and creation ordinance.

With regards to another matter, Leigh Gerstenberger, six-month resident of Macedonia who was relocated from western Pennsylvania by First Merit Bank stated he was very discouraged by what he had read in the local paper about Council's position relative to the Girl Scout's incentive. He was encouraged this evening however by Council's action. Mr. Gerstenberger stated what others had before, that the Girl Scouts is the type of organization every community wants and who would be willing to do anything to get. Mr. Gerstenberger reminded members of Council that it is okay for responsible people to disagree responsibly. Not all decisions are easy. The burden of leadership is demanding. But public demonstration of leadership should be civil. Councils' action on the October 23 was unfortunately less than that. Mr. Gerstenberger was embarrassed by what he saw not only for Macedonia constituents but for the young women in attendance that evening whose expectations about leaders and leadership roles are very high. Being in the public eye is a difficult task which should be taken responsibly Mr. Gerstenberger stated because one never knows who is watching and how they interpret what they hear and see.

Another Macedonia resident, 48-year-old David Fike stated he has lived and worked in Macedonia all of his life. His father Paul served on Macedonia City Council for 18-years. The Fike Family has a lot of history in Macedonia. Some of which he added has caused conflict. He has performed work for the Mayor and at least three members of Council he added. Mr. Fike was embarrassed he said by what he witnessed at the October 23 meeting regarding the Girl Scouts. Mr. Fike mentioned his mother Nancy was a Girl Scout leader and his three sisters were Girl Scouts. His wife is also a Girl Scout leader and his oldest daughter works for the Girl Scouts and his youngest daughter is a Girl Scout. Since the 23rd meeting Mr. Fike said he spoke with Mayor Kuchta, Councilor Spraggins and Dr. Alford Smith to learn as many sides of the story as possible. In the end Mr. Fike is thankful he said that possible action prevailed He is hopeful that those who didn't support the grant will realize shortly the benefit the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio will have in Macedonia.

Kristen Sullivan, 12-year resident who resides at 8585 Shepard Road thanked Mayor Kuchta and Councilors Tulley and Barker for supporting the Girl Scout incentive. The Girl Scout organization builds strong independent woman and Ms. Sullivan is only too thrilled she said that Macedonia is the new headquarters of GSNEO. Ms. Sullivan also thanked the Mayor and those members of Council who took the time to answer her recent email.

Dave Heiser of 8278 S. Bedford Road stated how angry and embarrassed he was by what he witnessed at the October 23 meeting. He understands that people disagree but the manner in which Council handled the events of that evening was unfortunate. Fortunately the action taken this evening was positive he added. People obviously have their reasons for opposing the Girl Scouts move to Macedonia, but in the long run Mr. Heiser said the community will be way ahead.

Fred Cash, a member of the Board of Directors of GSNEO understands first hand what it means to be a good steward of public funds because he is also the chair of the Properties Committee of GSNEO, he is an elected official of the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District and he was appointed by the governor to oversee the budget of the water conservation division of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for all of Ohio's 88 counties. Mr. Cash said he appreciated Councils' concern and discussions about the incentive and certainly understood why they occurred. But the fact is it is going to be costly to update and outfit the new headquarters and therefore the reason GSNEO applied for the grant. GSNEO will not disappoint Mr. Cash stated. GSNEO will be good neighbors and good stewards of the funds granted GSNEO. Mr. Cash told Council that the mere fact that five districts have merged into one has important financial ramifications not only for the Girl Scouts but for Macedonia as well. The GSNEO is going to be a good investment of Macedonia he said. The National conferences and business to business negotiations held in Macedonia will generate traffic and activity for Macedonia's other businesses.

Councilor Barker commended Mr. Cash and the Girl Scout organization. As a former Boy Scout Mr. Barker knows first hand he said the benefits these types of organizations offer young people in their nurturing years.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Attached to end of this document

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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Finance Committee Mr. Engle announced that a finance meeting will be held Thursday, November 20 immediately following the special meeting that is being held at 6:30pm.

Parks & Recreation Commission Mr. Molnar reported that the Commission's next meeting is Tuesday, November 18 at 7pm

Northfield - Macedonia Cemetery Association Mrs. Tulley reported that Northfield Village and Macedonia have offered to each remove leaves once from the cemetery. The leaves in the past were thrown into the ravine which has caused EPA issues she stated. Next year the trustees will consider contracting for the removal of the leaves.

