

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 21, 2022
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

President Ellington called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL –Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rine, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Harris, Ms. Hottinger, Mr. Houser

INVOCATION – Beth Bline

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS

MINUTES of June 6 , 2022 - Motion by to approve the June 6, 2022 Newark City Council Minutes as presented and the reading be dispensed with in view of the fact each member of Council has received written summary of same **Motion by Mr. Labutis , second by Mr. Houser , passed by acclamation**

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Hall – Reappointing Megan Evans. Rev. Michael Noble and Bob German to the Human Relations Commission. Appointments to begin July 7, 2022 and expire July 6, 2026. Subsequent appointments to be for four years.

Mr. Harris – I just wanted to say that all three of these folks are really good people, really involved in the community and they do a lot for our community so I'm glad they are back on this Commission.

Appointments passed by acclamation

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance **Received & Filed without objection**

Service **Received & Filed without objection**

Streets **Received & Filed without objection**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

City Auditor, Ryan T. Bubb – Operating report for period ending May 31, 2022

Brenda Cooper, Tax Administrator's Office – Income Tax Revenue Reports for period ending May 31, 2022

COMMUNICATIONS

Ron Jones, President Newark Amateur Radio Association – Amateur Radio Relay League FIELD DAY, June 25th, Noon-5:00pm, Horns Hill Park

John Brnjic, NPD Patrol Commander – “Hope Behind the Badge” kick off beginning with Community Day on June 18, 2022 from 10:00-2:00.

Ohio Division of Liquor Control – New Liquor permit application for Jack Kerouac LLC dba Jack Kerouac, 69 W. Church St, Newark, Oh 43055

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Jeff Bolster, 494 Beacon Road – I’m just here to speak on the Roost on The River on Saturday night, it was a lot better than in the past. I didn’t hear the first part of it, I had a neighbor message me, we were in Columbus at the time, asking where the music was coming from. I said I’ll get numbers when I get back home. So, when we came back it was pretty quiet, for the most part of the day it was pretty reasonable. The loudest part that I heard when we were home was 11-12 o’clock in the evening. Had somebody not slept with an air conditioner on in their bedroom or a fan, there was no way anybody was going to sleep. I have a hard time going to sleep anyway and my wife had already went to bed when the quiet time was on, so she was good to go. She was already in deep sleep. When I came in to go to sleep, even with the fan on in our bedroom all I could here was boom boom until they shut it down. So, yes, the noise was a lot better, but why they waited until 11-12 to turn it up, I don’t have a clue.

Thomas Brunner, 419 S. 2nd Street – I’m here about Roost on the River also. I invited several Council Members up, in fact, all of them. I had Mr. Houser, Ms. Blin. Mr. Labutis, Mr. Harris, Mr. Barker and our Law Director, Ms. Moore at the house. They were there twice, I think Ms. Moore was there once and the first time they came it was acceptable, it was still loud, but acceptable, the second time it was a little louder, then around 10:30pm Mr. Houser came back with Officer Lake and it was up more. The profanity was ridiculous. Every other word out of their mouth was the F word. I’ve got a 6 year old great granddaughter, a three year old great grandson who were in the swimming pool and a one year old great grandson, we were all on the back deck. This is unacceptable, the language. I’m asking the Council to do something about this. This gentleman is getting by with doing things he shouldn’t. The second thing on my agenda is my theory when I was growing up, sidewalks were for walking, streets were for parking. We have a problem in the neighborhood with some of the neighbors parking across the sidewalks. We have kids on bicycles that go down those sidewalks and I live on the hill on 2nd Street, so those kids if they are going down the sidewalk on a bike they aren’t going to get stopped before they hit that vehicle. I called the NPD, it took them an hour and 10 minutes to come out. We had one parked across the sidewalk on my side of the road, we had one parked in a no parking zone on the other side of the road, The officer drove up the hill, went around the block, drove up the hill again, went around the lock again, then came back down the hill and never once stopped, where the car was parked where it said no parking. The other truck had moved. I know there’s an ordinance about parking on a sidewalk. If it’s a bicycle or motorcycle, you can get around that, but a truck or car you

cannot do that. We have a lot of little kids and people who walk their dogs, so that needs to be addressed also.

Dave Doney, 231 John Reese Pkwy, Pataskala – I just wanted to come down and thank City Council and I sent an email to Mayor Hall and Directors Rhodes and Hickman and Supt. Hotchkiss, for the Strawberry Festival. It was fantastic, it is the largest festival we've ever had, so I just wanted to on behalf of Newark Kiwanis, come down and thank everybody. I know it's an inconvenience for those people on that side of East Main Street, but it was just fantastic and I really appreciate everything the City does to support us, so thank you.

