

ORDINANCE NO. 231-2025(PSH), *First Reading*

By Mayor Cuda

An Ordinance authorizing the sale of K-9 Officer Dodo 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, Dodo is a K-9 officer serving the Cleveland Heights Police Department since early 2019; and

WHEREAS, Dodo was trained by and has remained with his handler Investigator Brian Ondercin since joining the Police Department; and

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

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

WHEREAS, in Ohio and throughout the country, it is the general policy and practice that a K-9 officer who is retired be sold to his or her handler for One Dollar (1.00), and such sale would be in the best interests of Dodo, Investigator Ondercin, 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 Ordinance of the City of Cleveland Heights, to execute an agreement to sell K-9 Officer Dodo to his handler Investigator Brian Ondercin 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. It is found and determined that all formal actions and deliberations of Council and its committees relating to the passage of this legislation that resulted in formal action were taken in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. 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, or by posting the full text of this Ordinance to the City of Cleveland Heights website.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and the safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need for Dodo to continue to have a home with his handler without interruption. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members

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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.



GAIL L. LARSON
President of Council



ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: November 17, 2025

Presented to Mayor: 11/19/2025 Approved: 11/20/2025



TONY CUDDA
Mayor