

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF AVON, OHIO HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
AT 7:30 P.M.**

**CHAIRMAN, CRAIG WITHERSPOON, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: 1<sup>st</sup> Ward – Bob Butkowski; Council-at-Large – Brian Fischer; Council-at-Large – Tammy Holtzmeier; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward – Dennis McBride; 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward – Tony Moore; 4<sup>th</sup> Ward – Scott Radcliffe; Council-at-Large – Craig Witherspoon; Mayor – Bryan Jensen; City Engineer – Ryan Cummins; Service Director – Mike Farmer; Planning and Economic Development Coordinator – Pam Fechter; Law Director – John Gasior; Finance Director – William Logan; Clerk of Council – Barbara Brooks

The following items were considered in this Work Session:

1. PRESENTATION OF A \$40,000 DONATION FROM FIRMENT CHEVROLET TO THE CITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR EVERY CHILD'S PLAYGROUND

Jim and Paul Firment

Overview of Playground Equipment to be Purchased with this Donation-Ms. Harasimchuk and Ms. Pitasky

Ms. Harasimchuk advised she and Ms. Pitasky worked on this project together. She played a fun video that depicted the Gravity Rail, the next project at Every Child's Playground located near the Aquatic Facility on Detroit Road. Ms. Pitasky introduced brothers Jim and Paul Firment of Joe Firment Chevrolet and indicated their generous donation was making the purchase of a Gravity Rail for the playground possible. Ms. Harasimchuk pointed to the southeast corner of the playground on an overhead map where the equipment would be located. Ms. Harasimchuk indicated the playground currently has some play structures for ages 2-5 and the Gravity Rail would be geared toward ages 5-12 and was the first part of the Wow! phase as the Mayor has called it continuously as they have worked in creating the overall design of the playground. She said they hope to eventually connect other play structures to the Gravity Rail to build on what is available. Ms. Harasimchuk stated this is super exciting and she thanked the Firment family for their donation.

Mayor Jensen advised awhile back when he was still serving on City Council the Firment dealership was coming to Avon and everyone told him what a great guy Joe Firment was, and the City should be excited to have him in Avon. He believed most serving on Council at that time did not realize what that would mean to the City. Mayor Jensen stated he himself comes from a family-owned business and as he has gotten to know Paul and Jim he found out that it is more than being in business with the Firment family. He said he came from a religious family and his parents taught him about tithing and he learned to give above and beyond and to give back when you are successful. He stated the Firment brothers have done just that and with every car that they sell they put aside a portion for giving back and anyone who knows them is aware the Firment family does not do anything small. Mayor Jensen advised when he mentioned the playground, the Firment Brothers indicated they wanted to help even though he knows they have given a lot to the schools and other causes. He said that when he originally approached them about helping he thought if they give \$10,000 the City would be ecstatic about how much they can do with that amount of money. Mayor Jensen stated when the Firment brothers told him they would like to donate \$40,000 and he showed them the Gravity Rail, they responded "That's Us!". Mayor Jensen said he would like to personally thank them for everything they mean to the City of Avon. He mentioned Firment Chevrolet has that commercial that states "You'll be glad you went to Joe Firment" and Mayor Jensen added, "He is glad he met Jim and Paul Firment!"

The Firment brothers presented the City of Avon with a Check for \$40,000 to be used to purchase playground equipment.

Mr. Jim Firment stated they try to help communities and since moving to Avon everyone has been so kind. He mentioned the Steel City Boxing Academy in Lorain that they funded that was just completed and is operated by volunteers. It is a free program that provides a place for inner city kids to come and learn how to box. Mr. Firment added they were just as proud and just as excited about this project that will add equipment to the playground for local children.

Group photos were taken of Mayor Jensen and City Council with Jim and Paul Firment.