Jody Sullivan, 356 w. Main Street – I'm here to address the noise. We live directly across from the Newark Station and we're getting slammed. We can't sleep, we can't talk, we can't watch tv, nothing. We can't go outside, the neighbors have made multiple complaints to their landlords. They say they're not breaking their time limit or whatever. Last summer we spent endless amounts of time calling, they said they had special events permits, there was nothing they could do. They said they would send officers to ask them to turn it down but they couldn't make them. We are at our wits end. It's like percussion, the walls shake, the glass shakes, it's horrible. I didn't know anything about Council until last night when she stopped. There are multiple people that would have been here had they know prior. I got one person that wrote a letter. "Hello. The loud music and constant noise coming from across the street have been very inconvenient for my family. The music is blaring until late hours and the constant yelling and cursing not able to sleep at night. During the day my dog is constantly barking due to thinking someone is outside our house. Sometimes it's so loud that I can hear it over my television. We cannot open our windows to get fresh air without the blaring noise coming from there. When we moved to this neighborhood it was because it was a nice quiet place to live and raise our family, lately it seems like nothing short of a constant party next door that has no respect for anyone or its impact. With the new additions that are supposed to be added, it's only going to get worse and more loud. This is from **Jennifer Watson, 350 W. Main Street**. My husband as well is disabled and he has multiple conditions. He has to sleep when he can sleep and this has taken a horrible toll. Our dogs are freaked out constantly because it sounds like somebody is literally banging the walls, you just can't get away from it. We can't open our windows or sit on our deck or our front porch, it's really ridiculous. One of the tenants that live on the street went over and politely asked them to turn it down, he was under the belief that he was one of the guys that own it, his reply to her was don't worry about it, I'm going to buy every house down the street anyway. Arrogant, no remorse, no sorry, just deal with it. So, we're asking, please.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

There are none this meeting

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Houser, Mr. Barker, Mr. Rath, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Harris, Ms. Bline

22-18 AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF A SIXTEEN AND ONE-HALF (16.5) FOOT WIDE ALLEY AS SHOWN ON THE ORIGINAL PLAT OF NEWARK, AS RECORDED IN VOLUME 2, PAGE 4 OF THE LICKING COUNTY PLAT RECORDS; SAID ALLEY IS LOCATED NORTH OF EAST CHURCH STREET, BETWEEN NORTH 2ND STREET AND NORTH 3RD STREET.

Held until 7-5-22 for second reading

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Mr. Rath, Ms. Bline, Mr. Harris

22-48 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$925.00 -Req. appropriation of funds back into equip. & Supplies from sale of equip on govdeals bill of sale #432022)

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, motion passed 10-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Harris, Mr. Barker, Mr. Bline Mr. Marmie, Mr. RIne

22-49 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A GRAVITY SANITARY SEWER ON RIVER ROAD FROM PARK TRAILS TO THORNWOOD DRIVE.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Harris, motion passed 10-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Harris, Mr. RIne

22-50 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LICKING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ACT AS THE PURCHASING AGENT AND GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATOR FOR NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Lang, motion passed 10-0

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Harris, Ms. Bline, Mr. RIne

22-52 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND\OR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES (16 NORTH SEPARATION PROJECT) AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Held until 7-5-22 for a second reading

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Harris, Ms. Bline

22-53 A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO AN ENTERPRISE ZONE ABATEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LICKING COUNTY, OHIO AND THE KROGER COMPANY AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO EXECUTE SUCH AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO.

Motion to waive the two day reading rule by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Barker

Mr. Marmie – We have to expedite this for a number of reasons, I believe everybody should have received an email indicating those in order to be able to meet some deadlines and construction purchasing dates because of some increases that are anticipated, so we need to expedite this and I urge everybody to vote for this.

Motion to waive two day reading rule passed 10-0

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Lang

Motion to amend to add the emergency clause by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Lang

Motion to amended passed 10-0

Motion to adopt as amended passed 10-0

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Melinda Bolster, 494 Beacon Road – I do have a concern, it's the traffic flying down the street. We have four wheelers and quads and regular vehicles and they just fly down Beacon Road. They also go behind the school behind us at Ben Franklin and they race. My concern is there are a lot of children on our street. If there is any way we can have signs posted, children at play, something, because it's really getting out of hand. I wasn't going to speak but then I thought this is a good opportunity to bring this up because it has been a concern.