Drainage and Sewer Control Committee Mrs. Tulley commended the members of DSCC for their civic mindedness, commitment and the professional way in which they've conducted the business before them. The DSCC is truly the hardest working committee Mrs. Tulley said she has ever had the pleasure of working with. Each member has had serious water issues, either by having their basements, their yards or both flooded. Yet in spite of their personal property issues they have teamed unselfishly and collectively together in order to solve Macedonia's continual water issues. Mrs. Tulley stated the DSCC presented Council with information on November 6 regarding where the most serious flooding occurs in the City and how the problems can be solved, the cost of solving the problems and how funding can be attained. She explained that the DSCC is proposing a quarterly "ERU" fee. Their request is not an unrealistic or unusual Mrs. Tulley said. For example, Mrs. Tulley said she owns vacant property in Florida for which she pays an annual ERU fee of \$66. The Council has yet to let the DSCC know their answer. One item Council will have to consider while deliberating the DSCC's proposal is if NEORS (Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District) mandates an ERU fee as they have proposed. If that is the case Mrs. Tulley stated, Macedonia will want an opt-out option or the ability to receive at least a percentage of the fees. While Macedonia would mostly likely not be able to resolve its own issues with a percentage of what it may receive from NEORS, the City would at least be in control of its own projects. Mrs. Tulley feels NEORS would probably use the fees it generates to resolve water issue in other portions of Cuyahoga County before solving Macedonia's issues. It's the administration's philosophy and rightly so Mrs. Tulley stated that if a fee is to be paid, it should be initiated by Macedonia and be used solely to resolve Macedonia storm water issues.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Service Department Mr. Crevar reported that rubbish collection will be one day late due to Thanksgiving. He also reported that progress relative to the Leaf Collection Program is updated daily on Macedonia's website. The first complete round of collection was completed at the end of last week he stated. Mr. Crevar reminded residents that leaves should not be raked into the street. It is against the law to do so, leaves stop the flow of stormwater and they create a traffic hazard. Mr. Crevar reminded residents who call the service department to leave their names and contract numbers. Without this information their complaints cannot be handled. Mr. Crevar mentioned that the full depth pavement repairs have begun on Bradford Drive. The 2008 budget for the full-depth repairs was \$60,000. Lastly, Memorial Park will be decorated with flags for Veterans Day.

Building Commissioner Assistant Building Commissioner Frank Posar who was present in Mr. Hlad absence had no report.

Engineer Mr. Hill was not present.

Recreation Department Ms. Gmerek reported that the Recreation Center is hosting their first Health and Wellness Expo in conjunction with Southpointe Hospital on Saturday, November 15 from 10am until 3pm. The Expo is free and will be a good opportunity for people to meet personal trainers, dieticians, and massage practitioners she added. There will also be free health screenings and raffle drawings & prizes for those in attendance. Another new first for the Recreation Center Ms. Gmerek stated is a Kid's Garage Sale that will be held December 6 between the hours of 10am and 3pm. Children can reserve a table to sell gently used items such as toys, clothing and books. This is a great opportunity for kids (and mom) to clear out unused items before the holiday season as well as to pick up gifts she added. At 6pm later that day the City will be hosting the annual Holiday Tree Lighting event in the lobby of the Recreation Center. Traditionally held at Memorial Park Ms. Gmerek stated that the event has been relocated because of the current road construction and uncooperative weather in past years. This is also a free event where children can enjoy various activities such as caroling, face painting and visit to Santa's Workshop. Santa will arrive at the main entrance of the Recreation Center by fire truck. The Recreation Center is hosting a canned food drive and asks that contributions be made at this event. Ms. Gmerek reported as well that the Letter to Santa program begins November 30 and will run through December 12. In self-addressed envelopes children may drop off letters to Santa

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in a mailbox for the North Pole located in the lobby of the Recreation Center. Santa promises to respond to each and every child Ms. Gmerek stated.

Finance Department Mr. Brunot reported that a list of names relative to the Unclaimed Money Fund is on the City's website. The Unclaimed Money Fund is money from checks issued by the City but have not been cashed he stated. This list is also posted in the City Center. Mr. Brunot reported too that sale information relative to City owned property on Highland Pointe Parkway is also on the City's website. Mr. Brunot thanked the Council for approving the MOP grant. Mr. Brunot reiterated that the Girl Scouts is a good organization, one that will benefit Macedonia on a variety of levels. As Mr. Cash stated earlier, having its headquarters in town will generate additional traffic flow, which in turn will help Macedonia's other businesses to survive he added.

