

**KETTERING CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 14, 2017**

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in regular session on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Kettering Government Center South Building, 3600 Shroyer Road. Mayor Patterson presided and the Acting Clerk of Council, Amy J. Hayslip, recorded. This meeting was telecast live on the cable access channel.

Council Members Present: Patterson, Scott, Lautar, Schrimpf, Klepacz, and Wanamaker

Council Members Absent: Duke (Excused)

Total Members Present: Six (6)

Mayor Patterson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation. He introduced the cable TV operators Earl Jones and Liberty Lord. The Page this evening was Ryan Geiger from St. Charles School. Middle School. He thanked them for their assistance.

Mayor Patterson announced tonight we welcome our colleagues from Montgomery County Environmental Services to our regularly scheduled Kettering City Council Meeting. Montgomery County representatives will make a presentation this evening on their proposed water rate increases. I know many of you may be with us tonight for this presentation. Please keep in mind that this is a Kettering City Council Meeting, not a public feedback forum for Montgomery County water rates. In accordance with procedures for our City Council meetings, there will not be an opportunity for public comment immediately following the Montgomery County presentation. If you have comments about tonight's presentation we encourage you to use the contact methods provided by Montgomery County to provide your feedback. As always, residents will have an opportunity to speak on any matter during the public comment period at the conclusion of the City Council meeting following the remainder of the City Council Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 24, 2017 - Council Meeting & Workshop Minutes

Mr. Scott reported that he reviewed the above minutes and moved the minutes be approved. Mr. Klepacz seconded the motion and there being six (6) yea votes and no (0) nay votes for the October 24, 2017 Council Meeting & Workshop Minutes, the motion was declared carried by roll call vote.

PROCLAMATIONS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Presentation – Montgomery County Environmental Services

Joe Tuss, Montgomery County Administrator and Pat Turnbull, Montgomery County Environmental Services Director made the presentation – Investing in Your Water & Sewer System to Protect Public Health and the Environment

- Overview: Topics to Consider
  1. Who We Are
  2. Water and Sewer Financial Outlook
  3. Condition of Our Water & Sewer System
  4. Necessary Infrastructure Investments
  5. Current vs. New Rate Structure
  6. Five-Year Rate Plan
  
- Who We Are

We are 320 employees, who serve more than 250,000 people and 6,000 businesses in the Dayton, Ohio region.

Our Vision: To be leaders and trusted stewards of the environment focused on service, collaboration, innovation, and financial responsibility.

Our Mission: We serve our community by providing high quality water, wastewater, recycling, and solid waste services to support a sustainable environment.

As an enterprise fund, MCES is not funded by tax dollars, but is funded entirely by our ratepayers. We run a lot like a business. The scale of our operations, infrastructure, and investment requires thoughtful planning for future needs. Our objective is to balance system reliability and financial integrity with customer costs and impacts.

250,000 people = 50% of the entire county population. This includes services for fire suppression, businesses, industry, and hospitals.

- Water and Sewer Financial Outlook

Financial Outlook: Modest Past Increases

Over the past 8 years, Montgomery County rate increases averaged 1.25% per year. The average rate increase in Ohio over the same time period was about 4% per year. Rate increases below the regional and national industry average. Rate increases have not translated into revenue increases. During the same time period, the national average combined water/sewer increase was about 6% every year.

#### Financial Outlook: Practicing Fiscal Responsibility

From 2012-2016, we've kept our operational costs flat, despite rising inflation, increased costs for materials, and decreasing consumption.

In 2015, we saved \$350,000 in reduced energy costs. In 2016, we won a \$650,000 DP&L energy rebate.

From 2014-2017, we won \$4.5 million in grant money to fund capital projects.

From 2013-2016, our lab earned \$421,000 in testing revenue to help offset costs.

We have cut and saved wherever possible, but this is not sustainable. We cannot save our way out of this problem. Focus on efficiency and innovation! Limited operating cost increases due to improved efficiencies, reduced workforce and technology utilization. This provides near-term reliability, but is not sustainable over the long-term. We cannot grow or save our way out of this. We must reinvest in our system.

#### Financial Outlook: Higher Maintenance Costs

Old infrastructure costs more to maintain. As our infrastructure ages, it breaks down more often and loses efficiency.

Replacing old infrastructure with new infrastructure is also expensive.

The cost for necessary construction materials has risen at a much faster pace than our rate increases. The cost for 8" Ductile Iron Pipe (material used for water mains) rose 24% in the past five years, from \$16.75 to \$22.08 per foot.