2. DISCUSSION OF FUNDING FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE FOR 2019 (REFER TO ORDINANCE NO. 103-17) Mr. Logan

Mr. Logan advised he, Mayor Jensen and Mr. Witherspoon met with Alicia Foss, the CEO/President and Lori Magyar, Grant Manager of Neighborhood Alliance to discuss support from Avon. He said as Council is aware, the City has supported Neighborhood Alliance, specifically the Haven Center, for the last 5 or 6 years now. Mr. Logan stated Neighborhood Alliance is still servicing a lot of people, including Avon residents and for 2019 they were asking for a continuation of the \$25,000 that the City has provided to them the last couple of years. He mentioned that Council does not need to pass a new Ordinance as last year's Ordinance allows Council to continue that funding. Mr. Logan said he was looking for confirmation that Council would like to continue providing this same funding and noted the funds have already been appropriated as those funds were a part of the initial permanent appropriation, the same as they have done with CRS.

Mr. Gasior noted that since the funds have already been appropriated there was no Ordinance needed. He advised if Council does not wish to spend the money in this way then they should speak up as the money has been appropriated already.

No concerns or opposition was voiced.

2a. DISCUSSION OF JOINING THE LORAIN COUNTY GARBAGE CONSORTIUM FOR RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION IN AVON Finance/Service Committee Referral

Mrs. Holtzmeier advised they had a spirited discussion on this matter with representatives from Kimble Companies. She said they discussed their bid and looked at their service capabilities and their onboarding processes. She said they asked the representatives to attend this Work Session in case there were additional questions from Council. Mrs. Holtzmeier mentioned one thing they did not have the opportunity to cover in the committee meeting was that the Clerk and herself contacted other municipalities who use Kimble Companies as their provider for trash and recycling asking them for references. She stated that the responses were overwhelmingly positive as they were pleased with the service and the relationship has been a good one. Mrs. Holtzmeier pointed out the relationship Kimble has with the City of Barberton is of interest because they are a city that is larger than Avon by approximately 3,000 residents and they also had very positive comments regarding their experience with Kimble. She said that Barberton provided some words of wisdom by sharing that change is difficult and there would be challenges associated and it is important to overcommunicate to the residents what the changes might be. Mrs. Holtzmeier explained that Barberton provided a PowerPoint presentation, they held public meetings where residents could come and learn about the change of service as well as sent letters to the residents that included some Do's and Don'ts. She added that Barberton also utilized their social media to inform residents of the change that included some visual images of what 2 cubic yards represents. Mrs. Holtzmeier advised Barberton is also a community that once had Republic Services for their waste hauler that switched over to Kimble and they made the decision last January 2018 that became effective in March, so they have a good 9 months of experience working with Kimble Companies. She stated the information provided from Barberton came from their Director of Public Service, Mike Vinay and his advice was that you cannot overcommunicate and he suggested the communication should begin as soon as the decision to switch is made, hold public meetings, get more than one letter out to the residents and demonstrate to them how they can participate and what is expected of them and overcommunicate what happens with the carts. Mrs. Holtzmeier stated the warning given to her from Barberton is that in the transition from Republic Services to

Kimble Companies there were challenges in the collection of the Republic Services carts. She asked Council to take that into consideration.

Mr. Butkowski explained regarding the garbage consortium that basically what Council has been looking at are the services that have been provided from Republic and they are all aware of the challenges that they have given us over the years. He advised historically Avon has had a Memorandum of Understanding with Republic Services regarding service for the residents of the community. Mr. Butkowski stated what Council is looking at doing with the consortium potential bid award is to lock in the rates for the next five years with a particular hauler in order to know over the next five years what our fixed costs will be for every residence as opposed to year after year seeing fluctuations based on Republics changes for their service and their costs. Mr. Butkowski explained the potential savings for the residents is locking the rates in and the potential savings for the City of Avon between the municipal buildings and the school buildings is close to \$1 million over the course of that five years. He stated he wants people to really understand what the impact of this potential change will look like and he agrees that change is always difficult and that there would be some hiccups. Mr. Butkowski asked for people to be understanding during the transition and he felt that the potential benefit moving forward is the most important thing.

