



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, October 5, 2020 Minutes

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:07 – 9:12 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: Legislation overview, Update on COVID/CARE funds, Update on transition planning, Recreation protocols

Executive Session

6:45 – 9:09 p.m.

Council Member Ungar made a motion to begin Executive Session, which was seconded by Council Member Dunbar to consider the appointment of a public official.

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

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

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

CITY COUNCIL

9:22 – 10:07 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 21, 2020, were approved with submitted edits.

Personal communications received from citizens (via electronic mail)

Amy Himmelein read a comment from Harry Martin asking to cease outdoor concerts at Severance Center. He spoke with officers that evening.

Amy Himmelein read a comment from Mark Szeltner asking that Council provide documentation indicating the expected tax impact to Cleveland Heights residents as indicated in Section 11 or the proposed Ordinance 106-2020. If the tax levy is to be incremental, what is the expected increase in property taxes? Amy Himmelein stated she would personally respond to this request.

Mayor Stein asked Susanna Niermann O'Neil if additional concerts were planned. She stated that is the last concert scheduled for this year.

Report of the City Manager

Request permission to bid project #20-06 – Delamere Drive Basement Flooding Relief Project.

Matter of Record

Refer to: Municipal Services Committee

Request permission to issue a Request for Qualifications and Preliminary Development Proposals (RFQ/RFP) for a Neighborhood Redevelopment Program.

Matter of Record

Refer to: Planning and Development Committee

Susanna Niermann O'Neil stated that Trick or Treat will be on Halloween from 6:00 to 7:30. Safety tips will be posted online. Homeowners that want to participate should turn on the porch light.

Report of the Chief of Police

Chief Mecklenburg provided an update on recent shootings. Potential suspects are identified for the murder on Oakdale and Police are working to further evidence to make arrests. Regarding the Noble Road murder, a third suspect has been arrested and charged.

There is no additional information to share on the Taylor Road murder. The video has been sent to law enforcement partners to enhance so more can be learned about the vehicles involved.

There was a shooting on Sunday in the 2600 block of Euclid Heights Boulevard that began as a domestic situation.

Shootings, where nobody was shot, occurred at Staunton and Westover. People involved in those incidents are not cooperating, but Police are working with law enforcement partners on the investigation to identify perpetrators.

The Diversity Institute is creating a contract for officer training. The Chief talked to the systems administrator and was able to get all the traffic stop data from 2019 into an Excel spreadsheet for Dr. Dunn to analyze. There have been discussions about how to improve psychological assessments during the hiring process. They will be looking for things such as a sense of duty, work ethic, community interaction, work relationships, emotionality and restraint, and judgment, and problem-solving. Enhancements to the law enforcement assessment process include creating a strength of character assessment, modifying structured interview questions, creation of a law enforcement survey, and providing additional training for assessors.

Council Member Russell asked for a printed copy of her report. The Chief will Email it to Council.

Council Member Dunbar asked for an update on the shooting on Lee Road from over a month ago. Chief Mecklenburg stated there were no updates, but they are working on evidence. Federal law enforcement officers are assisting in the investigation.

Report of the Clerk of Council

Notify Council of a supplemental Fiscal Officer's Certificate for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2014, dated April 10, 2014,

a supplemental Fiscal Officer's Certificate for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2015, dated April 30, 2015,

a supplemental Fiscal Officer's Certificate for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2016, dated April 27, 2016,

a supplemental Fiscal Officer's Certificate for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Building Improvement Bonds, Series 2017, dated July 20, 2017,

and a supplemental Fiscal Officer's Certificate pertaining to the proposed issue of bonds for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2017, dated May 10, 2017.