#### Financial Outlook: Decreasing Consumption

Water consumption has decreased more than 20% over the past 10 years (2% each year).

This means that revenue is flat despite modest rate increases over the same period.

Consumption will likely continue to decrease. Why is consumption decreasing? Smaller households, efficient appliances and fixtures, recycled water in industrial uses, population decrease, etc.

#### Financial Outlook Summary

- Our rate increases have been below the regional and national average.
- Montgomery County has been fiscally responsible.
- Our aging infrastructure costs more to maintain and replace. Continuing with the status quo presents an unacceptable level of risk.
- Decreasing water consumption has reduced our revenue and eroded the effect of rate increases.

#### Condition of our Water & Sewer System

Our System is large & valuable. Total value of our water and sewer system = \$3.1 billion

Water and sewer systems require ongoing maintenance and continuous replacement.

#### Our System is getting old.

Much of our buried infrastructure is 60-70 years old, but its usable life is only supposed to be 50 years. About 50% of our underground lines are at least 50 years old.

We spent \$2.25M on 355 breaks in 2015, and that trend is only getting worse. Cost breakdown is \$480,000 for work orders (e.g., employee time/internal costs), and \$1.75M for concrete/pavement.

We respond to about 60 leaks/month (mostly in the winter). Every time we have to repair a water main break, it costs \$6,000.

Buried infrastructure largely installed during 1950-60s housing boom.

It costs about \$1 million to replace just 1 mile of water main... and we have 1,400 miles of water and 1,200 miles of sewer mains.

Our two wastewater plants were built in 1977 and 1954 (upgraded 1985), using federal funds that no longer exist.

Our three major water pump stations are 30 years old.

In 2015-2016 alone, we spent \$3 million on repairs and upgrades to these pump stations.

#### Necessary Infrastructure Investments

Two large projects we need to pursue in next 5 years

1. Replace/upgrade the main sewer line and pump station to our Western Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.
2. Build an additional water feed to ensure water service reliability to our south service area (Centerville, Jefferson Township, Kettering, Miami Township, Moraine, and Washington Township).

#### #1 – Upgrade Sewer Line & Pump Station

Risk: 40-year-old sewer line and pump station to Western Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant needs to be rehabilitated or replaced. Only sewer line for more than 83,000 people and businesses.

SOLUTION: Replace and/or upgrade sewer line and pump station

COST = \$65-85 Million

#2 – Additional Water Service to South

RISK: Only one large water main serves Centerville, Jefferson Township, Kettering, Miami Township, Moraine, and Washington Township. This is the water main that provides fire protection and drinking water to more than 150,000 people, hospitals, and businesses.

SOLUTION: Build an additional water feed from the City of Dayton.

COST = \$76-118 Million

What happens if it fails?

Northridge Service Area (Butler Township, Harrison Township, Huber Heights, Jefferson Township, Riverside, and Trotwood)

Greater Moraine Service Area (Centerville, Jefferson Township, Kettering, Miami Township, Moraine, and Washington Township)

Affected by large, single transmission main outage

75% of our customers (60,000 accounts)

Includes hospitals, businesses, retirement communities, etc.

Underground Water/Sewer Lines

We currently spend about \$2 million on water and \$2 million on sewer line replacements every year.

We need to increase spending to 4X our current rate to ensure long-term system reliability, which is:

\$10.5 million/year on water

\$6.4 million/year on sewer

Aboveground Infrastructure

We operate and maintain:

- 2 wastewater treatment plants,
- 3 equalization basins,
- 36 sewer lift stations,
- 12 water pump stations,
- 14 water storage facilities (water towers, reservoirs),
- and 12,000 fire hydrants.

Require Infrastructure Funding – Aboveground Infrastructure

We need to invest more in our aboveground infrastructure. The estimated cost to maintain and upgrade our aboveground infrastructure for the next 20 years is...\$12.5 Million per year

Total 20-year Capital Funding Needs

To ensure our system will continue to be reliable and safe, we will need to invest over the next 20 years: \$729-791 Million. This boils down to an average annual investment of \$38.1 million, reinvesting approximately 1.2% of our overall system value each year.

Original infrastructure was built with federal money and investment from private development. These resources no longer exist. We have to pay with this through rate increases.

Current Rate vs. New Rate Structure

Current Rate Structure: 100% of the cost to operate system is paid by ratepayers – people who benefit from services

Current water/sewer rates include fixed charges and consumption-based charges.