Mr. McBride felt that one of the other important things to point out is that Kimble is a local company based in Ohio and is not a multi-national company and Kimble is a family owned business. He advised they look as if they are going to be a very good partner. Mr. McBride stated throughout all the correspondence we have received and throughout all the work that Mrs. Holtzmeier and Mr. Butkowski have done, as they have done the lion's share of obtaining information, that trash pickup is never without issues. He felt the difference with Kimble is good communication and good customer service. There will be misses as there always are, but it is how it is handled once something happens to get it resolved. Mr. McBride stated everything that has been presented to him has been overwhelmingly positive regarding Kimble and their customer service.

3. [ORDINANCE NO. 7-19 – TO ACCEPT IMPROVEMENTS IN PALMER VILLAGE SUBDIVISION NO.6](#)  
Mr. Farmer

Mr. Farmer advised they are currently reviewing this phase and still need to go over a couple items, but he was hopeful they would have everything in order for next Monday night at the Regular Meeting. He said he believed Mr. Cummins still had some questions regarding the as-builts and he believed all the deposits have been received.

Mr. Logan confirmed the City had all the deposits except one and that is expected to be brought in tomorrow.

Mr. Gasior advised if the outstanding items are not completed then next Monday they would have the first of three readings.

Mr. Salvagni, Attorney and managing member of the development company, stated there was a resident who was having some trouble with grass and the like and he explained they have set aside money this year for that purpose. He indicated if that resident has any further concerns that they would do what they could to address those concerns. Mr. Salvagni noted they have not had any more complaints, but they were ready if something comes up.

4. [ORDINANCE NO. 8-19 – DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE CITY TO CONSENT TO A PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROJECT ON INTERSTATE ROUTE 90 BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \(ODOT\)](#)  
Mr. Cummins

Mr. Cummins advised Avon was recently notified by ODOT District 3 of an upcoming repaving project on I-90 on the western end of town and only approximately three quarters of a mile of the project is located within Avon, but it does require Avon's consent for any such work. He said this Ordinance is in line with a request for consent for various I-90 projects that have come up over the years.

4a. ORDINANCE NO. 9-19 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXTEND THE CONCESSIONS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BIG SHOW, LTD AND THE CITY ENTERED INTO MAY 8, 2017, PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 36-17 Mayor Jensen

Mr. Gasior advised Mayor Jensen requested he put this legislation together and he pointed out that in the agreement, paragraph 18 of the addendum, it calls for a possible one, two, or three-year extension of that agreement assuming everything is working out fine.

Mayor Jensen stated Council has discussed previously about making changes to this agreement or changing vendors. He said there have been so many things going on in the City and if Council truly wants to look at another vendor they need to start that process now for next year as it is too late right now just before the concessions season opens. Mayor Jensen said any issues that they had in the past have been addressed and he is asking Council to renew the current agreement.

Mr. Gasior pointed out that when drafting the legislation, he was not certain as to the time period for the extension so the draft states the agreement will be extended for two years, 2019 and 2020, but he could change that according to Council's wish.

Mayor Jensen advised that Ms. Harasimchuk agrees with him on extending the current contract because she has no interest in trying to take over the concessions.

Mr. Gasior asked if Council had any preference for a one year or two-year extension.

Mr. McBride suggested the extension be for two years. He feels they should do an RFP and two years would give them enough time to come up with a mix of vendors and do an assessment on the equipment and suggest any improvements that need to be made.

Mr. Fischer inquired if the City has been happy with this vendor.

Mayor Jensen advised in the past there were some problems that came before the Administration, but there have not been any this last year and there have been a lot of activities. He believes that the issues that were brought to the attention of the vendor were corrected.

Ms. Harasimchuk stated there were two things that were brought to the attention of the vendor and they were immediately addressed and rectified and she noted there is a lot of volume with concessions. She said that she personally has a lot of background with concessions at a pool and this vendor is doing a good job with concessions at the pool and at the parks in general.

