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**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD: MARCH 23, 2021  
Highland Heights Community Center  
8:00 PM**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Brunello; Council Representatives: D'Amico, DiLalla, Hargate, Ganser, Stickan; Clerk of Council Cahill; Asst. Fire Chief Bernhard; Police Chief Cook; Building Commissioner Grabfelder; Service Director Belfiore; City Engineer Mader; Finance Director Filippo; Law Director Paluf; Executive Asst. Greve.

**VIA ZOOM:** Council Representative Sean Milroy

**EXCUSED:** Council Representative Anthony DeLisio

**ACTION ON MINUTES:**

The reading of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held March 9, 2021 was dispensed with. Ms. D'Amico moved to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mr. DiLalla. Ayes all; motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Fire Chief's Report: No report.

Police Chief's Report: Chief Cook stated within the next 30 days, cameras will be installed throughout the city which will have license plate readers.

Chief Cook stated the city's email system was switched from GoDaddy to Office 365.

Chief Cook related a break-in that occurred last evening. The suspect was pursued, apprehended, and transferred to the County Jail. Chief Cook commended Sgt. McGrath and his shift for their efforts in this arrest.

Service Director's Report: Director Belfiore reported that the Service Department employees have cleaned up the leaves and debris at the City Park. The Service Department collected approximately 110 yards of brush from residents' tree lawns since January.

The Household Hazardous Waste Round Up will be held March 15-March 27th at the Service Department between the hours of 8 AM - 3:30 PM.

The Computer Round Up will be held April 1 - April 30th at the Service Department.

Building Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Grabfelder updated Council that LaFiesta has a grand opening scheduled for May 5th.

City Engineer's Report: Mr. Mader reported that the Bishop Road Bridge Replacement project has begun with widening of the Swagelok driveway. Signs are posted announcing one-way northbound traffic only starting April 5th.

The gas station at the Bishop Road and Wilson Mills intersection has allowed an easement for the sidewalk. The gas station did not approve the elimination of their driveway. Plans will be updated with anticipated bidding in April.

The annual EPA Phase II report has been submitted. The 2021 Road Project has been surveyed with anticipated bidding in late April.

Mr. Milroy questioned if all the easements were acquired for the Wilson Mills and Bishop Road intersection. Mr. Mader stated they easements are not acquired; however, the property owners have agreed to sidewalk and signal easements.

Finance Director's Report: Director Filippo had no report.

Mr. Hargate questioned what the specific purpose is of Item #7, proposed bond Ordinance 8-2021, in the amount of \$565,000. Director Filippo explained \$475,000 for Council Chamber and \$50,000 for computers and miscellaneous repairs at City Hall.

Mr. Hargate hesitates to proceed with Council Chamber upgrades since there are serious roof problems on three of the city buildings. Mr. Hargate requested a commitment be made to have serious efforts address the roof repairs. Director Filippo suggested a Committee of the Whole meeting be held before the Third Reading of the legislation. Director Filippo stated the American Rescue Act may provide stimulus funds that may be used for technology upgrades in Council Chamber. Mr. Hargate requests further discussions to prioritize funding for roof repairs and prioritize the individual roof needs of the three buildings. Commissioner Grabfelder stated the roof assessment may not be available until the end of May or June. Mr. Hargate stated the roof repairs at City Hall and the upgrade to Council Chamber need to be coordinated and further discussions are necessary. President Stickan stated further discussions will be held at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Commission on Aging: Ms. D'Amico stated the Highland Heights Seniors have been finalizing plans for: the Senior Meal on April 29th; the planting event in May; and additional activities throughout the year.

Community Day: No report.

Park & Recreation: No report.

Planning & Zoning: Mr. DiLalla stated Planning & Zoning met March 22nd and approved a variance for parking spaces and outdoor dining for Crostata's. A variance for Mulligan's was approved to allow outdoor dining.

Safety and Service Committee: No report.

Hillcrest Council of Councils: No report.