Fixed portion of bill is too small to maintain stable, long-term financing for our system:

Fixed charges = 20%

Consumption-based charges = 80%

New Rate Structure (January 2018)

Consumption Charge to cover cost to purchase water and also some capital costs

Fixed Service Charge to cover overhead costs

Capital Charge to cover capital costs related to system and infrastructure improvements

Larger portion of bill will be fixed, providing stable and long-term financing of our water and sewer systems:

Fixed charges = 40%

Consumption-based charges = 60%

Five-Year Rate Plan

In 2018 increase of 14%; 2019-2022: 5.6% rate increase

Rate Impact in 2018

- In 2018, there will be an average rate increase of 14% for combined water and sewer bills. This increase will help us catch up after seven years of small or no rate increases.
- This rate increase will vary based on customer type/class (e.g., meter size and consumption).
- A larger portion of this rate structure will be fixed.

We're still affordable, and we'll still be affordable in 2018!

This is not about an incremental rate change, but changing the way we fund infrastructure for long-term stability. This is changing how we do business.

Mayor Patterson asked if Mr. Tuss had a feel for the other counties and cities rates for 2018; would they be holding steady or increasing?

Mr. Tuss mentioned that most of these water utilities in other cities and counties are increasing their rates on a regular basis.

Why Now?

Our infrastructure is aging. Most of the water/sewer system was built about 50-60 years ago.

Time to reinvest now because assets are reaching full depreciation.  
Great Recession delayed planned rate increases and capital projects.

Commissioner Foley thanked Mayor & City Council and Kettering residents in attendance. The three elected officials from Montgomery County are in support of this and we believe that we have a responsibility to invest in this system not just for the residents here now but for the generations to come after us. When we built the western regional pump station treatment facility on Dryden Rd. in 1979. It cost \$36 million dollars and 75% of that was paid for by the Federal Government. We wish those pots of money are available but they are not and we had to find a way to fund this.

Why This Matters?

We are stewards of a vital public service. We provide high quality water and sewer service to:

- Protect public health and the environment
- Ensure quality of life for citizens
- Promote economic development

Commissioner Foley mentioned thank you for allowing us to be here and please feel free to contact any of us at the Commission office or at Montgomery County Environmental Services.

Mr. Klepacz mentioned that he had met Mr. Turnbull over the phone when a resident had an issue and he wasn't sure what belonged to him and what belonged to the county. Could you briefly explain where the resident's responsibility stops and where yours begins. All of us in this room have an aging infrastructure in their yards and with all of the new replacements of the water and sewer lines in the next five years could we get some tips that we should be doing as residents.

Mr. Turnbull mentioned that each house has a service water and sewer line that connects to the county's main lines. The county takes care of the main lines that are generally in the roadway and we are responsible for the individual service lines to the edge of the right of way so think of right behind the sidewalk once it gets into the grass in your front yard typically; once it goes beyond that point it transitions to the homeowner being responsible for the service line both the sewer lateral and water line that comes into your house. As we are replacing 70 year old mains it probably is a 70 year old service line into your house as well; it may be time for that reinvestment into your property.

Mayor Patterson mentioned should we expect the new main line system to put a strain on our aging lines in our front yard?

Mr. Turnbull mentioned that as we replace the mains, if we are replacing an 8 inch line with a new 8 inch line the pressure would be the same. Only areas that might see a change are the ones where a smaller main gets replaced with a larger main.

Mayor Patterson mentioned if someone has a sprinkler system in their yard will the deduct meter be the same.

Mr. Turnbull said the sprinkler program will remain the same.

Mayor Patterson mentioned that he appreciated all three presenters for being here.

#### Proclamation – Small Business Saturday

Mr. Klepacz read the proclamation.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATION

#### ORDINANCES IN SECOND READING

#### RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION

NO: 10050-17

BY: MR. SCOTT AND MR. KLEPACZ

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE, THROUGH A STATE OR LOCAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, ANNUAL POST WARRANTY MAINTENANCE AND LIFE CYCLE FOR THE DISPATCH RADIO CONSOLE

Mr. Scott read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Klepacz seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Schrimpf, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes, and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10051-17  
BY: MR.KLEPACZ AND MRS.SCHRIMPF

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE FRAZE PAVILION 2018 PERFORMANCE SEASON

Mr. Klepacz read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mrs. Schrimpf seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Schrimpf, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes, and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10052-17  
BY: MRS.SCHRIMPF AND MR.LAUTAR

TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF KETTERING, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017

Mrs. Schrimpf read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Lautar seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Schrimpf, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes, and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

ORDINANCES IN FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE  
BY: MR.LAUTAR

TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT NO. 15 (KETTERING BUSINESS PARK)

Mr. Robillard, Planning and Development Director gave a brief description of the resolution.

