



# CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

**Monday, October 3, 2022 Minutes**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

8:09pm-9:12pm

**President Hart Presiding**

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

**Also Present: Mayor Seren, Director Hanna**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S):**

- August 8, 2022—APPROVED AS REVISED
- August 15, 2022—APPROVED AS REVISED
- August 22, 2022—APPROVED AS REVISED

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

- Thank you to the participants of the Happy 5k/10k on October 2, 2022.

**REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL:**

Notify Council that one notice has been received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising that applications have been made by the following:

- Playa Inc. dba Social Room, 2261-63 Lee Rd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 for a stock transfer of a D1/D2/D3/D3A/D6 Permit.
  - Referred to: The Mayor, Chief of Police and the Director of Law—**NO OBJECTIONS**
- Hunan Coventry Mingli, Inc. dba Hunan on Coventry, 1800 Coventry Rd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 for a transfer of a D5/D6 permit of Hunan Coventry LLC, 1800 Coventry Rd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 (30 day extension granted)

- Referred to: The Mayor, Chief of Police and the Director of Law—**NO OBJECTIONS**

**Matter of Record**

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS and GENERAL combined)—3 minutes reduced to 2 minutes by President Hart:**

- Cindy Evans: Is upset with what is happening in her neighborhood (Caledonia). They were promised 23 new homes earlier this year, with a deadline for 3 homes by the end of this year, but currently there are no new homes. No deadline was given to the Desota homes. The deadline for the Caledonia homes should be extended. There is discrimination happening; years ago, revitalization was supposed to happen in her area in 3 phases, but was stopped after phase 1. The city has no problem catering to Top of the Hill, CLM Project, Tudor-Taylor, or Park Synagogue projects, which are all a good thing, but the people in Caledonia are also part of Cleveland Heights. Believes the City is holding a grudge against Reverend Jimmy Hicks Jr. (timer sounded at 2 minutes, Ms. Evans was told her time was up). Feels neglect and redlining is occurring in her neighborhood and she is fed up.
  - Councilor Moore suggested we go back to 3 minutes as the people who came in tonight prepared for 3 minutes. President Hart agreed.
- Karen Winston-Carpenter: Thanks Councilor Larson for advocating for the Noble community. She has contacted inspectional services regarding a dilapidated property near her, and says there is clearly a human capacity issue. What are the proactive measures in place to staff and retain individuals, or start a grow-your-own program to recruit from within? Since there is not an Animal Warden, could we possibly partner with a neighborhood community?
- Peter DeGolia: Member of the Commission on Aging; wants to hold a listening forum at the end of October (October 24, at 10am) and get approval from Council and the Mayor.
  - Mayor believes the Commission can set up its own meetings and use one of them for a listening session—requests to speak offline with Mr. DeGolia.
- Rachel DeGolia: Came to represent Boulevard neighborhood to thank the city for helping move forward on all the development projects that are going on (Park Synagogue, Taylor-Tudor etc.). Feels their concerns are being heard and that things are moving forward and they want to work with the city to help anyway they can. Thankful for Director Zamft for spending time with them answering all their questions.
- Harriet Applegate: Implores this council to move its focus away from its own interactions and toward the goal we all share; to make this city function and to be the best it can possibly be. Feels City Council is too concerned defining and asserting its power and reining in the mayor's power.
- Eric Simmons: DNS; gave his 3 minutes to Karen Winston-Carpenter who restated her questions from her previous comment.

- President Hart says her questions are more administrative in nature. Mayor would like to speak offline to answer her questions.
- Brian West: Advocating for restoring the South Rink and expansion of skating programs in our community. Heights Youth Hockey is wanting to grow and expand and exposing as many community members as possible to what they believe is a great game. Hopes to work with other communities as well through community outreach within their program, which needs the South Rink to grow. The demand for ice is very high, and only one rink makes it hard to expand programs.