Drainage Committee: No report. Mr. Milroy announced a Mayfield Union Cemetery meeting was held last week via Zoom. Officers were elected; minutes and financials were approved. Mayfield Village is searching for grants for upkeep as well as lighting upgrades.

**Law Director's Report:** Mr. Paluf stated hours of operation will be added as a requirement for the mobile food unit legislation. An amendment will be necessary to incorporate the requirement.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Brunello welcomed Executive Asst. Greve who is shadowing the Clerk of Council. Mayor Brunello thanked all who participated in the Easter Bunny Treat Trail as it was very well received by the residents.

Mayor Brunello announced the Easter Bunny Drive Around Town will be held on March 27th between 9 AM - 3 PM.

Mayor Brunello announced the Mayfield School fundraiser to be held at Top Golf. All proceeds will benefit the Innovation Center.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Stickan stated the Legislative and Finance Committee met this evening and began discussions on the Mobile Food Unit legislation which was also discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting. The Committee approved two requisitions for the Service Department: Fertilizer Spreader/Sprayer not to exceed \$12,000; and Fuel Dispensing System Upgrade not to exceed \$10,000.

**ITEMS TO BE REMOVED/ADDED TO THE AGENDA:** There were no items to be added to tonight's agenda.

**MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:** There were no comments from the public and no questions or comments were received by the Council Office. There were no public participants on Zoom.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**FIRST READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 10-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 10-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a participation agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the purchase of Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt) to the municipality and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**FIRST READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 14-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 14-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance creating Chapter 732 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio, pertaining to the regulation of Mobile Food Units and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**FIRST READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 15-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 15-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance establishing compensation for employees of the Recreation Department of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio for 2021, repealing all ordinances inconsistent herewith and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 8-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 8-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing a Mutual Aid Agreement for the interchange of Building Commissioner and Inspection Services with the City of Lyndhurst, Ohio on an as needed basis, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr., and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 9-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 9-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Statewide Ford Lincoln Mercury for the purchase of a 2021 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor, pursuant to the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Act in an amount not to exceed Thirty-Two Thousand, Seven Hundred and Thirty-

Six Dollars (\$32,736.00), and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. & Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 7-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 7-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$750,000 for the purpose of acquisition of Fire Department apparatus and equipment, and other related expenses thereto, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 8-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 8-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$565,000 for the purpose of improving, rehabilitating, and equipping various city buildings for municipal purposes, and other related improvements thereto, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 9-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 9-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$655,000 for the purpose of the acquisition of communications systems and other equipment, furnishings, and vehicles necessary for the operation of the Police Department and other related expenses thereto and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 10-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 10-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$595,000 for the purpose of improving, rehabilitating, and equipping various municipal recreation facilities, and other related improvements thereto, and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 11-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 11-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$4,180,000 for the purpose of widening and reconstructing Lander Road Extension and Brainard and Wilson Mills intersection, resurfacing and otherwise improving Franklin Boulevard and other city streets, replacing segments of concrete in various city streets, and all drainage and other related improvements thereto, and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 12-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 12-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$765,000 for the purpose of the acquisition of various equipment, furnishings, and vehicles for the Service Department, and other related expenses thereto, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 13-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 13-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$1,920,000 for the purpose of widening and reconstructing Miner Road, resurfacing and otherwise improving Ford Road and other city streets, improving Culvert No. 15 in Highland Road, replacing

segments of concrete in city streets, and all drainage and other related improvements thereto, and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 7-2021:** Council listened to the Third Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 7-2021 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. and Council as a Whole)

Mr. DiLalla moved to adopt; seconded by Ms. D'Amico. Ayes all; motion carried.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Mr. DiLalla 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 personnel matters; seconded by Ms. D'Amico.

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

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:40 pm and reconvened in public session at 9 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Mr. DiLalla and seconded by Mrs. Ganser to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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Clerk of Council

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President of Council