Fire Department Chief Black reported the dates of the Santa Delivery Program are Monday, December 15, Tuesday, December 16 and Thursday, December 18. Gifts bags may be picked up at the Family Recreation Center or City Center during times posted on the City's website. Information about the gift program can also be found in the *The Messenger*, the City's electronic newsletter. Regarding another matter, Chief Black mentioned that the fire department received the 2007 Life Safety Achievement Award through Ohio's Residential Fire Safety Institute. The chief explained that Macedonia is one of 20 departments throughout Ohio who received recognition for their fire prevention and education programs. Chief Black mentioned that this year's Firefighters Association's Annual Pancake Breakfast yielded over \$10,000 all of which was donated to the Josh Golobek Family to defray young Josh's medical expenses. The chief acknowledged all veterans and the importance of Veterans Day. Too little recognition is given to the men and women who bravely protect and service our country he added. The chief acknowledged David Fike's father Paul who not only served on Council for many years but who also was one of the framers of the Charter. Paul Fike set the stage and foundation for much of what is done in the City today the chief added. Lastly, the chief mentioned that he attended a Rotary Club meeting recently in which the speaker was a survivor of 9/11. The speaker, who was on the 91st floor of the north tower at the time of the event, actually witnessed the attack of the first plane. His story was bittersweet the chief stated in that the speaker survived but no one above the 91st floor did.

Police Department Chief Golden reported that Ohio has initiated an Emergency Contact Registry for authorities to use in cases of emergencies. The only information first responders have available to them is the information provided on drivers license the chief stated. Having contact information such as this will greatly expedite the notification process. Instruction relative to the Emergency Contact Registry is on the City's website. Lastly, the chief mentioned that while it was valiant for the manager of Macedonia's Subway restaurant to resist during a recent robbery it was not a prudent thing to do. In all cases of robbery it is always better to comply than it is to resist in order to safe guard one's life. In the advent of the holiday season the chief reminded residents to safeguard their homes and belongings by using common sense. Residents were also reminded to immediately call the police if they witness anything that looks even slightly suspicious or the least bit out of the ordinary.

Law Department Mr. Hanculak had no report.

Unfinished business Councilor Tulley asked the status of the SR82 improvement project to which Frank Posar answered the project is ahead of schedule. The work schedule requires that the bridge be fully completed before the roadway is widened. The entire project should be completed by next year. Mr. Posar mentioned that the only time the road has been at full closure was during early morning hours when the steel rails where installed. During that time, a squad and fire truck was placed in the school's bus garage so there would be no issue cover relative to the west side of the City.

New business None

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Mayor's report

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You can now access City Hall directly from Route 82. The driveway there is now a public entrance. It brings you right to the front door of City Hall. You may have to pull to the side if an emergency vehicle comes that way, so be prepared. There is plenty of room to do that. We are also very close to getting the new road between Valley View and Route 82 finished. It is right next to the Senior Independent and Assisted living building. There will be empty nester homes built off of that road. There is now an access to that

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road for our safety forces that has been completed. We will be able to respond in more directions out of the City Hall Complex than ever before.

I would like to congratulate all those who won their quest to become an elected official for the first time, or to have been re-elected. It is truly an honor to serve your constituents. Many positive things happened on November 4th that will continue to keep our City at the forefront when people look for a place to live and raise a family, or to work.

While thanking people, I would just like to give a quick thank you to our Fire Fighters and all the people who supported them and their pancake breakfast. I am sure that Tim will give more details later in the meeting. As the Safety Director of this City, I am very proud of all the men and women that serve our residents. I will look forward to Josh Golobek being an honorary Firefighter.

There will be an open meeting on November 18th at 4:00 PM to discuss the situation we face funding our storm water program rather than subsidizing the North East Ohio Regional Sewer District's storm water program. If we expend any dollars for storm water... they should be right in our or our neighbors, back yard. There will be many Summit County elected officials at this meeting, including Mayors from neighboring communities. Storm water has remained a priority here in Macedonia and we are right on the verge of taking care of our long list of complaints. This meeting is an effort to keep us on course.

The Fire Consolidation Meetings have resumed and we are now waiting on the results of the "forming a District meeting" in Northfield Center. After consulting with our Fire Chief Tim Black, Macedonia will remain status quo as the District talks proceed. The "District" is a totally different animal than what we had in mind when we hired John Preuer to help us to meld together but still retain our individuality. If we were to go into a fire district at this time we would lose the following.

- Having our department under the direction of Civil Service. Having this insures that we hire the best and it is done without bias.
- Our ISO rating of a 4. 1 is the best and our neighbors are now a 6. This would mean higher fire insurance for our residents and businesses.
- All fire fighters would be let go to form a new department, and we might not have the ability to save so many now employed that are worthy.
- All of our present equipment would become the property of the District. We presently have the best, and the most equipment.
- Control is handed over to a Fire District Board with the City having 1 vote. We could be outvoted taking control away from your elected officials.

Other considerations:

- It would be a violation of the City Charter.
- Property tax could double or even more to bring all of the communities to the level we now enjoy.
- The level of service to our residents would most probably not be equal to that we have today

There may be a need for our involvement in a "District" someday. A "District" might even be a better way for other communities to go today. However, not Macedonia at this time as advised by our Chief.

The total revenue for our Court for October, 2008 was \$44,060.60