

**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING
HELD: JANUARY 24, 2023
Highland Heights City Hall Council Chamber
7:30 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Brunello; Council Representatives D'Amico, DiLalla, DeLisio, Ganser, Goff, Hargate, Milroy; Clerk of Council Donatelli; Lieutenant Dassati; Fire Chief Turner; Service Director Belfiore; Finance Director Filippo; Building Commissioner Grabfelder; Police Chief Matejic.

ACTION ON MINUTES: The reading of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held January 10, 2023, was dispensed with. Mr. Goff moved to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

Fire Chief's Report: No Report

Police Chief's Report: No Report

Service Director's Report: Mr. Belfiore stated that staff has removed all Christmas lights and decorations from the City Hall complex and buildings.

Mr. Belfiore reported that as part of the IT upgrades, an employee is running Cat 6 Network cable from the Riser Room to each room in the City Complex building. Each room will have multiple runs of Cat 6 to fulfill its IT needs.

Mr. Belfiore stated the removal of leaf material stored at the City Park is nearly complete. The removal is expected to be completed mid-next week. He added that snow removal and salt delivery have slowed the process down slightly.

Mr. Belfiore stated that the NorthEast Ohio Regional Sewer District will reimburse the City of Highland Heights for the cost of the 2023 Street Sweeping Program.

Building Commissioner's Report: No Report

City Engineer's Report: Mr. Mader stated that the ATT project in Aberdeen has been delayed. The contractor is looking at April and will touch base in mid March.

Mr. Mader reported that he completed evaluations for the potential 2023 Road Program. He sent the list to the Service Department to be finalized for recommendations.

Mr. Mader stated that the Suburban Water application will be submitted for Franklin.

Finance Director's Report: Mr. Filippo stated that he is working on the 2023 budget. Mr. Filippo added that Mayor Brunello will meet with the department heads on Thursday. Mr. Filippo can make adjustments to the budget after those meetings and plans to finalize the budget by Friday evening or Saturday. All information will be emailed and put in DropBox for the Legislative and Finance meeting on Tuesday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation: Mr. DeLisio stated that Parks and Recreation is looking to hire Lifeguards for the 2023 season. There will be a certification class in March.

Mr. Milroy asked if Parks and Recreation will offer certifications for free to potential lifeguards. Mr. DeLisio responded that he believes so but should check with Mr. Ianiro.

Legislative and Finance: Mr. DiLalla stated that the committee met to discuss two purchase orders for the Police Department. The committee also discussed the moratorium on group homes and agreed on the language of the legislation.

Mr. Milroy asked how many deer have been caught so far. Chief Matejic responded that the city has 99 and the company will be coming again next week. Mr. Milroy asked if we have 120 tags and Chief Matejic responded yes, but it may be expanded to 150.

Mr. Hargate stated that the committee will meet January 31 and February 7 at 7pm to discuss the 2023 Budget with all department heads.

Planning and Zoning: Mr. Milroy reported that Planning and Zoning met to discuss a window variance and a public meeting is scheduled for February 13.

Mr. DeLisio asked for an update on the appeal for Diana Ct. Mr. Milroy stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals denied the appeal and the next step would be to go to Common Pleas Court. Mr. Grabfelder stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals agreed with the Planning and Zoning Committee and the minutes from the meeting were approved January 3 and the resident has 30 days from that date to appeal it to Common Pleas Court. Mr. Grabfelder stated that they will either have to appeal to court or take out the front porch.

Law Director's Report: No Report

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Brunello stated that he met with the newly elected Senator Kent Smith who represents the 21st Senate District. Mayor Brunello mentioned some of the City's concerns to Senator Smith and Senator Smith pledged to help the city in any way that he can. Mayor Brunello stated he met with Elliot Forehand, the newly elected House of Representatives representative for the 21st District. The same issues were discussed.

Mayor Brunello reported that the next edition of the e-newsletter will come out later in the week. He added to contact Jolene Greve to sign up to receive the e-newsletter.

Mayor Brunello stated the City of Highland Heights donated \$2,500 to the Mayfield Township Historical Society. This donation is annual and helps with the costs of general maintenance of the historical house and education events.

Mayor Brunello stated he met with the owner of the new company in Highland Heights called Boost Wellness on Wilson Mills. Mayor Brunello welcomed the company and wished them well.

Mr. DiLalla asked if the Cleaners business by La Rich's Pizza has a new owner. Mr. Grabfelder responded that there is a new owner, but the store front will remain the same. Mayor Brunello added that the equipment is coming from Italy. Mr. DiLalla asked why the former owner left. Mayor Brunello responded that he retired.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ms. D'Amico stated that the seniors met and are planning an event on April 18 from 5pm to 7pm called Spring into Safety. There will be vendors set up in the Community Center to have displays of safety for seniors. This will be a free event.

Ms. D'Amico stated that there are two new members on the committee.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED AS NEW BUSINESS: No Items to be Added as New Business

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC: No Public

NEW BUSINESS:

ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 42-2022: Council listened to the Third Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 42-2022 which description is: “An Ordinance establishing a temporary moratorium on the acceptance and processing of applications for zoning, occupancy, and/or building permit approvals for group homes and the issuance of such approvals; and declaring an emergency.” (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. & Council as a Whole)

Mr. DiLalla moved to enact; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser to adjourn into Executive Session by Roll Call vote pursuant to Section 121.22(G)(4) of the Ohio Revised Code and Highland Heights Charter 4.05 to discuss employee salaries; seconded by Mr. Goff.

Roll Call on Motion to adjourn into Executive Session: Ayes: Unanimous. Motion passed.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:47 p.m. and reconvened in public session at 8:13p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. DiLalla and seconded by Mrs. Ganser to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Clerk of Council

President of Council