

ORDINANCE NO. 174-2023(F), *First  
Reading*

By Mayor Seren

An Ordinance authorizing the sale of K-9 Officer Otto to his handler for the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00); and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, Otto is a K-9 officer serving the Cleveland Heights Police Department since early 2019; and

WHEREAS, Otto was trained by and has remained with his handler Officer Joshua Payne since joining the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, due to unforeseen circumstances, Officer Payne can no longer meet minimal handler requirements; and

WHEREAS, a K-9 officer older than three years typically cannot be re-trained or otherwise bond with a new handler; and

WHEREAS, in light of the above facts, Otto is no longer needed for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio and throughout the country, it is the general policy and practice that a K-9 officer who can no longer work as a K-9 officer be sold to his or her handler for One Dollar (\$1.00), and such a sale would be in the best interests of Otto, Officer Payne and the residents of Cleveland Heights.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

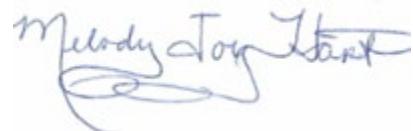
SECTION 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized, pursuant to Section 110.04 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights, to execute an agreement to sell K-9 Officer Otto to his handler Officer Joshua Payne for the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00). Said agreement shall include a waiver and release and shall be approved as to form by the Director of Law.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Ordinance shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need for Otto to continue to have a home with his handler without interruption. Wherefore,

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provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



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MELODY HART  
President of the Council



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ADDIE BALESTER  
Clerk of Council

PASSED: 11/06/2023

Presented to Mayor: 11/07/2023

Approved by Mayor: 11/16/2023



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KAHLIL SEREN  
Mayor