**LEGISLATION:**

**First Readings**

***a. First Readings-Consideration of Adoption Requested***

**ORDINANCE NO. 143-2022 (F): *First Reading.*** An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 139-2021 (F), relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by President Hart, Seconded by Vice President Cobb

Discussion: Larson—asks for some clarification; Mayor responds that the Mayor’s office, Community Relations, and Finance department were budgeted for but did not need all of those funds, while fuel costs have sky rocketed. So, they are transferring personal services dollars that they don’t have to use to fuel so we can maintain services. Larson—when we will receive August financials. Mayor—due to former Finance Director leaving this has been made more difficult and they may have to provide Council with a different form of report but will get it to Council asap.

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

**Legislation Passed**

**RESOLUTION NO. 144-2022 (CRR): *First Reading.*** A Resolution declaring November 26, 2022, “Small Business Saturday;” and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by Councilwoman Russell, Seconded by Councilor Moore

Voice Vote: Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**Legislation Passed**

**RESOLUTION NO. 145-2022 (PD): *First Reading.*** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit a joint application with the Cities of University Heights and South Euclid to the Northeast Ohio Area Wide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for a grant under the Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (TLCI) Implementation Grant Program to fund the Heights Regional Neighborhood Greenway Project/Initiative; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by Councilman Mattox, Seconded by Councilor Moore

Discussion: Cuda—asked for an updated regarding a previous NOACA study and whether this is an extension; Mayor says this is a new grant, and can't answer with certainty about the older program and suggests this would be a great use of the new solution for Council to obtain information from staff per the MOU. Moore—ran into Councilor King from University Heights and they are both excited about what this is bringing into the region, asks the Mayor to give a little information about what this project will do for our community. Mayor explains the greenway project is really about connection and access to regional amenities and it intends to create these points of connection so that you aren't separating yourself and that part of the experience is the journey itself.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**Legislation Passed**

**RESOLUTION NO. 146-2022 (PD): *First Reading.*** A Resolution supporting and authorizing the Mayor to submit an application to the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission for a grant under the Community Planning Grant program to fund the Creation of a Template for Neighborhood Planning in Cleveland Heights; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Discussion: Larson—will all the neighborhoods be included? Russell—wants some clarification. Mayor says this is intended to provide an ongoing process to develop a template for planning revitalization of neighborhoods. First isn't always best as you get better as you go along.

Motion to Adopt by Councilman Mattox, Seconded by Vice President Cobb

Voice Vote: Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**Legislation Passed**

**RESOLUTION NO. 147-2022 (PD): First Reading.** A Resolution declaring October 2022 National Community Planning Month; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by Councilman Mattox, Seconded by Vice President Cobb

Voice Vote: Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**Legislation Passed**

**b. First Readings Only**

**ORDINANCE NO. 148-2022 (PD): First Reading.** An Ordinance declaring certain improvements to real property located in the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio to be a public purpose; declaring such improvements to be exempt from real property taxation; making provision for the collection of service payment in lieu of taxes; establishing an urban redevelopment tax increment equivalent fund for the deposit of such service payments; authorizing a compensation agreement with the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District; providing related authorizations pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 5709.41, 5709.42, and 5709.43, and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

**ORDINANCE NO. 149-2022 (F): First Reading.** An Ordinance authorizing the transfer of real property located at 3607 Randolph Road to Future Heights, Inc., for rehabilitation and resale; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

**Referred to PD Committee**

**ORDINANCE NO. 150-2022 (F): First Reading.** An Ordinance authorizing the transfer of real property located at 2124 Rossmoor Road to Future Heights, Inc., for rehabilitation and resale; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

**Referred to PD Committee**

**ORDINANCE NO. 151-2022 (F): First Reading.** An Ordinance authorizing the transfer of real property located at 901 Englewood Road to Future Heights, Inc., for rehabilitation and resale; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

**Referred to PD Committee**

**RESOLUTION NO. 152-2022 (F): First Reading.** A Resolution approving the Mayor’s appointment of Andrew Unetic as the Director of Finance, commencing October 24, 2022; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure

**RESOLUTION NO. 153-2022: (PSH) First Reading.** A Resolution adopting the 2022-2027 update of the *Cuyahoga County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan for Cuyahoga County* (“AHMP”); and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

**Referred to PSH Committee**

**ORDINANCE NO. 154-2022 (MSES): First Reading.** An Ordinance amending Section 303.08 “Impounding of Vehicles” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights so that the Ordinance will be consistent with current State and Local Law; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

