

**KETTERING CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2023**

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in regular session on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Kettering Government Center South Building, 3600 Shroyer Road. Mayor Lehner presided and the Clerk of Council, LaShaunah D. Kaczynski, recorded. This meeting was telecast live on the cable access channel and streamed live at mvcc.net.

Council Members Present: Lehner, Fisher, Klepacz, Hall, Scott, Duke and Duvall

Council Members Absent: None

Total Members Present: Seven (7)

Mayor Lehner led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

Mayor Lehner introduced the Miami Valley Communications Council TV Operator Mike Sopronyi. She thanked him for his assistance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 5, 2023- Council Meeting & Budget Workshop Minutes

Mrs. Fisher reported that she reviewed the above minutes and moved the minutes be approved. Mr. Klepacz seconded the motion of the above minutes and there being six (6) yea votes, one (1) abstain vote (Mr. Duke) and no (0) nay votes for the December 5, 2023, Council Meeting & Budget Workshop, the motion was declared carried followed by a roll call vote.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES IN SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE
NO: 4404-23
BY: MRS.FISHER AND MR.KLEPACZ

TO PROVIDE FOR THE TABLE OF ORGANIZATION, POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN,
COMPENSATION PLAN AND PAY SCHEDULES AND RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING
TO CONDITIONS OF WORK AND SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE
CITY OF KETTERING, OHIO, AND TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NO 4397-23

Mrs. Fisher read the above ordinance and moved for approval. Mr. Klepacz seconded the motion.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the ordinance duly adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10973-23
BY: MR.KLEPACZ AND MRS.HALL

DIRECTING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO COMMIT AN ADDITIONAL \$500,000.00 OF THE
GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO BE EXPENDED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024

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

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

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10974-23
BY: MRS.HALL AND MR.SCOTT

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A SPECIAL PROJECTS GRANT FROM THE THOMAS R. SCHIFF FOUNDATION

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

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

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10975-23
BY: MR.SCOTT AND MS.DUVALL

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH PATRIOT ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. FOR A PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT

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

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

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10976-23
BY: MS.DUVALL AND MR.DUKE

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A SAFETY GRANT FROM THE OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Ms. Duvall read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Duke seconded the motion.

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

Chief Robbins, Fire Chief mentioned the Fire Department is applying for a Bureau of Workers' Compensation Safety Grant to purchase safety equipment in particular hoods and fire gloves. The amount the department is applying for is based on the city's structure and size.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10977-23
BY: MR.DUKE AND MRS.FISHER

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR KETTERING POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Duke read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion.

Chief Protsman, Police Chief gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10978-23
BY: MRS.FISHER AND MR.KLEPACZ

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT AND ADMINISTER A COMMUNITY HOUSING
IMPACT AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM: LEAD ABATEMENT PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

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

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

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott,
Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no
(0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10979-23
BY: MR.KLEPACZ AND MRS.HALL

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, 2023

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

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

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott,
Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no
(0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION
NO: 10980-23
BY: MRS.HALL AND MR.SCOTT

TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF KETTERING,
STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

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

Mr. Greeson, City Manager gave a PowerPoint presentation of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott,
Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no
(0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

ORDINANCES IN FIRST READING

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE
NO: 4405-23
BY: MR.SCOTT AND MS.DUVALL

TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 192 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES
REGARDING INCOME TAX AND DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Scott read the above ordinance and moved for approval. Ms. Duvall seconded the motion.

Mr. Greeson, City Manager gave a brief description of the ordinance.

Ms. Gregory, Finance Director mentioned the provisions are required to be included in the Codified
Ordinances. The provision regarding not taxing taxpayers under the age of 18 has always been
included within the Codified Ordinances but these updates will ensure that the Codified Ordinance is
in-line with state law and House Bill 33 that was recently passed.

The following votes were recorded: Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mrs. Hall, Yea; Mr. Scott, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Ms. Duvall, Yea; Mayor Lehner, Yea. There being seven (7) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the ordinance duly adopted.

CERTIFICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Mrs. Kaczynski, Clerk of Council thanked Mr. Klepacz and Mr. Duke for their service to the Kettering community.

MANAGER'S REPORT/COMMUNITY UPDATE

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

- 2024 dog licenses are on sale and can be purchased from the Kettering Police Department by calling 937-296-3266.
- Christmas Day Gathering will be held on December 25 from 11:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. at the Lathrem Senior Center.
- City of Kettering Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 in observance of Christmas.
- Rumpke service will be delayed one day the week of December 25.
- City of Kettering Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday, January 1 in honor New Year's.
- Rumpke service will be delayed one day the week of January 1.

OTHER BUSINESS NOT ON WRITTEN AGENDA

Audience Participation (5 Minute Limit per Speaker)

Andrea White- State Representative- Representative White expressed she is honored to be able to remember some very dear friends, colleagues, public servants and leaders of the Kettering community. Representative White mentioned she has commendations from the Ohio House of Representatives for Bruce Duke and Tony Klepacz but she would like to share some personal remarks. Representative White first met Bruce Duke in 1996, when her husband John White was elected to Kettering City Council. One of her earliest memories of Mr. Duke was when she attended a National League of Cities Conference and she noticed that Mr. Duke attended all of the sessions. There were a lot of people who mingled and networked at the conference but Mr. Duke was intended on making a difference, getting ideas and sharing ideas to bring back to Kettering. Representative White also remembers Mr. Duke as a counselor at the University of Dayton and the difference he made for students and families. The lasting impression she has of Mr. Duke is he is an individual who wants to make an impact on an individual level, micro level and a macro level and how his legacy will be reflected in the public art program. When she drives throughout the community and sees various art and monuments and the impact the arts has on the quality of life she thinks about Bruce Duke. When she thinks about the Kettering Leadership Academy and the legacy of the individuals within the Council Chambers, he took an idea and made an impact. Mr. Duke will be remembered after he vacates his seat because the community sees the impact he has made on the Kettering community. Representative White thanked Mr. Duke for his service and presented him with a commendation from the Ohio House of Representatives. Representative White expressed that Tony Klepacz has worked in the Kettering community for a long time and has made an impact on many levels throughout the years. Representative White reflected she first got to know Mr. Klepacz when she was working as a volunteer on the Partners for Healthy Youth Board. Mr. Klepacz sees a need and he has the heartstrings for the children and families of the Kettering community. When the Partners for Healthy Youth Board was considering what to do when they noticed children leaving candy wrappers on the shelves at Kroger because they were hungry over the summer, they asked how can the community help? Representative White worked with Mr. Klepacz, MaryBeth O'Dell and others to create the Summer Food Program at the Trails of Oakcreek. The program is more than a sandwich, it is about the relationships, impact and speaking into the lives of the children. The program has been running for over 15 years and there have been thousands of full bellies and kids who felt loved on. Mr. Klepacz went regularly week-after-week to volunteer. His legacy and the way he has loved on people and cared about their needs will be long lasting. Representative White thanked Mr. Klepacz for his service and his lasting legacy on the Kettering community and presented Mr. Klepacz with a commendation from the Ohio House of Representatives.

Brian Martin- Executive Director of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission- Mr. Martin expressed he joined the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission as executive director in 2013 and former Mayor Patterson served on the search committee. After former Mayor Patterson was on a few vacations, Mr. Martin got to know Mr. Klepacz and after the years he learned a lot while serving with Mr. Klepacz which has been an honor. Mr. Martin has been serving in his capacity for the past 11 years and Mr. Klepacz has served as an alternate and delegate over those years. Mr. Klepacz has always been a person to focus on finances and he was always a good person to converse and bounce ideas. Mr. Martin expressed he has had the opportunity to work with Mr. Duke while he served as the representative to First Suburbs. The Kettering community is losing two regional stewards who know all of the mayors and council members of the Dayton Region and Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz have been great assets to the region and it will be hard to replace them. Mr. Martin expressed it has been great working with the City of Kettering and he is looking forward to working with the next delegate and alternate who will serve on the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors. Mr. Martin expressed his admiration for the light display in Lincoln Park Civic Commons and

he will be sure to bring his family to Lincoln Park during the holiday season so they can enjoy the light display. Mr. Martin thanked Mr. Klepacz and Mr. Duke for their service.