CERTIFICATIONS AND PETITIONS

MANAGER'S REPORT/COMMUNITY UPDATE

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager updated Council on upcoming and community events.

- Leaf Pickup Update

Crews are currently working in District 5 and are progressing forward through the districts. Districts are picked up in numerical order, so please have your leaves raked and placed by the curb before we get to your area.

Rake leaves only to the curb (no sticks, grass or sod please).

Do NOT bag.

Additionally, leaves and sticks are accepted at the Yard Debris Center on Woodman Center Drive.

For more information regarding current crew locations, be sure to call our leaf hotline at 296-FALL.

- Construction Updates

Stroop Road Bridge- The concrete footers are complete on the Stroop Road Bridge. The abutments and wing walls are under construction.

Mr. Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager gave the following update:

Thank you to all the residents who responded to the Ridgeway Road Bridge Survey in the month of October. Over 800 responses to the survey, 700 being from Kettering residents the remainder from

the resident of Oakwood. If residents would still like to comments please email the City Manager's office.

Ridgeway Road Bridge- The City of Kettering piloted a new public engagement process to gain feedback on this project. It was very important to Kettering City Council, because there are several project options to consider, to maximize the public input on the future investment in the Ridgeway Road Bridge.

The typical input opportunity for city projects is a public meeting. We recognized that because our residents have hectic schedules and competing demands on their time, not everyone who is interested in the future of the Ridgeway Road bridge would be able to make it to such a meeting or to a City Council meeting where we might hold a public hearing. Instead, we hosted a "virtual public meeting".

There is a great deal of interest in the next steps and in the timing of a City Council decision on this project. Your survey responses will be presented to City Council on November 28 at their workshop at 6 pm. For the latest updates and more information on the Ridgeway Road bridge project please visit our website.

<https://www.ketteringoh.org/ridgeway-bridge>

- Yard Debris Center

The Yard Debris Center will be closing for the season on Saturday, December 2 at 3pm.

- Thanksgiving Holiday Closings & Schedule Changes

City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24.

Trash collection on Thursday will be delayed until Friday; Friday collections will be delayed until Saturday.

- Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

- Friday, December 1
- Lincoln Park Civic Commons
- 6:00 p.m. – Entertainment begins
- 6:30 p.m. – Tree Lighting
- Activities include:
  - Carriage rides
  - Live holiday music
  - Hot chocolate and sweet treats

- Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment ends December 7. Residents can schedule an individual appointment by calling the Kettering Connection at 296-3330. The Connection is located at Town & Country Shopping Center and is open Mon – Fri 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Thank you to Joe Tuss, Pat Turnbull and Commissioner Foley for their presentation and for their work on the major project at the Montgomery County Environmental Services.

Mayor Patterson mentioned a resident asked why is the Frazee Fanfare absent of merchandise?

Mr. Schwieterman assured Mayor Patterson that Frazee Fanfare will be ready for the upcoming Holiday season and should be ready for Black Friday.

## OTHER BUSINESS NOT ON WRITTEN AGENDA

### Communications and Reports

#### Audience Participation (5 Minute Limit per Speaker)

**Patricia Higgins, 480 Winding Way** mentioned we are here tonight for the Ridgeway Bridge. We would like to thank you for reaching out to the neighborhood to seek input on the Bridge. The survey generated lots of conversation and gave us opportunities to talk to our neighbors. The survey brought our neighborhood together and gave us the opportunity to provide feedback to the city on the Bridge. We look forward to hearing the survey results on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Tonight we would like to submit a petition asking that the bridge be replaced with a full service bridge for cars, bikes and people. So far we have 406 signatures with more being obtained by other team members. We are going door to door to seek signatures and are staying primarily in our neighborhood. I would also like to submit a statement from Tom and Carolyn Wittmann for Mayor and Council and Mr. Schwieterman. Additionally, as you can tell there are many residents in attendance tonight and are all concerned residents regarding the bridge. We wanted to let you know that not everyone will be getting up tonight to speak.

