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**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD: October 12, 2021  
Highland Heights Community Center  
8:00 PM**

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

**ACTION ON MINUTES:**

The reading of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held September 28, 2021, was dispensed with. Mr. DeLisio moved to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Fire Chief's Report:** Chief Turner reported that the fall hydrant maintenance program has begun and in some areas the restoration will be completed in the spring. Chief Turner advised Council to refer complaints to the Fire Department.

Chief Turner stated the new ambulance chassis will not be delivered until February/March 2022. Once the chassis is received, there is an additional five-month process before it can be put into service.

Chief Turner stated the city did not receive the federal grant award for radios. The State Purchasing Contract is offering Motorola radios at a special price which would save approximately \$30,000. Chief Turner will submit a memo to Council explaining the details of the proposed purchase and funding options.

Chief Turner informed Council that area EMS squads are being delayed at hospitals and the trend has spread to Northeast Ohio. The delays are due to lack of hospital staffing.

**Police Chief's Report:** Chief Cook reported for the month of September, the Police Department responded to 12 motor vehicle accidents with two involving injuries; 96 residential alarms; 89 mutual aid calls; 90 warrants were issued; 57 house watches; 151 general assistance; 1370 total calls for September. Nineteen inmates were held for approximately 200 hours.

Chief Cook stated the Deer Management Proposal has obtained 150 tags with the option of going to 200 for the 2021-2022 season. The Department of Agriculture will perform the deer count in November and the information will be posted on the city's website.

**Service Director's Report:** Director Belfiore stated the staff has cleared all the equipment and fencing that was needed for the Halloween event at the Community Park. The staff performed concrete work on Lander and Jefferson, pouring approximately 15 cubic yards of concrete. This week the staff will seal the joints of the concrete and asphalt repairs made by the department this season. Since last reported, 45 cubic yards of brush has been collected from tree lawns. Leaf pick-up began October 11th and will be provided through December 10th. The Household Hazardous Waste Round Up in September collected 3,165 pounds of hazardous waste. Total hazardous waste collected for the year totaled 9,786 pounds. Shred Day will be held Saturday, October 23rd from 9 AM until 1 PM at the Service Department.

Building Commissioner's Report: Mr. Grabfelder reported for the month of September, 60 residential permits and 5 commercial permits were issued. Four zoning notices were sent with one court case.

Mr. Grabfelder updated Council that the Council Chamber project is having difficulty receiving materials; however, the contractor is continuing to work through the shortages.

Mr. Grabfelder stated item #3 and item #4 on the agenda will be discussed at a Committee of the Whole meeting. The ordinances reflect changes on the permit structure and fees on the sign ordinance. President Stickan concurred that there will be a Committee of the Whole meeting on October 26th.

City Engineer's Report: Mr. Mader reported that the Bishop Rd/Wilson Mills intersection contractor anticipates the mast arm foundations to be installed by the end of the week. There have been a few minor issues with the underground utilities and the Cleveland Water Department has requested a change to a fire hydrant. By the end of next week, two lanes of pavement should be installed.

Mr. Mader stated the 2021 Road Program contractor began paving the final asphalt on Cranberry today. This will complete the paving in the subdivision and a few minor punch list items will remain.

Mr. Mader stated the Park entrance plans have been sent out to three contractors and bids should be received in two weeks and a recommendation will be given to Council.

Mr. Mader stated the baseball field improvements plans will be completed next week, sent out for bid, and anticipate a recommendation for the first meeting in November.

Mr. Mader reported that the city has received notification to submit application to the Cuyahoga County Preventative Maintenance application. Mr. Mader will be meeting with the Service Director to submit the application by the October 28th deadline.

Finance Director's Report: Excused.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Commission on Aging: Ms. D'Amico stated the Highland Heights Seniors meeting for October 11th was postponed. The Holiday Meal pick up and/or in-person Holiday Party will be held on December 9th. The Seniors enjoyed participating in the very successful Halloween Event.

Park & Recreation: Mr. DeLisio stated the Halloween Carnival was very successful and he thanked the Park & Recreation Committee members for creating a popular event for the community.

Planning & Zoning: Mr. DiLalla stated the Planning and Zoning Commission met on October 11th and deliberated the request for LEG Acquisitions, LLC, 326 West Legend Court A & B; and 337 East Legend Court A & B.

The Planning & Zoning Commission held discussion on solar panels. The information provided by Law Director Paluf will be reviewed by Planning & Zoning and also be discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Safety and Service Committee: No report.

Drainage Committee: No report.

Law Director's Report: Mr. Paluf submitted to Council solar energy systems legislation to be reviewed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Brunello provided a census data update indicating an increase of 374 persons. Population reported in 2020 is 8,719 and 8,345 in 2010.

Mayor Brunello reported the Halloween Carnival had approximately 700 attendees. Mayor Brunello thanked the Park & Rec Committee; Recreation Director Ianiro and the volunteers for a successful event.

Mayor Brunello distributed to Council a Rough-Order of magnitude Estimate for Police & Fire Station prepared by Envelope Consulting Services, LLC. Mayor Brunello requested this topic be discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mayor Brunello informed Council that item #4, the contract with the County Health Department reflects a 10% increase in 2022 due to the updated census data.

Mayor Brunello responded to Mr. Milroy's question that the Fall Newsletter is anticipated to be delivered to residences next week.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No report.

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

**MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:**

Mr. Jonathan Kolesar, 1068 Cranbrook Dr., stated the Program Manager from Yellowlite electronically submitted information on solar panel projects to Council and they forward to discussion at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION DECLARING SURPLUS:** A motion was made by Mr. DiLalla declaring a 2013 Ford Explorer fire vehicle, VIN ending in 93959, as surplus equipment no longer needed for municipal use; seconded by Mrs. Ganser. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 32-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 32-2021 which description is: "A Resolution providing for the observance of Halloween on October 31, 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 prepare for Halloween. Ms. D'Amico moved to suspend the Second and Third readings; seconded by Mr. DeLisio. Ayes all; motion carried.

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

**FIRST READING OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION 33-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 33-2021 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing a contract with the Cuyahoga County General Health District for the Public Health Services to be rendered during the years 2022 and 2023, to direct the Cuyahoga County Auditor to credit the consideration payable under said contract to the District Health Fund of Cuyahoga County, and to deduct equivalent sums from tax settlements due the City of Highland Heights and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE 30-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 30-2021 which description is: "An ordinance amending Chapter 1311 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio,

repealing all legislation inconsistent herewith, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE 31-2021:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 1145 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio, repealing all legislation inconsistent herewith, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 29-2021:** Council listened to the Third Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 29-2021 which description is: "An Ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the Codified Ordinances of Highland Heights, Ohio and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. & Council as a Whole)

Mr. Milroy moved to enact; seconded by Mr. Hargate. 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 Mr. DeLisio.

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

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. and reconvened in public session at 8:50 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Mr. Hargate and seconded by Mrs. Ganser 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