Don Patterson- 715 Stanbridge Drive- Mr. Patterson reflected as he was sitting in the audience he noticed in the audience there are six former City Council members and he would like to recognize them for their service:

- Amy Schrimpf
- Rob Scott
- Ray Wasky
- Joe Wanamaker
- Frank Spolrich
- Bill Lautar

Mr. Patterson expressed he had the privilege of serving 24 years with Mr. Duke and during that time they got to know each other by attending National League of Cities Conferences, various conventions and traveling to various regions throughout the United States. Getting to know someone is not in today's politics because today's politics are ugly. Mr. Patterson and Mr. Duke never lost sight of who they were serving and what needed to be done to improve the Kettering community. Mr. Patterson acknowledged there are former city manager and assistant city manager in the audience. Mr. Patterson explained City Council never lost sight of doing what was best for the Kettering community, no matter who was on City Council. Mr. Patterson was 31 years old when Mr. Duke first joined City Council, so they have known each other for some time. Mr. Duke has done a lot for the Kettering community. Mr. Patterson thanked Joan Klepacz and Jan Duke, while Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz are at meetings, dinners, events etc. they are the ones sitting at home and have to find something to do while they are doing what they love which is serving the community. Mr. Patterson thanked Mrs. Klepacz and Mrs. Duke for their service. Mr. Duke had tremendous, one of which was the Kettering Leadership Academy, which just celebrated 20 years and Mr. Duke nurtured that during the years. The idea behind the Kettering Leadership Academy is that the people who complete the program will become leaders in the Kettering community. There are new members of City Council who completed the program and have a better understanding of what it means to be a member of Kettering City Council and community leaders. The Kettering Leadership Academy is a great program. Mr. Patterson expressed while he was on City Council he wasn't interested in art; he was interested in jobs and business retention. He sat through many meetings where he had to bite his tongue on the topic of art but Mr. Duke's persistence is a benefit to the community as you drive around because Kettering is an entire community and a whole community. There are many things that are wonderful and great. He still doesn't understand metal on some of the artwork and the rust that it causes. Artwork is visible throughout Kettering Parks in particular Lincoln Park and Mr. Duke is able to enjoy an art monument near his home. Mr. Duke used to travel downtown by crossing the Ridgeway Bridge and now that bridge has artwork. Mr. Duke's passion will be remembered through his accomplishments and friendships which you can't put into words. Kettering City Council was able to accomplish a lot due to Mr. Duke's passions and ideas. Mr. Patterson thanked Mr. Duke for his 37 years of service and he is thankful to Mr. Duke's family for sharing him with the entire community. Mr. Patterson mentioned he knew City Council made the right decision when they appointed Mr. Klepacz to fill a vacancy on City Council. After interviewing Mr. Klepacz, City Council felt he would be a great addition because they liked his passion. Mr. Klepacz did not cheat City Council during his tenure. There were a lot of things that he did including the Summer Lunch Program where he has had the opportunity to make friends and make an impact on children's lives. Mr. Klepacz was also passionate about his involvement with Sister Cities and despite it raining at multiple events, Mr. Klepacz was still present. Mr. Klepacz worked on various committees including the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission which was important because of the funding the City would receive which was a benefit to the Kettering community. Mr. Klepacz has been a friend over the years and they have spent many hours talking about anything and everything. There has been no better person who came into a workshop sessions or budget sessions more prepared than Mr. Klepacz. Mr. Klepacz was already prepared and he always read all of his materials. Mr. Klepacz has accomplished a lot during his tenure and overtime he became more like family and he appreciates that friendship more than he will ever know. Mr. Patterson reflected that he often gets asked if he misses being on City Council and he would often reply he doesn't miss the work, but he misses the people. It is important that Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz keep in touch with people once they leave City Council. Mr. Klepacz was always known as Mr. Shop Kettering and during the year and holiday season, he would always end his comments with "Shop Kettering". His comments were important to small businesses in the Kettering community so that they got exposure like large retailers. Mr. Patterson thanked Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz for their years of service, and he expressed he enjoyed serving with them and wished them both the best of luck.

