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**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD: APRIL 27, 2021  
Highland Heights Community Center  
8:00 PM**

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

**EXCUSED:** Council Representative DiLalla

**ACTION ON MINUTES:**

The reading of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held April 13, 2021 was dispensed with. Mrs. Ganser moved to accept the Minutes as amended; seconded by Mr. Milroy. Ayes all; motion carried.

President Stickan requested Item #1 be entertained at this time. Mayor Brunello presented a Proclamation to Kathy Gould in recognition of her 25 years of service on the Park & Recreation Commission.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Fire Chief's Report: Chief Turner requested approval of item #3, authorizing replacement of Fire and Police building windows as discussed at Committee of the Whole.

Chief Turner stated Cleveland Water Department is performing repairs on the Beachwood Water Tower and a small portion of Highland Heights will be affected. Residents on Ford Road to Lander Road and south of Romford may experience low water pressure for approximately 30-45 days.

Police Chief's Report: Chief Cook stated item #4, the Resolution for TAC Computer, Inc. agreement was discussed at the Committee of the Whole.

Chief Cook stated the interviews have concluded and a new police hire maybe conducted by the end of the week.

Chief Cook stated Lt. Matejic prepared a grant request for the 800 MHZ transition and the Police Department has been awarded \$45,843 for 15 mobile radios.

Service Director's Report: Director Belfiore stated the Service Department has been working on Diamond #1 and anticipates pouring concrete this week. The Brush Collection has collected 7 yards of brush from residents' tree lawns. The Service Department has been updating the City Hall Rotunda with a redesigned Mayor's Wall; installing new block lettering above Administration, Building and Finance, Council Chamber and Clerk of Council office.

Director Belfiore stated Reilly Sweeping has completed their citywide spring sweep and will return in July for the summer sweep.

The Computer Round Up will continue at the Service Department until the end of April. The Shred Day held April 24th at the Service Department collected 19,760 pounds of paper.

Director Belfiore responded to Mr. Milroy's question that July 2020 Shred Day collected approximately 26,000 pounds of paper. The next Shred Day will be held in October.

Mayor Brunello complimented the Service Department for their efforts in updating the City Hall Rotunda.

Building Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Grabfelder stated all the buildings have been evaluated by the architect and they will return for further follow-up. The report is anticipated for late June or early July.

Commissioner Grabfelder and Director Belfiore met with the Perspectus Group on the Council Chamber renovation and a tentative schedule is anticipated to be available by the next Council Meeting.

Commissioner Grabfelder responded to Mr. Milroy's question that the rental inspection program has noticed some of the rental properties being sold to homeowners due to the current seller's housing market.

City Engineer's Report: Mr. Mader stated the Wilson Mills Intersection Plans, and the 2021 Road Program plans will be completed and advertised for bids next week with a bid opening date of May 20th. The retention basin inspection report has begun.

Finance Director's Report: Director Filippo reached out to Lake Business Products and stated they are purchasing trucks and will be installing a new sign.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Commission on Aging: Ms. D'Amico requested volunteers to assist at the Senior Luncheon on April 29th. One hundred and fifty senior meals will be distributed and/or delivered.

The Planting Day on May 28th has 30 participants registered and the event has been extended to allow for a maximum of 40 participants.

The Highland Heights Seniors are discussing plans for a Captain's Day event. Also, a walk fundraiser to support local animal businesses.

Park & Recreation: No report.

Community Day: No report.

Planning & Zoning: No report.

Safety and Service Committee: No report.

Hillcrest Council of Councils: No report.

Drainage Committee: No report.

**Law Director's Report:** Mr. Paluf requested suspension of the readings on item #6, the Resolution opposing Sub. House Bill 157 amending the law regarding withholding municipal earned income tax for those working virtually and/or at home. In response to Mr. Milroy's concern, the Law Director reviewed the proposed Resolution. Mayor Brunello stated the Resolution was drafted from sample legislation that was provided by the Ohio Municipal League.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Brunello stated letters opposing Sub. House Bill 157 were sent to Governor DeWine, State Senator Dolan and State Representative Robinson.

Mayor Brunello attended a Hillcrest Hospital Community Advisory meeting which provided an overview of hospital expansions plans for Mayfield and Mentor and a review of the COVID pandemic.

Mayor Brunello will keep Council informed of the progress on the walking trails at the Park and would entertain any questions or comments from Council.

Mayor Brunello stated the Chagrin River Watershed Partners has invited the City to join their group. There is an annual fee of \$5,238 to become a member. The membership benefits include: develop and implement regional plans to protect watersheds and balance economic development with natural resource protection; protect high quality streams, wetlands and natural areas and restore those that have been degraded; reduce flooding, erosion and water pollution using nature-based solutions. Mayor Brunello entertained Council's opinion to join this organization. Ms. D'Amico questioned which other local municipalities participate. Mayor Brunello stated generally municipalities that are members in other local watershed organizations are also members in the Chagrin River Watershed Partners. Membership would not conflict with current watershed organizations.