Linda Mossholder, 324 Green Meadow Dr. – I'm sure that most of you are aware that opioid settlement moneys are coming to Licking County. When we first found out about the settlements I contacted the County Commissioners just to find out how decisions will be made about how this money will be spent in the county. Finally about two weeks ago, I asked again and I guess a committee has been formed, I believe our Law Director is on that committee. What I would like to address, we do have someone from the Health Dept., from Mental Health and Recovery, the township in Etna and one concerned citizen, I don't remember all of the names, but when I contacted Mr. Bubb about this, what we've requested is we don't have anybody with LIFT experience making some suggestions on how this money could be spent. We have some good programs in Licking County, but there are some gaps in services and I think the ones who know most about those are the ones who are directly impacted. AN example about the gaps, about a year ago I received a call from somebody who was at the Library, they had

overdosed, they had been released from the hospital, they had been administered all the Narcan they could, finally a hole had to be drilled in this person's shin to basically administer some more drugs, he was just released, he was at the Library, he called me and said I need help. I attempted to call Licking County Quick Response Team, I called 211, they didn't know what I was talking about. It took an hour and a half to make contact for assistance for this person and by this time he had left the Library and we had to go find him. Another example is Methadone treatment, you have to drive to Columbus for that and with the price of gas, that's again a disservice. We see people every Saturday with LIFT experience, we could give you names, but I think these people who have literally died for this money do deserve a voice in how this money is spent. The other request, and I know I'm making another illegal request, it's not for fentanyl testing strips, there is a bill pending for that and hopefully it will become legal, but I know it's illegal for people to live in tents in Newark, but with this heat I would just like to have some reprieve for these people. Last week we spent 3 days giving our water to anybody who was walking down East Main Street. Salvation Army was open one day as a cooling center. Today we started at 1pm and by 5pm we had given out over 100 bottles of water to people walking down the street. We also gave out the freezer pops, so once that word got out we had a few more people. Everybody who stopped and got water was very grateful. One woman asked my name and she started to cry and told me she was going to pray for me because she said some people need to care about us. So, if people could just have a reprieve from having their tents torn down when it's 90 and 95 degrees. I do need to thank Shawn Grady from the EMA he was able to supply us with water, we're a purely volunteer organization and when you go through 100 bottles of water in a day it can get a little pricey when you're doing it for 3-4 days in a row.

Kim Blaney, 1407 Misty Glen – Born and raised in Newark. I would actually much rather be at home watching Jeopardy. We're working together on resolving those issues with the properties over there. I think we can work all of this out. I just wanted you to be aware that there's some other issues we turned up. If the City of Newark is planning to fine us and put tax liens, we need to have some discussions. I don't like people who insinuate, but we may have to litigate this. We're really close, but since we found some other issues recently with that particular inspector. This corporation is owned by my three children, my son in law and my wife. So, it's our retirement and it's my 41 year project. I make jokes sometimes that it's my decathlon, in the sense that Caitlyn Jenner gives Bruce credit, that sounds strange, for winning the decathlon, but Ken built Rice Street and Kim is stuck with it today. The particular property we have audited ourselves and my son in law has a Masters Degree and is the right hand man of the Police Chief and I think he'll be a police chief someday, my son's a design director, my daughter is a vice president of a company in Chicago. My son will be up for Major here soon. So, my three children, because of their mother have done very well. I'm a little nervous in this room, but I would bring my children here when I was on the Parks and Rec board for 20 years, my mother was the Tax Commissioner and worked with you for many years, so I have a lot of respect for the City, but there's been some things done wrong and it's stressed me out to the point where, one day walking I here I got so angry, I did a somersault and they wanted to call the squad and I should've let them. Now I find out today that I have injured my vertebrae, I'm a little bit paralyzed from that emotional experience about how I've been treated by a particular