Georgeann Godsey- First Suburbs of Dayton- Ms. Godsey expressed she has had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Duke for the past 10 years since she joined the First Suburbs and Mr. Duke has served as a mentor. Jack Jensen asked that she read a letter for him. "Bruce, I wish I could be there in person to help celebrate his retirement and say a few words. Mr. Jensen first got to know Mr. Duke years ago at the National League of Cities Conferences where Mr. Duke worked to benefit the residents of the Kettering community, and Mr. Duke has served as the Kettering representative to the First Suburbs Consortium for many years where he served in several leadership positions. Mr. Duke has always had great ideas that contributed to the success of First Suburbs. Mr. Duke worked to collaborate with surrounding communities for community enrichment and he worked tirelessly to

ensure the 2021 Talent Attraction Retention Conference was a success. Mr. Duke has served as a friend and has always worked hard to serve First Suburbs and the residents of Kettering. Mr. Jensen's letter concluded Mr. Duke will be missed and Mr. Jensen wished Mr. Duke a happy retirement". Ms. Godsey expressed Mr. Duke has been an influence on First Suburbs and Ms. Godsey recalled she asked Mr. Duke if she could to attend Kettering Leadership Academy and Mr. Duke told her no because she wasn't a Kettering resident. Ms. Godsey expressed that the City of Kettering has always been a guiding light and if Harrison Township could do something similar in a smaller way, it would be something good for their community.

PROCLAMATIONS

Bruce Duke Day and Tony Klepacz Day

Mayor Lehner reflected she went back and forth deciding if she wanted to read both proclamations, or have someone else read them. She came to the conclusion she will read both proclamations because she can't begin to put into words the impact Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz have had on her life. The proclamations may reflect someone else's words but the sentiment comes from her heart and Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz have served as role models to her as to what a city council member should be. The influence and advice of Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz have served her well in life.

Mayor Lehner read a proclamation to honor Mr. Klepacz and the proclamation was graciously accepted by Mr. Klepacz. Mayor Lehner called Joan Klepacz down to the podium. Mayor Lehner expressed Mr. Patterson mentioned the sacrifice of family members and spouses and being on City Council takes away time from family. Mrs. Klepacz has served as a wonderful companion, wife and advisor to Mr. Klepacz and Mayor Lehner presented Mrs. Klepacz with flowers.

Mayor Lehner read a proclamation to honor Mr. Duke and the proclamation was graciously accepted by Mr. Duke. Mayor Lehner called Jan Duke down to the podium. Mayor Lehner expressed Mrs. Duke has stood by Mr. Duke every second and her strength has awed the community during the difficult year Mr. Duke has faced. Mayor Lehner presented Mrs. Duke with flowers.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Fisher reported:

- She is a product of the Kettering Leadership Academy and that is the reason why she is on City Council.
- Mr. Klepacz has served as her wingman and has helped guide her to make the right decisions.
- This is not a goodbye because she knows Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz will continue to serve.

Mr. Klepacz reported:

- He is thankful for the comments presented and friends, family and colleagues who came to the meeting. Mr. Klepacz thanked his wife Joan for supporting him and answering phone calls and has always served as a great ambassador to the Kettering community. A big part of his service is his wife's service. His children Chris, Andy and Jill have also helped serve residents. He is overwhelmed by the attendance and to see many friends and acquaintances and he is thankful for their attendance. He often gets asked what is his greatest accomplishment? He responds he hasn't achieved anything but "we" sure have. "We" includes two mayors, ten city council members and two city managers, two assistant city managers and staff who are second to none. Kettering is better for the "we". He also is asked what is he going to do with his time, and he responds he is going to "Shop Kettering".

Mrs. Hall reported:

- It has been a privilege to serve with Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz and she has learned a lot from their institutional knowledge.

