

**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING
HELD: FEBRUARY 28, 2023
Highland Heights City Hall Council Chamber
7:30 PM**

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

EXCUSED: Mayor Brunello; Council Representative Goff; Law Director Lograsso

ACTION ON MINUTES: The reading of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held February 14, 2023, was dispensed with. Mrs. Ganser moved to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Milroy. Ayes all; motion carried.

Fire Chief's Report: Chief Turner stated that the fire department will be hosting a class called Heroes Helping Those with Special Needs March 28-30. This will be open to fire and police personnel.

Chief Turner added that there will be a program in April titled STICKS which allows children with autism to interact with firefighters and their equipment.

Chief Turner informed Council that there will be a free CPR/AED course on March 29 for residents.

Chief Turner reported that the roofers are back to work on the fire department building and masonry work. He added that they are finalizing plans for temporary living quarters for when they are unable to be in the building.

Chief Turner stated that members of Council were given the Fire Department's annual report. Chief Turner thanked Gina Bissel and Assistant Chief Bernhard for their work on the report.

Chief Turner informed Council that the WIFI is finally updated and he will distribute the password to Council. He added that the Community Center also received an upgrade that will now support 253 people at one time.

Police Chief's Report: No Report

Service Director's Report: Mr. Belfiore stated that the tree trimming program is complete in the Aberdeen sub-division. The staff is now moving into the Aberdeen West sub-division, which should be completed by the end of the week.

Mr. Belfiore reported that the brush collection program has collected 75 cubic yards of brush since January 1.

Mr. Belfiore reminded Council about the Household Hazardous Waste collection March 20-31. Hours of drop off are 7am to 3:30pm with a special Saturday drop-off on April 1 from 9am to 1pm. Mr. Belfiore added that residents asked if they can bring the waste early; however, the proper containment will not be delivered until March 20.

Building Commissioner's Report: No Report

City Engineer's Report: Mr. Mader stated that pavement coring for the various roadways under consideration is beginning this week along with the cores on the tennis courts.

Mr. Mader reported that the city submitted five applications to Cleveland Water District for water main replacements. The results will be out by April 3.

Mr. Mader stated that the annual phase 2 report is due to the EPA in April. They are beginning to compile all necessary information to get the report completed.

Finance Director's Report: Mr. Filippo informed Council that auditors have started preparation on the financial statements. They will be in City Hall next week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation: No Report

Legislative and Finance: No Report

Safety and Service: Mrs. Ganser requested a Safety and Service committee meeting be scheduled for March 14.

Planning and Zoning: Mr. Milroy reported that on February 15, the Board of Building and Zoning Appeals upheld the Planning and Zoning decision on 282 Miner Rd.

Mr. Milroy stated that a developer attended the Planning and Zoning meeting looking for a variance to install a self-storage site. The commission asked the Law Director why this would be a variance under one part of the code and not under ordinances for the rest of the code.

Ms. D'Amico asked if this was set for a public hearing yet. Mr. Milroy stated that if the information is received March 3, then it will be March 13. However, the Law Director and Planning Commissioner plan to discuss if this will move forward with a public hearing or wait until the next Planning and Zoning meeting.

Mr. Hargate asked what variance they requested under. Mr. Milroy responded they proposed under Variance 1131.04. Mr. Hargate asked if there is a vote scheduled. Mr. Milroy stated there is no public hearing currently scheduled. Mr. Hargate requested Mr. Milroy update Council once there is a vote scheduled. Mr. Milroy said he will.

Mr. DiLalla asked if there is anything with zoning for storage facilities versus office spaces. Mr. Milroy responded there is an Ordinance that directly applies to self-storage facilities.

Mr. Hargate stated his opposition to the facility. Mr. Milroy responded that it could be stopped by the Law Department, but he cannot speak for the Law Director.

Members of Council acknowledged that the building under discussion is the old Progressive building at 625 Alpha. Mr. DeLisio asked if the sale of the building has completed yet. Mr. Milroy responded that the sale is contingent on the granting of a variance.

Law Director's Report: No Report

MAYOR'S REPORT: No Report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ms. D'Amico remind Council of the Spring Into Safety Program April 18 with the senior committee.

Ms. D'Amico stated that Senior Planting is remaining on the final Friday of May, Memorial Day Weekend.

Ms. D'Amico added that the next senior committee meeting is March 20.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED AS NEW BUSINESS: No Items to Be Added

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC: No Public

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION FOR PURCHASE: A motion was made by Mr. DeLisio authorizing the purchase of equipment and labor/installation from Hall Public Safety in the amount of \$32,790.00 for the changeover on two new police vehicles; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

MOTION FOR PAYMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Milroy approving payment to Cleveland Water, Department of Public Utilities, for Change Orders totaling Eight-Nine Dollars and Sixteen Cents (\$89.16) for annual fire hydrant fees; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

SECOND READING OF RESOLUTION 7-2023: Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 7-2023 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing a community cost-share agreement by and between the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District and the City of Highland Heights and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. & Council as a Whole)

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2-2023: Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 2-2023 which description is: "An Ordinance appropriating for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio, for the period commencing January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023 and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. & Council as a Whole)

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 3-2023: Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 3-2023 which description is: "An Ordinance authorizing all actions necessary to accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2023 energized community grant and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. & Council as a Whole)

MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was read 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.

No member of Council made the motion; Motion Failed.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser and seconded by Mr. DeLisio to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Clerk of Council

President of Council