Matter of Record

FINANCE COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 106-2020 (F), First Reading. An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$1,800,000 for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2014, dated April 10, 2014

Introduced by Council Member Hart

Legislation Introduced

ORDINANCE NO. 107-2020 (F), First Reading. An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$1,415,000 for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2015, dated April 30, 2015

Introduced by Council Member Hart

Legislation Introduced

ORDINANCE NO. 108-2020 (F), First Reading. An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$1,375,000 for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2016, dated April 27, 2016

Introduced by Council Member Hart

Legislation Introduced

ORDINANCE NO. 109-2020 (F), First Reading. An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$7,150,000 for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Building Improvement Bonds, Series 2017, dated July 20, 2017

Introduced by Council Member Hart

Legislation Introduced

ORDINANCE NO. 110-2020 (F), First Reading. An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$1,065,000 for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's outstanding Various Purpose Bonds, Series 2017, dated May 10, 2017

Introduced by Council Member Hart

Legislation Introduced

Council Member Hart stated there is a Mayor Transition Forum with Mayor Brennan, Mayor Blackwell, and Mayor Welo on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. You can sign up on Facebook for the Zoom meeting. Mayor Stein clarified that the forum is not being hosted by the City. Council Member Ungar stated it needs to be clear that the City is not involved and stated he thinks a Council Member that has stated they are interested in running should not be involved in it. Council Member Seren stated the memo from our Law Department advising on the issue was confidential. Council Member Ungar stated he could state the fact it existed, but not get into the communication specifics. Council Member Ungar stated that when there was a discussion at the Administrative Services Committee where another Council Member indicated an interest in running for Mayor, a fellow Council Member stated they didn't think it was appropriate to do that. Council Member Ungar stated we need to be very conscious of using, "Cleveland Heights," in a program title so it isn't misleading. Council Member Hart stated it wasn't intended that way and it is an educational forum. Council Member Hart clarified she has not decided whether or not to run yet.

Bill Hanna stated that the legislation that was read into the Finance Committee had updated amounts that were reflected in the newest agenda. He read into the record the correct amounts. (The corrected amounts are reflected in the legislation as written in these minutes.)

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 111-2020 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with GPD Group for utility engineering services associated with the replacement of water lines on East Overlook Road; providing compensation therefor

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Russell

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

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 112-2020 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a fourth amendment to the agreement with Wade Trim, Inc. of Ohio, for professional engineering services relating to the City's Sanitary Sewer Overflow Control project and the EPA partial consent decree

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Ungar

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Dunbar stated that the Transportation Advisory Committee met virtually this past Wednesday and will be working on some improvements in the transportation in our city, specifically looking at speed limits on certain roads in the residential community.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 113-2020 (PD). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and Local Transportation Improvement Programs

Introduced by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 114-2020 (PD). A Resolution expressing the City's approval and support for the development of State Bicycle Route 80; requesting that the appropriate officials see to it that the route is officially designated by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Ungar

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Dunbar stated tomorrow is Walk to School Day.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Council Member Ungar stated he is working with the City Manager to put together a committee meeting and the focus will be the recent shootings.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Vice Mayor Seren stated he is disheartened and upset about the recent shootings in this city. He stated it is incumbent on men to review how to resolve disputes and not resort to violence when something upsets you. He stated the Director of Peacemakers Alliance lives in Cleveland Heights and he hopes the city can reach out and partner with that organization.

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

Vice Mayor Seren stated that Council received a lot of information from the CEM subcommittee and city staff about neighboring communities' mayoral salaries. Council compromised on a salary of \$115,000 per year.

Council Member Hart stated she would like to abstain because she is considering running. Mayor Stein stated he did not think that was permitted and referred to the Law Director. Vice Mayor Seren stated that abstention was not available, but recusal was available in the conflict of interest, and this would not be a true conflict of interest. Bill Hanna stated it was possible and read the language regarding recusal, but stated, Council Member Hart would be permitted to vote.

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

Legislation Passed

Susanna Niermann O'Neil clarified that regarding the financial legislation on first reading, all of the information is online, and in the information provided to Council on Thursday, the corrected legislation was included.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council Member Russell stated the application to the task force will be coming soon once approved by the Law Director.

Consent Agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 115-2020 (CRR). A Resolution joining communities throughout the nation in proclaiming October 2020 National Breast Cancer Awareness Month; October 13, 2020, Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day; and October 16, 2020, National Mammography Day

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2020 (CRR). A Resolution proclaiming October 2020 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

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

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

Motion Passed

Motion to adopt by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Legislation Passed

Mayor's Report

No report

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Jason S. Stein, Mayor

Amy Himmelein, Clerk of Council
/jkc