**Willard Boyer, 2257 Red Bud Trail**- mentioned I'm speaking tonight to seek full replacement of the Ridgeway Bridge. Red Bud Trail is way out in northwest Kettering on the other side of Hills and Dales Park sandwiched between Oakwood and Moraine. My home is two miles from the Ridgeway Bridge and for me and my wife and many of our neighbors it is an important link to Kettering it is our gateway to the city. It eliminates the need to deal with the traffic on Dorothy Lane and Far Hills Avenue which can be very time consuming especially at rush hour. It is also an additional access road for emergency vehicles. Ridgeway Bridge is also another access to the popular Hills and Dales park.

Thank you for your attention I hope you agree with me and the other speakers that Ridgeway Bridge is important to Kettering.

**Tommy Routsong, Routsong Funeral Home, 2100 E. Stroop Rd.-** mentioned the safety department has mentioned to him and rightfully so that when Routsong does funerals at St. Albert the Great church that we are not allowed to turn left or north out of the church because of the intersection of Far Hills and Dorothy could cause a real traffic problem. So we turn right out of the church after masses going primarily to Calvary Cemetery. Our route to Calvary Cemetery is to go right on Canterbury down to Ridgeway across the bridge and continue the route to the cemetery. It is the safest route to go by far and it's traveled quite a bit from St. Alberts to Calvary. This route through the park is aesthetically pleasing and comforting to families in grief. I hope that you will consider in replacing the bridge and from an Oakwood resident it is a great way for me to get from north to south down Ridgeway Road. The bridge is also used during the Holiday at Home parade when Far Hills is closed.

**Linda Bumiller, 3089 Hillside Ave.-** thanked Council for the opportunity to speak about the Ridgeway Bridge. Ms. Bumiller mentioned that she grew up on Hillside Ave. and remembers what it was like before the bridge was built; about the frequency of the accidents on Dorothy Lane near the intersection of Ridgeway and Hillside and how all of the kids in the neighborhood would run behind the houses on Ridgeway and Hillside to get to Dorothy Lane to see the accident. Ms. Bumiller mentioned that even to this day she has a vivid memory of one particular gruesome accident. Ms. Bumiller mentioned that traffic volume was a lot lower volume back then than it is now. Ms. Bumiller mentioned that was why the bridge was built was to keep everyone safe and she asks that we pursue funding to build the bridge so that both pedestrians and can use the bridge and protect our safety.

**Laurie Quill, 432 Winding Way Rd.-** mentioned that she has had several thoughts regarding the safety concerns associated with the bridge. In May the city conducted an analysis of the costs of the bridges in Kettering and 2010 the city replaced the E. Dorothy Lane bridge at \$1.6 million – 25,000 cars go over that road daily; in 2017 the bridge on E. Stroop Rd. is being replaced for \$1.3 million and there are 15,000 cars that go over that road daily. Ms. Quill mentioned that she thinks there is an important point to mention that neither of those roads have a road that goes under it – there being replaced because the Little Beaver Creek goes under those roads and that's what those bridges are for. That's different than the Ridgeway Bridge; the Ridgeway Bridge has 900 cars that go over it but if you estimated the number of cars that go under it, it would be tens of thousands of cars and that's the issue. The issue is that you will have 900 cars that normally go over that bridge will be coming out onto Dorothy Lane, it is a big safety concern. Ms. Quill mentioned that she believes that this is why the bridge was built 52 years ago it was a safety concern and still is a safety concern. She mentioned that she is a researcher at Wright Patt and she has done research on this and the cost benefit analysis. In her research she came across the Highway Safety Manual and the economic crash analysis tool that are both offered by the Ohio Department of Transportation. The tools identify a number of factors that increase potential for collisions; which is what we are concerned about here – collisions when people pull out onto that road. The factors that jumped out at her – the amount of traffic associated with the intersection and in this case we are talking about the people that go over the bridge and people going under the bridge – so it's that amount of traffic that we need to be concerned about in our cost benefit analysis and not just the 900 cars going over the bridge. The number of traffic lanes being crossed on West Dorothy Lane – we have four lanes of undivided arterial with no median in the middle with a speed limit of 40 mph. The number of intersection legs between the light at Far Hills and Patterson – there are 11 possible intersections where people can pull out onto Dorothy Lane with many of them having reduced visibility. We also have two schools in the area – St. Albert the Great and Julian and Marjorie Lang School. How do we put a cost of what the value is of a bridge versus a fatal injury and she couldn't put that cost there. We're talking about the safety of our citizens. Have we conducted all of the analyses that we think are important for the removal of this bridge and if we haven't would Kettering be liable if something were to happen, have we done due diligence insuring that the appropriate measures have been taken, this is a discussion of safety and we would like you to consider keeping the Ridgeway Bridge and pursuing funding for replacing the bridge for all modes of transportation.