Mayor Brunello has been meeting with the Memorial Day Committee and plans are moving forward and volunteers are requested to assist on Memorial Day.

Mayor Brunello thanked the Police and Fire Departments for assisting in celebrating the 100th Birthday of Angelo Cassaro on Cranbrook.

Mayor Brunello provided Park & Rec participant information. There are: 240 girls' softball; 314 baseball, 60 pickleball; 82 day camp. Baseball and softball programs are underway.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Stickan reported the Legislative and Finance Committee met this evening and reviewed and approved the Park LED Lighting Conversion for \$8,000 to be funded from the NOPEC grant. The Council agenda items were discussed. A discussion started on reviewing Council, Committee and Commission compensation models to ensure equity. Further discussion will be held at future Committee meetings.

**ITEMS TO BE REMOVED/ADDED TO THE AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Mr. Milroy to add a motion to adjourn into Executive Session; seconded by Ms. D'Amico. Ayes all, motion carried.

**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:**

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT:** A motion was made by Mr. Milroy authorizing a refuse contract extension with Kimble Recycling and Disposal Inc., for continued Solid Waste and Recycling Services beginning June 19, 2021-June 17, 2022; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

**MOTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE:** A motion was made by Ms. D'Amico authorizing the purchase to replace all Fire and Police building windows with Pella Impervia, to be installed by Pella Window and Door, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00; seconded by Mr. DeLisio. Ayes all; motion carried.

**FIRST READING OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION 15-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 15-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with TAC Computer, Inc. in an amount not to exceed Twenty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-One Dollars (\$29,321.00), for a maintenance and service contract for the Police Department computer network, hardware, software, computer aided dispatch/records system; firewalls; safety services mobile data terminal server, units, software and reports and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 16-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 16-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with MVGMM, Inc. to provide food and beverage concession services at the municipal pool and park for the summer of 2021 and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Council was asked to suspend the Second and Third Readings to allow the contract and services to be ready for the spring season. A motion was made by Mrs. Ganser to suspend the Second and Third Readings; seconded by Mr. DeLisio. Ayes all; motion carried.

Mr. Milroy moved to adopt; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 17-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 17-2021 which description is: "A Resolution opposing Sub. House Bill 157 amending the law regarding withholding municipal earned income tax for those working virtually and/or at home." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Council was asked to suspend the Second and Third Readings to send Council's opposition in a timely fashion. A motion was made by Mr. Hargate to suspend the Second and Third readings; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

Mr. Milroy moved to adopt; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 17-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 17-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance authorizing the establishment of the American Rescue Plan Fund and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Council was asked to suspend the Second and Third Readings as requested by the Finance Director. A motion was made by Mr. DeLisio to suspend the Second and Third Readings; seconded by Mr. Hargate. Ayes all; motion carried.

Mr. Hargate moved to enact; seconded by Mr. Milroy. Ayes all; motion carried.

**FIRST READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 18-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 18-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance authorizing transfers and declaring an emergency." (General Fund to General Reserve Fund in the amount of \$25,000; General Fund to Police Pension Fund in the amount of \$250,000; General Fund to Fire Pension Fund in the amount of \$250,000) (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 11-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 11-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Mohawk Resources, Ltd., for the purchase of mobile column lifts, pursuant to the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Act in an amount not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 12-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 12-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to make a payment to Lake Business Products from nontax revenues in the amount of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) pursuant to the Economic Development Grant Agreement dated November 30, 2020 and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 13-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 13-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to make a payment to Swagelok Company from nontax revenues in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) pursuant to the Economic Development Grant Agreement dated July 28, 2015 and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 14-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 14-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to make a payment to Progressive Casualty Insurance Company from nontax revenues in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) pursuant to the Economic Development Grant Agreement dated December 28, 2017 and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED ORDINANCE 16-2021:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 16-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance amending Ordinance 1-2021 establishing compensation for certain employees of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio commencing January 1, 2021, repealing all ordinances inconsistent therewith and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 10-2021:** Council listened to the Third 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)

Mr. Milroy moved to adopt; seconded by Mr. DeLisio. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 14-2021:** Council listened to the Third 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)

Mr. Hargate moved to amend to Exhibit A dated April 27, 2021; seconded by Mr. DeLisio. Ayes all; motion carried.

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

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 15-2021:** Council listened to the Third 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.)

Mr. DeLisio moved to enact; seconded by Mr. Hargate. Ayes all; motion carried.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Mr. DeLisio 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 Mr. Hargate.

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

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened in public session at 8:50 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Mr. DeLisio and seconded by Mr. Milroy to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Clerk of Council

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President of Council