Mr. Logan stated the City received approximately \$5,000 in revenue from the agreement this past year. He said Ms. Nelson met with them in the fall and it has always worked very well. Mr. Logan noted the bulk of that revenue is from the pool concessions.

Mrs. Holtzmeier stated that Ms. Nelson who runs Big Show, Ltd is very conscientious about her business. She said it is difficult in today's climate to get people to show up for work, especially young people who have a lot of other options for employment. Mrs. Holtzmeier felt that with so many events going on in our parks that Ms. Nelson is very conscientious about having the proper staffing for events and that is rare. She concurred with Mr. McBride about a two-year contract extension.

No opposition was voiced for extending the contract for an additional two years.

5. RESOLUTION NO. R-1-19 – TO APPROVE WITH MODIFICATION THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF FARMLAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT (JAMES E AND MARY C BRADY) PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019 AT 7:20 PM Mr. Witherspoon

No comments were made.

6. RESOLUTION NO. R-2-19 – TO APPROVE WITH MODIFICATION THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF FARMLAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT (KILLDEER LANE PROPERTIES, LLC – THOMAS DEMALINE) PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019 AT 7:25 PM Mr. Witherspoon

No comments were made.

7. RESOLUTION NO. R-3-19 – TO APPROVE WITH MODIFICATION THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF FARMLAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT (ROY E. MILLER, TRUSTEE) PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019 AT 7:15 PM Mr. Witherspoon

No comments were made.

- 7a. ORDINANCE NO. 10-19 – TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE LORAIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT AND WITH LICENSED EXCAVATORS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REMOVING SOILS FROM THE LORAIN COUNTY METROPARKS SITE AT RIEGELSBERGER AND JAYCOX ROADS PURSUANT TO THE CITY'S RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL PRESERVED UNDER THE PARTIES' CONTRACT OF SALE

Mr. Gasior

Mayor Jensen advised a few years ago the City purchased this property and subsequently sold it to the Metroparks to help with some of the flood mitigation. He said we have maintained the right of first refusal on the soil, but no one has ever approached them. Mayor Jensen explained the City has been waiting for the Metroparks to move forward with their plans for the property, but they have not done so. He said he recently met with the Metroparks and a contractor came forward that may be interested in removing that soil. The Metroparks were trying to use the property as wetlands more so than any other use and when the Mayor met with them it was decided that is not going to work for the City. Mayor Jensen believes that there needs to be forward progress on the property so that it can be utilized for water retention. He advised the Metroparks in that meeting that the City would like to remove some soil and he believes they have come to an agreement. Mayor Jensen explained that Mr. Cummins has looked at the property and has come up with a way for that to happen that will not hurt the Metroparks property as the soil is removed but will begin to move that project forward. He knows that some of the residents who live along that property have become frustrated because they were told the Metroparks were going to make a lot of improvements and nothing has happened yet. Mayor Jensen stated they have an opportunity within this next month to begin moving soil that will benefit the area.

Mr. Cummins advised the City has been looking at this parcel for a few years and has talked about first in conjunction with the Metroparks and they also made application for the State Capitol budget to get some money to do this kind of thing being discussed tonight. He said they were not successful with that application at the beginning of the year, but the idea has remained. Mr. Cummins stated that the idea is removing a large amount of material adjacent to the stream basically creating more volume in which to store water in flood events. In total they have identified up to approximately 80,000 cubic yards of material that could come off the site and possibly even more depending on the final plans that the Metroparks would like to do. He said they had a contractor come forward who has a project that is about to begin, and this is a one-time opportunity and the contractor is looking for 50,000 yards of material. Mr. Cummins advised they have been working with the Metroparks to identify a mechanism to make that happen and there are agreements for right of first refusal in the purchase agreement and they have tried to stay respectful of all those things as well as keep a plan together that would not impede the Metroparks for whatever they wish to do in the future. He said they are finalizing those plans and the