**Referred to MSES Committee**

## **Second Reading**

**RESOLUTION NO. 138-2022 (PSH): Second Reading.** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with All City Management Services, Inc. for crossing guard services; providing compensation therefor; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to Adopt by Councilor Larson, Seconded by Councilwoman Russell

Discussion: Mayor wants to address some questions Council Larson had (why is council approving a term of July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 now?) Term was intended to be a full year term which encompassed the entire school year which doesn’t align with a calendar year. Council is voting on it now because the Police Department was renegotiating contract. (Will this be a recurring contract arrangement?) There is an option for renewal but not automatic. (Was the cost already budgeted?) Yes, the money is budgeted, but if any point the money is not budgeted, a complementary budget would be needed. Cuda—wants to know what mechanism is there for a parent who is unhappy with a crossing

guard? Mayor suggests the parent reach out on the non-emergency line to the police department and if councilors get these questions, please forwarded it but also inform the resident of the most efficient way to provide those complaints to the police department.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**Legislation Passed**

**Fourth Reading**

**ORDINANCE NO. 78-2021 (PSH) Third Reading.** An Ordinance enacting and adopting Chapter 522 “Lead Hazards,” of Part Five, General Offenses Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights; repealing Chapter 1347, “Certificate of Occupancy,” of Part Thirteen, Building Code, of the Codified ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights, and adopting a replacement Chapter 1347, “Certificate of Occupancy,” and amending Section 1345.99, “Penalty,” of Chapter 1345, “Enforcement and Penalty,” of Part Thirteen, Building Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights.

**Referred to PSH Committee**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a.) Planning and Development Committee (Councilman Mattox)
  - i. Update from previous meeting regarding Park Synagogue development project; possible indoor pool at that development though not set in stone.
  - ii. Will have an October meeting.
- b.) Public Safety and Health Committee (Councilor Larson)
  - i. Next meeting will be on 10/17/2022; will discuss legislation such as Lead Hazard, Crosswalks, All Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- c.) Administrative Services Committee
  - i. Update from previous meeting; charter review commission plans continue to be discussed
  - ii. Commission on Aging Appointment of Alphredia Lacey:
    - 1. Motion made by Vice President Cobb
    - 2. Seconded by Councilman Mattox
    - 3. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays
- d.) Community Relations and Recreation Committee (Councilwoman Russell)

- i. Vaccinations and boosters at the Community Center on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of every month 5-7pm; October 8, Metro Health Behavior Health will be opening their doors; Happy 5k, 10k race had 431 check ins and 392 runners and wants to thank all the sponsor for the event; Meet the Police 10/6/22 6-8 at Noble Rd police academy; Community Shredding Day is 10/15/22 9am-12pm at City Hall; Noble Library will be showing the new plans tomorrow (10/4) at 7pm.
- e.) Finance Committee (President Hart)
  - i. Upcoming meeting on 10/17/22 meeting with auditors.
- f.) Housing and Building Committee (Councilman Cuda)
  - i. Update from 10/3/2022 meeting;
- g.) Municipal Services Committee (Councilor Moore)
  - i. Upcoming meeting date TBD
- h.) Committee of the Whole (President Hart)
  - i. MOU between Council and Mayor will continue at upcoming COTW meeting(s).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

- Larson: None
- Cuda: None
- Cobb: None
- Russell: Forgot to thank all the residents and staff that came out for the 5k-10k.
- Moore: 10/8/22 is Heights Eco-Fair (for Shaker and University Heights as well); Neighborhood Leadership Workshop Series Information Session hosted by Future Heights 10/12/22 4-5pm; Halloween is coming up and 10/15/22 from 4-7pm in the Cedar-Lee District is the Heights Halloween Festival.
- Mattox: Reminder to everybody to submit ARPA Surveys and the next ARPA meeting is 10/18/22 at 6:30pm at 914 Caledonia Ave.


**COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT:**

- Had a Council retreat on Saturday 10/1/22 and hopes to see a more cohesive Council moving forward.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022**



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melody Joy Hart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

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Melody Joy Hart  
President of Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Addie Balester". The signature is cursive and elegant, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

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Addie Balester  
Clerk of Council