



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, June 27, 2022 Minutes

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Vice President Cobb presiding

Roll Call:	Present:	Russell, Mattox, Moore, Larson, Cobb
	Present via Zoom:	Cuda, Hart
	Absent:	None

Also Present: Mayor Seren, Hanna, Himmelein, Prosser, Smith, Zamft

Mayor Seren made a statement regarding the recent events and said, like many of us, he was not surprised when he heard the news that the U.S. Supreme Court denied a person’s right to choose an abortion. He was saddened and angered by this injustice. He had several things to say to the people of Cleveland Heights, but first, he wanted to state unequivocally that abortion is healthcare and healthcare is a human right. He said the Supreme Court choose party over country and ideology over humanity in the Dobbs decision and real people and our nation as a whole will suffer for it. He said the right to make a private healthcare decision and determine what happens to your own body is foundational to liberty. He said the state of Ohio, empowered, has leapt into action to deny that freedom by instituting a 6-week abortion ban that will directly and negatively impact people right here in Cleveland Heights. He said he wanted to reassure the people of the City that he stands with them to defend their right to choose an abortion, to make their own private healthcare decisions without government interference and he is here to stand with them through any stigma around the choice they make. He said Cleveland Heights is not new to this fight, referencing Resolution No. 30-2019 condemning any attempt by local, state or federal government to prohibit access to abortion care and authorizing the Law Department to join in providing participation in the legal defense of abortion rights. He called on City Council to join him in giving substantive support to Cleveland Heights residents that will be impacted by the decision by setting aside funds to support travel and other costs for people who need to leave Ohio to seek abortion care. He also asked for their support in adding a person’s reproductive health decisions to the anti-discrimination ordinances. He said it won’t stop here, all of our rights are intertwined. Along with abortion, he said the Supreme Court will take our rights to privacy and bodily autonomy. He asked for Council’s support moving forward.

Cleveland Heights “Department 101” Presentations

Director Anna Smith gave a presentation on the Human Resources Department.

Director Ryan Prosser gave a presentation on the IT Department.

Director Amy Himmelein gave a presentation on the Finance Department.

Director William Hanna gave a presentation on the Law Department.

Director Mike Thomas gave a presentation on the Community Services Department.

Director Eric Zamft gave a presentation on the Planning & Development Department.

LEGISLATION

First Readings

a. First Readings - Consideration of Adoption Requested

RESOLUTION NO. 99-2022 (MS), First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for federal funding for the Lee Road Resurfacing Project; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by Councilor Moore, Seconded by Councilor Larson

Roll Call: Ayes: Russell, Mattox, Cuda, Moore, Hart, Larson, Cobb
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 100-2022 (F), First Reading. A Resolution acknowledging receipt from the Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District of a Plan for public services and improvements, and returning said Plan to the Board of Directors without comments or recommendations for changes; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by Council President Hart, Seconded by Councilman Mattox

Roll Call: Ayes: Mattox, Cuda, Moore, Hart, Larson, Cobb, Russell
Nays: None

Legislation Passed

Councilwoman Russell stated she is in support of the resolution.

***MOTION** to go into Executive Session to consider the terms of a sale or lease of City-owned real property.


Moved by Council President Hart, Seconded by Councilor Moore

Roll Call: Ayes: Cuda, Moore, Hart, Larson, Cobb, Russell, Mattox
Nays: None

Motion Passed

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022

Respectfully submitted,



Melody Joy Hart
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council