



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, September 21, 2020 Minutes

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:17 – 7:43 p.m.

Mayor Stein presiding

Roll Call: Present: Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Excused: None

Staff present: Hanna, Himmelein, Niermann O’Neil

Topics discussed: Lancashire Redevelopment Request, RFQ/RFP Update, and Outstanding Commercial Loans

Executive Session

6:39 – 7:42 p.m.

Vice Mayor Seren made a motion to begin Executive Session, which was seconded by Council Member Hart 1.) To consider the appointment of a public official; 2.) To discuss with the City attorney claims or disputes that are or in the judgment of the City attorney appear likely to be the subject of a future court action or claim, and 3.) To consider the investigation of complaints regarding a public employee.

Roll Call: Ayes: Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Nays: None

Council Member Ungar made a motion to end Executive Session which was seconded by Council Member Russell.

Roll Call: Ayes: Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Nays: None

CITY COUNCIL

7:43 – 8:22 p.m.

Mayor Stein presiding

Roll Call: Present: Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar
Excused: None

Staff present: Hanna, Himmelein, Niermann O'Neil

Minutes from the City Council meeting held Monday, September 8, 2020, were approved with submitted edits.

Personal communications received from citizens (via electronic mail)

Amy Himmelein read a letter from Rhonda Davis Lovejoy and Susan Efroymsen regarding the shooting in Cleveland Heights and asking for Council to do something.

Amy Himmelein read a letter from Susan Miller regarding questions and information requests about CDC partners. Amy Himmelein responded that staff will prepare a report this week to answer those questions.

Report of the Chief of Police

Chief Mecklenburg stated there were three shootings in the last two weeks. There is not currently any evidence that these incidents are related, while police do believe the first two were not random and the assailants knew the people. On September 12, Malik Moore was shot and killed in front of a residence on Oakdale. Detectives are working around the clock working on some leads. On September 16, Travon Powell was shot several times in the stairwell of his apartment building after an altercation. Two arrests have been made. On Sunday morning, Reginald Thomas was shot as a passenger in a car. Police are asking for help identifying the 4-door black sedan or the other red car that was in the area at the time. Reward money is being offered through Crime Stoppers. More information is available on the website and you can remain anonymous.

Chief Mecklenburg stated patrolling will increase in these areas to deter crime. They are working with other cities on recommended actions. She is working with command staff and will provide an update with plans of what will work for the city.

Chief Mecklenburg provided an update regarding the police training contract with The Diversity Institute.

Council Member Russell asked if there were connections to the shootings or if they were random. Chief Mecklenburg stated that the three did not appear to be connected, but they are still investigating.

Report of the City Manager

Susanna Niermann O'Neil stated the RFQ/RFP is being withdrawn for the Neighborhood Redevelopment Program.

Declare and identify City personnel and positions with increased job roles or reassignments due to COVID-19, for proper allocation of salaries and benefits of these personnel to the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

Matter of Record

Report of the Clerk of Council

Notify Council that a notice has been received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control advising that an application has been made by Ungers Kosher Bakery, Inc., 1831 S. Taylor Rd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 for new C2, C2X, and D6 permits.

Matter of Record

Refer to: Municipal Services Committee, the City Manager, and the Director of Law

Susanna Niermann O'Neil thanked Mary Trupo and her staff for the All Are Welcome video. Parks and Recreation staff is working on slow-openings for the recreation programming.

A petition was received for a stop sign at Hereford and Stuart. A stop sign will be installed at that intersection.

Susanna Niermann O'Neil thanked Chief Mecklenburg for her work on the investigations. A press conference was held at 2:00 and that statement is posted on the Police Department website page.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council Member Russell thanked the City Manager and department heads for attending her listening session on Saturday. She thanked Joe McRae for his work on Parks and Recreation's work on a slow re-opening. She thanked Council Member Hart for attending her listening session and Mayor Stein for his blessing on them. An upcoming session will be scheduled on a day that works for the Jewish community.

Council Member Russell asked Bill Hanna about the task force. The Law Department has reviewed the application and will schedule a discussion with Council Members.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council Member Hart stated she's been organizing a forum for October 8 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the mayoral transition. They will review upcoming changes and have three Mayors to answer questions. There is more information about signing up on her Facebook page.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE 91-2020 (MS), Second Reading. An Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for recycling processing services between the City of Cleveland Heights and Kimble Company

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Ungar

Roll Call: Ayes: Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Dunbar

Nays: None

Legislation Passed

Council Member Dunbar stated that street repairs are ongoing including ADA crossings, dead tree removal, tree trimming, and other progress.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Council Member Ungar thanked the communications team that put together the All Are Welcome video.

Council Member Ungar thanked Rhonda Davis Lovejoy and Susan Efroymsen for their letter and stated it captures the sentiment and frustrations of so many people. He made a statement about public safety and health issues regarding the recent atrocities. He stated the Council is sensitive to it and is having discussions.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Vice Mayor Seren offered his condolences to the families of Malik Moore, Travon Powell, and Reginald Thomas. He stated he knows the city is hurting and he offers his love and support. If anyone knows anything about these incidents, please report information to the Police. He made a statement about reaching out to surrounding communities and resources to prevent violence.

Council Member Russell thanked Vice Mayor Seren for capturing Council's comments regarding recent events.

Vice Mayor Seren stated Council arrived at the Mayoral salary of \$115,000 per year.

ORDINANCE NO. 101-2020 (AS), First Reading. An Ordinance providing for the compensation of the office of the Mayor for the term commencing January 1, 2022.

Introduced by Vice Mayor Seren

Legislation Introduced

Consent Agenda

ORDINANCE NO. 102-2020 (PD). An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 826 Caledonia Avenue, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

ORDINANCE NO. 103-2020 (PD). An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 1043 Elbon Road, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

ORDINANCE NO. 104-2020 (PD). An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 890 Nelaview Road, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

ORDINANCE NO. 105-2020 (PD). An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 1062 Yellowstone Road, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

Motion to suspend rules by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

Roll Call: Ayes: Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Dunbar
 Nays: None

Motion Passed

Motion to adopt by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Russell

Roll Call: Ayes: Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Dunbar, Hart
 Nays: None

Legislation Passed

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stein stated our hearts are with the families affected by these senseless shootings. Council is working together with the City Manager and Police Chief and are committed to the public safety of every resident and visitor to our city.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Jason S. Stein, Mayor

Amy Himmelein, Clerk of Council
/jkc