contractor could begin moving dirt around the second half of February. Mr. Cummins stated 50,000 yards of material will create about a thirty-one-acre feat which is comparable to the property that is approximately sixty acres in total and basically you could store half a foot of water over the entire property, that is how much water this could store in just the volume that they are creating. He explained the material will be removed along the north bank where the French Creek turns and is mostly going east/west on the northern part of the property where Jaycox Road has its steep bend in the roadway. Mr. Cummins advised the history of flooding in that area is well documented and the need for whatever measures can be implemented is evident. He said that having the timing aligned so that we have an opportunity to get rid of the material and get rid of it outside of the watershed and outside of the City, which is an incredible benefit. Mr. Cummins mentioned that is the process they are working through and with Council's approval they will continue to try to make that happen.

Mr. Cummins explained, in answer to a question from Mr. Moore as to the location of this work, that the first area would be in the northern third of the property right along French Creek. There are other areas further to the south, but again adjacent to French Creek more in line with where Schwartz Creek comes into it that other materials could be removed in the future.

Mr. Moore asked if he meant right along the property lines of the residences that go along Riegelsberger Road in that area.

Mr. Cummins responded no, that this work will be happening more in the middle of the site. He said we are not creating a pit, this is not a quarry operation or anything like one. Mr. Cummins stated that all of the embankments will be gently graded and he felt it will look natural when completed. He advised right now he sees a very unnatural looking stream as it has been straightened and the banks are steep and the bottom keeps coming down. Mr. Cummins explained they are creating volume adjacent to that, which is more like a normal stream system where you have the channel and then you have a lower area, that is still above the channel, of flat on one or both sides that normally is where the flooding would occur as that is the floodplain area. He felt they were setting the stage for doing future stream enhancement projects to make it even more of a natural eco-system at that location and it becomes much more doable because the material is gone. Mr. Cummins advised what they are looking at here is just the first potential area of the site. There are others along French Creek still within that property a little further to the south where they could get even more storage created. He felt it would also be very beneficial down where Schwartz Creek comes in because the physics of two moving water bodies coming together that it would be nice to have more storage down in that area and that is a second phase that could come if they would have this opportunity again.

Mayor Jensen advised this should give the property owners an idea of what it will look like when the work gets to the south side of the property and he felt that way there would be far less fear should the project go forward to the next phase. He stated when the work on the south side comes about, which will be closer to residences, they should probably have a public meeting to let those adjacent property owners know exactly what it is going to look like. Mayor Jensen said there has been no interest whatsoever in the soil although there had been some discussions about whether we could sell the dirt, but there has been nothing that has come forward. He stated the soil is being moved out of the watershed and it is being moved completely away from where it could cause a problem in another area. Mayor Jensen advised it is a relief to him to have finally have something they can show the residents that they are using that property for the purpose it was intended and that is a positive.

Mr. Radcliffe stated in the letter Council received, it made mention of a schematic showing where the work would be conducted, and he asked if Mr. Cummins could email that around to which Mr. Cummins confirmed he would send it. Mr. Radcliffe asked if this work moves forward if they could get some definition of where the trucks would be entering and exiting the site.

Mr. Cummins advised the construction entrance would be right at the bend at Jaycox Road and Schwartz Road.

Mr. Radcliffe asked if additional signage would be needed on a temporary basis while trucks would be going in and out.

Mr. Cummins said it certainly would not hurt to have construction zone signs posted.

Mayor Jensen stated they would also make an announcement because trucks will be going down Schwartz Road to Nagel Road and onto I-90. He said the contractors have already asked if the City would allow their trucks to go down Jaycox Road and they were told no.

Mr. Moore inquired if there is a time frame for these trucks to be done with this work.

Mr. Cummins stated he does not have the particular time frame, but he felt it would be rather quick as it is an active project that these contractors are beginning a construction project that he believed is for building. He imagined it would be within a matter of a couple months. Mr. Cummins advised they are planning on having a meeting with the contractor in two weeks and they would get more details. He said they need to get the details worked out on the City's end as well as details from the contractors regarding signage for a construction entrance, timing and other similar items.