**Ralph Mantica, 301 Tamarac Trl.-** mentioned he has been a resident within a mile of Ridgeway Bridge for over 32 years and he is a real estate agent in the area. He's defining the area he is talking about as Dorothy Lane to the north; Far Hills to the east; Foxridge to the south and Blossom Heath to the west. This area has started to see a resurgence in the last couple of years, but we do have to acknowledge that we have an aging housing stock in this area with the average age of the house being sold in 1952. Accessibility and added safety this bridge provides adds an unknown value to this area. Buyers are looking for good schools, accessibility to the outdoors and parks, accessibility to the urban core for entertainment and nightlife; work, hospitals and the interstate. Currently the bridge provides these features to the neighborhood it supports. Are you willing to gamble what the loss of this bridge would do to the housing values in the area which are now just starting to increase? Over the past five years the average sale price in that area mentioned earlier was \$199,000; this past year that same area seen an increase to \$208,000; not a huge increase it's a fragile resurgence due to the age of the homes. But changing the accessibility of the neighborhood will the features I mentioned disappear? Not all of them, there is no park in that neighborhood, we have to go to Hills & Dales, Oakwood and we have to cross that bridge. Where will those 900 cars go, each day down to Lenox,

turn west onto Hillside at rush hour, it doesn't happen. Are we creating an image of Kettering not investing in its neighborhoods? We're investing in our commercial and industrial parks, our firehouses, our schools but are we unwilling to make the proper support of our neighborhoods that pay for these services. We're not asking to place a bridge where one has not been before, but we are asking to keep the integrity of the neighborhood the same. Council you have the dice in your hand, the next roll is yours are you willing to gamble \$750,000 the difference between a walking bridge and a full service bridge over the next 52 years, the current age of the existing bridge. That is only \$14,400 per year - \$349 per house. In making your decision this is not a short-sighted expense of today's dollars, it could possibly be the loss of dollars from taxes, property taxes and also the growth of our city in future residents. Thank you very much for your time this evening.

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Lautar reported:

- November 2- Volunteer Recognition luncheon. Thousands of hours these volunteers give to the City.
- October 20- attended Ribbon Cutting Medical Massage Associates on Southmoor Circle.
- November 10- attended Ribbon Cutting for GetActive on Strop Road.

Mr. Wanamaker reported:

- Congratulations to Mr. Lautar and Mayor Patterson for their re-elections.
- Congratulations for service awards to Mr. Scott for 5 years; Mr. Klepacz for 10 years and Mr. Duke for 30 years.

Mr. Scott reported:

- Congratulations to Councilman Lautar and Mayor Patterson for their re-elections. Congratulations to Jacque Fisher for her election to City Council.
- Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Mr. Klepacz reported:

- Congratulations to Mayor Patterson and Councilman Lautar.
- October 27- attended Ribbon Cutting at Key Bank on Far Hills. We used balloons to cut the ribbon.
- October 28- attended Make A Difference Day/Cities of Service event. Volunteers did outdoor work and at Oak Park Community Church – making cards for service members.
- November 1- attended Veterans Day event at JFK Elementary
- November 11- Dorwood Optimist Christmas Tree lot is open.
- December 1- Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting at 6 pm

Mrs. Schrimpf reported:

- Received numerous call and emails from residents regarding Ridgeway Bridge. Thank you for being so respectful.
- November 2-attended Volunteer Recognition Lunch
- November 15- Landlord Tenant panel here in Council Chambers.
- Happy Thanksgiving

Mayor Patterson reported:

- October 28- Make A Difference Day
- November 1- Employee Service Awards
- November 2- Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon attended by 500-600 people.
- November 8- attended Southdale's 5<sup>th</sup> grade etiquette class at the Racquet Club.
- November 8- attended Optimist Youth Appreciation Dinner for all Optimist clubs in the area.
- Thank you to the residents who attended the meeting tonight and for being respectful, it goes a long way in working with people.
- November 7- Thank you to all the residents who came out to vote. Jacque Fisher will be taking Mrs. Schrimpf's place in January.
- Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

They're being no further business to come before this meeting of the Kettering City Council; Mayor Patterson adjourned the City Council Meeting at 9:01 p.m.

ATTEST:

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DONALD E. PATTERSON, MAYOR

Amy J. Hayslip  
Acting Clerk of Council