Mr. Scott reported:

- He welcomed members of the Dor-Wood Optimist who were in the audience to bid farewell to Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz.
- As a Kettering resident and member of City Council, he has grown to admire Mr. Duke's knowledge of the Dayton Region and his ability to study information on his own; Mr. Klepacz was always prepared and did his homework.
- He would like to continue with the customs and traditions of Kettering by becoming the new "Mr. Shop Kettering" to conclude his City Council comments.

Ms. Duvall reported:

- She has grown to admire and respect Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz; Mr. Duke is the reason why she is on City Council.
- Through serving with Mr. Duke and Mr. Klepacz, she has had to privilege to get to know Jan Duke and Joan Klepacz. She thanked Mrs. Duke and Mrs. Klepacz for their service to the Kettering community.

Mr. Duke reported:

- Mr. Duke welcomed the audience and expressed he has been trying to recognize people within the audience and has noticed representation from Clayton, Oakwood, Huber Heights and other surrounding communities. He asked that all current and past elected officials in the audience stand to be recognized for their service to their communities. Mr. Duke expressed it is good to see old colleagues. When he was first elected in 1986, he and Mayor Bush both worked at the University of Dayton. Mayor Bush gave Mr. Duke a valuable life lesson about the order of things in his life since he was just elected to City Council:
 1. Family
 2. Work
 3. City Council

Mr. Duke appreciated the words of advice from a gentleman whom he respected and Mayor Bush had a hand in the creation of public art in Kettering. Mayor Bush took City Council to other communities in Indiana to see what a community could look like with public art. Mr. Duke is proud that Kettering is now near the top of the list for the State of Ohio for the quality and quantity of public art. Mr. Duke expressed Mayor Patterson will never love public art but he has grown to support it over the years. Mr. Duke mentioned he has had a rough year and on January 9, 2023, he contracted a viral infection that attacked his brain and he lost 20% of his brain function. He was in a coma for two months and at that time he had many visitors which he apologized for not being able to smile or wink at their responses. The virus also caused him the loss of ability to move 80% of his muscles and his nerves were destroyed. Mr. Duke has been rehabbing to get the muscle strength back to prepare him to walk. In August, he was able to stand for the first time and with the help of a machine, he can take 20 little steps. Mr. Duke is here this evening because of the doctors who saved his life and friends and colleagues who came to visit him. Mrs. Duke started an online progress report and it grew to over 260 subscribers to check Mr. Duke's progress. Mr. Duke presented his wife with flowers. Mr. Duke informed the audience that Mrs. Duke is a medical doctor who just recently retired and from January 9-August 1 she was by his side from 12-15 hours a day; only leaving his side to attend to her patients at the hospital. Mrs. Duke also helped with his recovery process because she was a physician and was able to give input as to when something could have been done differently. Mr. Duke mentioned he would not be alive if it wasn't for the love and care of Mrs. Duke over the past year. Mr. Duke was surprised when his daughter Kelly came into town to be at his last City Council meeting. He is very proud of his daughter and she is the executive director of a nonprofit organization that provides Christmas gifts to over 800 families in Oak Park, Illinois. His youngest daughter Rebecca is an ENT in Santa Barbara, California. When Mr. Duke was first elected to City Council, his daughter Kelly was 14 years old and she was very instrumental while he was running for office. The Kettering Leadership Academy wouldn't have been possible without the work of former Volunteer Administrators Bonnie Pittle and MaryLou Randolph. When Mr. Duke realized he wasn't able to participate in Kettering Leadership Academy he called Ms. Duvall to see if she could take over the program. Without hesitation, Ms. Duvall jumped right-in to help keep the program moving. The program wouldn't be what it is today without the help of Ms. Duvall, Mrs. Pittle, Mrs. Randolph and Mrs. Kirchner. Mr. Duke participated in 12 campaigns and he also ran for mayor twice. In 37 years, Mr. Duke has served with 25 city council members, 5 mayors and 3 city managers. Mr. Duke acknowledged there were a number of people in the audience who supported him and introduced Bryan Suddith who will be representing the residents of District 4. Mr. Duke recognized Trish Milby who has been his full-time caregiver at his home. He is unable to move on his own and he uses various devices and machines to help him move. Ms. Milby has been a tremendous help which has allowed his wife to have a little break. Mr. Duke presented Ms. Milby with flowers for all her help. Mr. Duke expressed the council clerk position requires Mrs. Kaczynski to work for seven members of City Council and the city manager and often she is given projects, and Mrs. Kaczynski helped Mrs. Duke to ensure the residents in District 4 were taken care of while Mr. Duke was in the hospital. Mr. Duke presented Mrs. Kaczynski with flowers for all her help and with a rice crispy treat for her daughter Ava. Mr. Duke reflected it has been wonderful to work with Mrs. Hall and mentioned they both enjoy drinking coffee which is something they have in common. Mr. Duke presented Mrs. Hall with a bottle of Super Coffee. Mr. Duke reflected that he and Mr. Klepacz have become friends and while he was in the hospital Mr. Klepacz would come to visit. Periodically, Mr. Duke would complain about the food and in particular, he was disappointed he couldn't get bacon in the hospital. After that comment, Mr. Klepacz would visit Mr. Duke occasionally with a small piece of foil with bacon on the inside and he has grown to love Mr. Klepacz's bacon. Mr. Duke presented Mr. Klepacz with a box of fully cooked bacon. Mr. Duke informed the audience that Mrs. Fisher prepares baked goods for holidays and recently she just baked brownies to celebrate the Christmas holiday. Mrs. Fisher always prepared her baked goods in ceramic containers, so Mr. Duke presented Mrs. Fisher with ceramic containers and wrote his name on the bottom of one so she won't forget him. Mr. Duke noted that Mayor Lehner served at the state house for 12 years and it is great to have her serving back in Kettering. Mayor Lehner has 5 children and 14 grandchildren and Mr. Duke expressed Mayor Lehner is one of the best mothers he has ever met. As Mayor, she is gone a lot so Mr. Duke presented Mayor Lehner with two calendars (one for family and one for work). Mayor Lehner and her husband Jim would visit Mr. Duke on Sundays while he was in the hospital since Dr. Lehner would visit his medical patients while he was visiting the hospital. Mayor Lehner and Dr. Lehner quickly became local celebrities amongst Mr. Duke's nurses. Mr. Duke admitted he has a habit during City Council meetings to