Mr. Gasior advised what they were trying to do is catch the perfect storm, as they have the Metroparks wanting to go forward with their project on the site and they need to remove this dirt and have contacted us because we have the right of first refusal. He said the Mayor has been contacted by a contractor and that contractor may be in need of fill material and we have a plan to remove roughly 50,000 cubic yards of dirt. Mr. Gasior said everything came together for what they need to have Council authorize the Mayor to go forward with not just this contractor, but any contractor that comes in that is in need of dirt. He added that if we can remove it from this project it will be kept out of the watershed, which is a big plus for the City as far as trying to alleviate flooding in that area. Mr. Gasior stated this is really the first step and there is not going to be any cost to the City and we cannot sit around and wait to see if someone is willing to pay us for dirt when we have people willing to dig it out and truck it out and move it for no charge at all. Mr. Gasior advised what removing that dirt does for the watershed and some flood mitigation he felt it was a "no-brainer". This Ordinance gives the Mayor the authority to make those decisions on a case by case basis with those contractors at this site and he can make the deals he needs to make. He noted it is an important piece of legislation, but it is limited to that one site.

Mr. Cummins added that while it is obvious we want to get rid of material and encourage contractors to take the material he clarified that the City wants removal to occur in larger amounts. He said we do not want people showing up with their pickup truck to get a bed full of material and is the reason it must be controlled. Mr. Cummins advised this is still the Metroparks property and they have concerns about how the soil is treated that is there because they have things they want to do with that property in wetland creation and their projects, so everything that is done has to be done in a very controlled manner and in a way that does not cause problems.

## 8. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

MAYOR JENSEN thanked the Firment brothers again for their generosity. He said he knows there are a lot of other projects they give to that people may not hear about. Mayor Jensen relayed a personal story of his family purchasing cars from Joe Firment Chevrolet saying they still gave great deals. He stated that their donation is something that really comes out of their pockets because they could charge more than they do for vehicles. His daughter is a hard sell and she shopped around for a vehicle and the deal at Firment Chevrolet was as good as any offered out there. Mayor Jensen commented that is when they realized the money that comes from their donations really does come out of their pocket. He thanked them for everything they do for the community and surrounding communities in giving to others and helping other people as that is a tribute to their family and what they mean to the City of Avon.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MR. BUTKOWSKI, WARD 1 stated, as many of them know, he has been involved in a contentious divorce proceeding for nearly two years now. Throughout this difficult time there has been a constant effort to

portray him and his relationship with his family in the worst possible light. Public records show this has not been the first attempt to get him arrested. There were four prior calls to the Police by his wife with no wrongdoing ever found. These are unfounded attacks on his name and reputation and he realizes that emotional and hurtful things can happen in any divorce, but because this private family matter has become public he felt driven to make this statement to defend his good name. He continued by saying that he also does not want to see the reputation of the City of Avon drawn into his personal situation. He appreciates and respects the Avon Police who have treated these incidences with dignity and professionalism. Mr. Butkowski said he plans to stand up in court and vigorously defend himself against these baseless charges. He closed by saying the truth will come out.

MR. FISCHER, AT LARGE thanked the Firment brothers for their generous donation. He said the Firmments are always very generous with the community and Avon is lucky to have them.

Mr. Fischer advised he is hearing reports with regards to the snowfall we received and there is supposed to be a heavy rainfall coming and with the temperatures rising there is talk about flooding situations like they had back in 2011. He knows the Service Department is good about being on top of situations, but he wanted to make sure that our storm sewers are clear, and our creeks are clear of debris.

Mr. Farmer advised the crews were out today throughout the different housing developments trying to open up and make sure the curb inlets were open, so any runoff will drain properly. He said obviously we have had some snow and we are going to get some rain and the Utility Department is making sure the lift station pumps are running properly.

Mayor Jensen stated they were also going to send out a reminder tweet through the Police Department to advise people to clear their rear yard drains. He said years ago there was a similar weather situation and people were unaware that if their rear yard drain was not open that they could sustain flooding in their basement.