inspector. But there are some improprieties that go way back, so I will finish with the one particular one we found. The day that the backhoe showed up and that particular inspector came out on a Tuesday and took pictures, we had already extended that tear down for another day. I was there the day before, I had the paper in my hand extending the tear down, he came out Tuesday, took pictures, tried to crop out the backhoe and attempted or proposed to fine me another \$500 a day, so there's something that went wrong with all of that. Now we think there's other issues on 90 S. 21st Street and if the City is planning to put tax liens or fines I want a full audit on that particular property. I'm a nice person, I work with children, I don't want any of this, just work with me or continue to work with me, there are some real problems with that particular person. Last example, I promise, we put up a new garage door, he wrote it up because I didn't have it tight, I put a new back door on, I didn't have a particular clamp, a brand new door. I put a new back door and he writes it up. This was going on with the other properties that I tore down. I finally threw my hands up and said we'll just tear everything down, but this was going on for years. Now we know it's a particular inspector that's not been fair, we have the documentation, I would hope this Council would look into it. I forgive people, I just want this resolved before it puts any more stress on me and my family. Have a wonderful 4th of July and smile and I hope we can continue.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mark Mauter, Director of Development – I just wanted to personally thank all the members of Council tonight for working on Resolution 22-53, that was so important, it's a great economic development project that we're working with Kroger on. Your allowing this to be amended to waive the 2 day reading rule and waive the 30 day waiting period after signatures, just picked up 44 days for Kroger to continue on this project, in today's day and age that's a big deal I just wanted to personally thank you and it shows that Newark is pro-business and is willing to work with our corporate partners. It's 35,000 additional square feet and it's a \$70 million economic development project for the City of Newark and they have been in town with us since 1978.

Law Director Moore – This is Jenna Hotchkiss, she is interning in our office right now. She's here to observe the other side of the Law Director's Office, she's already seen the Court side. I was out for the concerts this weekend, I was amazed at how many there actually were. I observed Roost on the River and Newark Station and I also observed a concert off of 11th Street at a bar, Townz. I want to thank the citizens for the invite out to their property to see what that was like it was definitely a learning experience, I appreciate that. When you're sitting up here with Council and you're trying to write a law there is nothing like personal experience to understand where citizens are coming from and to see what businesses are trying to do and to try to come to a resolution so that we can have businesses and events in the city but also, that everybody is a good neighbor. Ms. Mossholder, I can talk to you a little bit more about this, I think there is some confusion about how the money is going out, but I will say that, but everybody on that committee has in some way been impacted and we're not losing sight of that, but I will let you know more about that.

Mr. Labutis – I would like to call a Safety Committee Meeting for July 5th. I also want to thank the residents for coming out, I was able to catch some of the noise from both Roost on The River and Newark Station. I'd like to thank you for the invite and would echo Law Director Moore's comments as far as trying to get something together. I'd also like to congratulate our NPD for Hope Behind the Badge event they did this past Saturday. A couple of us were able to make it out they did a fantastic job, Councilman Harris broke 9mph on the speed gun, running across the parking lot. It was a great event, the community came out for that as well, we had quite a few come throughout the 4 hour time period. Finally, I hope everyone has a great Independence Day in a couple of weeks and enjoy the freedoms that we have.

Mr. Lang – I wanted to highlight the 77th Shrine Tournament wraps up this week, my son was old enough to play and got to experience that for the first time and it was a lot of fun. I wanted to congratulate the 4 North Newark Little League teams in the finals, PNB, Medben are playing tonight in the finals and then on Thursday Edward Jones and Mattingly Landscape are playing. So congrats to all the finalists and I hope the tournament has a fantastic finish and it's been a good one so far.

Mr. Marmie – I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for July 5th. I just want to thank everyone this evening who has come out and voiced their concerns. A lot of the concerns that were voiced we're either a) working on already like the noise ordinance or b) some of them, it's just a matter of, the NPD needs to be aware if folks are riding 4 wheelers recklessly, so the first step is to call dispatch, it may not be as high a priority, they may or may not get there because there are a lot of priorities in the City of Newark and they do prioritize, but they will eventually get up there and at least take a report of some kind. Every time you report it, it tracks timing so therefore if you report it 3 or 4 times they can see a pattern of timing then the NPD could establish something where they could be around. Definitely report those. The speeding, it is definitely difficult, again the NPD, sometimes putting a trailer out there for a while, ask for the speed trailer, it slows them down, deters them a little bit. The other thing is, it's a benefit and a curse when you get a newly paved road. I know on Pierson, it was pothole after pothole and when it got paved, they said we want out potholes back because it slowed down the traffic.

Mr. Rath – I will call a Service Committee meeting for Tuesday, July 5th. I also went to the Hope Behind the Badge event, that was a great event. I brought my grandkids down there, for a couple hours and there was a great steady flow of people in and out of there it was a very good event. I appreciate. Mr. Brunner, the invite to come down and talk with you, I knew there would be a lot of people down there, unfortunately I already had a commitment out of town on that night so I wasn't able to make it, but I can certainly empathize with you, I was down there at the last concert they had and I know what you're dealing with, we're working on it.

Mr. Rine – First I'd like to thank everyone for coming out. I know I appreciate it, we all appreciate you coming out, but you're on the right path. I'm sorry I didn't make it out, I'm going to make my rounds this weekend, I don't think there's a concert at Roost on The River, but I'm still going to make it out there, I have a buddy who lives on Summit, so I'll make it out there.