bring peanut butter filled pretzels. Overtime, Mr. Duke began to share his pretzels with Ms. Duvall so he began to bring Ms. Duvall her own bag of pretzels. Mr. Duke presented Ms. Duvall with a container of peanut butter pretzels and expressed she has helped him with his responsibilities with the Kettering Leadership Academy. Mr. Duke expressed Rob Scott served on City Council for ten years and now serves as the Clerk of Courts for Kettering Municipal Court. Bob Scott’s attention to details is similar to the intricate layers of jawbreaker candy and Mr. Scott always makes sure everything is done to the best of his ability. Mr. Duke presented Mr. Scott with a certificate and a piece of candy. Mr. Scott is also great at computing percentages from large numbers. Mr. Duke mentioned Amy Schrimpf served on City Council for nine years and now serves as the Economic Development Manager. Mr. Duke yielded the remainder of his comments and thanked family, friends and colleagues who were in the audience.

Mayor Lehner reported:

- Mayor Lehner presented Mr. Klepacz with a replica plaque for his years of service and mentioned his plaque that references “Shop Kettering” will be displayed in front of Town & Country Shopping Center.
- Mayor Lehner presented Mr. Duke with a replica plaque for his years of service and mentioned his plaque that references connecting people and bridging gaps will be displayed on the side of the Ridgeway Bridge.
- Mayor Lehner invited the audience to a light reception down in the Deeds Room.

There being no further business to come before this meeting of the Kettering City Council; Mayor Lehner adjourned the City Council Meeting at 9:19 p.m.

ATTEST:

LaShaunah D. Kaczynski
Clerk of Council

PEGGY LEHNER, MAYOR