Mr. Farmer added he tells residents to also listen to their sump pumps because if they are running excessively or continuously that is a telltale sign that there could be problems and it was good to pay attention to that as well.

MRS. HOLTZMEIER, AT LARGE thanked the Firment family and said that is a great thing they are doing. She said we know that the largest population of this City are those 18 years and under and of those age 10 and under, which will be the biggest users of that playground, they represent a fair share of the people that live here. Mrs. Holtzmeier added it is very nice of the Firment's to provide something for that age group and she thanked Mayor Jensen for spearheading that effort.

Mrs. Holtzmeier extended thanks to the Service Department for their work in clearing the roadways during this last heavy snowfall. She was sure there were countless hours of around the clock service and she has great gratitude for that service. Mrs. Holtzmeier commented that while driving into work this morning she still saw the plow trucks out and from the conversations she heard everyone saw the plow trucks out. She asked Mr. Farmer how many plow trucks the City has and asked for a brief synopsis of this past weekend.

Mr. Farmer advised they have six trucks that are used in plowing the roadways and there are a couple backup trucks in case one had be taken out of service for repairs. He indicated they could use those backup trucks along with the regular fleet should that be necessary. Mr. Farmer advised the trucks have routes and the map is posted on the City website that provides the zones and routes. He indicated that the employees work 12-hour shifts for snow removal and safety for the crew as well as the traveling public is important.

MR. MCBRIDE, WARD 2 thanked the Firmments and said he knows they offer great deals because that is all he can see on I-90 due to their license plate bracket and that is a testament to their good deals.

Mr. McBride thanked the Service Department for a job well done.

MR. MOORE, WARD 3 thanked the Firmments for their donation and that playground equipment looks really fun and it is going to be really nice to have in Avon.

MR. RADCLIFFE, WARD 4 thanked the Firmments and said he believes it shows the positive energy and vibe that the City has as far as donations and new types of things like this for its residents. He said that positive also carries over into the cost savings that may occur for the residents due to hard work put in by

City leaders and as far as the Street and Utility Departments taking care of those residents. Mr. Radcliffe advised that all blends together to show positive things for Avon.

MR. WITHERSPOON, AT LARGE advised nothing is more exciting than to see smiles on kids' faces and with the generous donation of the Firment family they would be seeing a lot more smiles and he thanked them.

DIRECTORS/ADMINISTRATION:

MR. CUMMINS, CITY ENGINEER had no further comments.

MR. FARMER, SERVICE DIRECTOR thanked the Firmments for the wonderful donation and he knows that the kids will enjoy it.

MS. FECHTER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT /PLANNING COORDINATOR also thanked the Firmments. She said Mayor Jensen has been looking for that "Wow!" project for a number of years and she thanked them for getting that "Wow!" project started.

Ms. Fechter advised that Council should have received an email from her regarding the grand opening of Planet Fitness. She reminded them it will be held on January 30, 2019 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm There would be a tour at 4:00 pm and a ribbon cutting at 4:30 pm and Collin Sexton from the Cleveland Cavaliers would be present giving autographs.

MR. GASIOR, LAW DIRECTOR had no further comments.

MR. LOGAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR reminded Council he emailed out the Love A Stray invoice today and they rescued 40 cats this past year. He said Council has supported them for several years and they are asking for \$3,000 in 2019 and that is appropriated in the budget.

Mr. Logan mentioned the Water Notes were sold last week at \$4,250,000 which is \$3 million less than the note from last year as they paid it down by \$3 million. Federated Investment Firm was all in on the entire order for the second year in a row. The yield is about 2.05% on the notes, which is a little better than the notes from the previous week. He said they were finished with notes until September when the recreation facility notes will come due again.

AUDIENCE:

No comments were made from the audience members.

9. ADJOURN: 8:25 p.m.

There being no further business the Work Session of Council was adjourned.

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Witherspoon, Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Brooks, Clerk of Council