Mr. Barker – Thank you again to everyone who came out, Mr. Brunner, thank you for having us to your home the other night. It was good to see on a first hand basis what you're all dealing with and being able to hear it. Even though when we were on Summit Street they told us this is a lot quieter than what it normally is, so we kind of wondered if they might have know that we were going to be specifically listening that night. I know the law Director has had a couple of meetings, she is working diligently with Council ion this noise ordinance. Hopefully it's something we can bring to the committee meeting soon. I would like to give a thank you to Joe Paul in Property Maintenance, we've had some Property maintenance issues, he's been on top of them with the inspectors and they are just simple issues that need cleaned up and we're working with those property owners, so I can't thank him and his department enough for what they do with their work every day.

Ms. Bline – I would like to thank everyone for coming tonight with their concerns about the noise ordinance. I would also like to thank our Law Director for being very strategic with this, because instead of just saying come and complain, she's been very transparent in giving specific instructions about data and can be specific by using your phone to record what's happening in your house, to yourself, to your animals. And likewise with the decibel meter going out with Officer Lake and that made that data measurable. It was beyond the realm of opinion and when you have data in this situation, things change. I'm very grateful for the police department pursuing that and in this process we can set realistic and time driven expectations. To have a positive means to an end, like the Law Director said, to where we have a good neighbor policy. One of the things I've noticed consistently is people want to support businesses, but they want the businesses to support them too. Changing lanes, I'd like to wish Ms. Mossholder, Happy Birthday. I would like to thank Joe Paul, he has taken care of some really big things lately and it's been a help to a lot of citizens. I'd also like to thank AEP, they have a huge chunk of work on their plate, they've been dealing with storms and it's that recovery time. I'd like to thank Director Rhodes and Mr. Hotchkiss for helping so much with the beautification of the South End. Offering paint and picking up those crazy chairs and mattresses that people throw on the side of the road, they just don't disappear on their own. I've gotten great feedback from citizens on the newarkpd.com website, you can dial in and file your complaint and be specific about it and then you can request a call from an officer. I've been hearing from citizens who have been using that and they said they got back to me and now there is a plan for my corner of the world and they are really happy with it, so thank you. I would also like to thank all of those who are participating in the new Kids Camp in South Newark. It has been a great success. It's not City based, but folks from the City have come in and given of their resources. The American Legion has come and shown about patriotism and flag responsibility and the YMCA has been very generous in giving swim passes. Last Friday we had 40, so that was just wonderful and I'm looking forward to every week that it continues.

Mr. Harris – I too want to thank Mr. Brunner and everybody for the invite, it was eye opening and I want you guys to know that we're working on it. I also want to say that Hope Behind the Badge was a pretty fun day, like Mr. Rath said, there were a lot of kids in and out, it was a pretty cool thing that they put on. I want to wish Councilman Houser and his wife a happy one year of marriage, congratulations.

Happy 4th of July everybody and one last thing is I just wanted to remind everybody that 6 months from Saturday is Christmas, so enjoy the rest of the summer.

Ms. Hottinger – I'm going to be very brief, I'm not going to say what's been said already. Ditto, ditto, ditto. One thing I did want to say that hasn't been mentioned is I want to thank the Charter Review Commission. Tim, thank you, Law Director, I'm not sure if any of the other members are here, but although you might think it's very minor, the changes, it's actually really important. I was on the Charter Review Commission when it first got adopted, many years ago, we'll just say that and thankfully our City has a Charter. We are able to tweak and craft things that are beneficial to us, if not we have to go by the Ohio Revised Code, which everybody has to go by. I just want to say thank you, your work does not go unappreciated, I've sat in your shoes, so I just want to say thank you.

Mr. Houser – I want to thank Joe Paul for help this past few weeks, I appreciate that. Also, Hope Behind The Badge event was a great event. I did not get to go against Councilman Harris and run 9mph, but I wish I did, I know there is a video on Facebook if you want to check that out. I just want to thank the NPD it was a great event, I only planned to stay about 30 minutes but ended up staying longer because it was such a great event. I also wanted to thank you guys for the invitation to come out, as everyone else said it was a good education and I can understand your situation better.

President Ellington – I'd just like to add my thanks this evening to everyone who came and spoke, we love to hear from you, so come and give us your opinion, that's the only way we know about some things. I'd like to say have a happy and safe 4th.

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn by Mr. Barker , second by Mr. Harris , passed by acclamation

Don Ellington, President of Council