



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

COUNCIL UPDATE

September 16, 2021

MEETINGS & REMINDERS

Monday, September 20	6:30 p.m.	Council Committee of the Whole City Hall – Council Chambers
	7:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting City Hall – Council Chambers
Tuesday, September 21	7:00 p.m.	Architectural Board of Review City Hall – Council Chambers
	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Community Center

LEGISLATION

- **Appropriations.** An ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Health initiatives**

Please see enclosed the statement from Terry Allen of the County Board of Health re the covid virus. City staff are advised to wear masks at all times when in contact with other staffers or residents. City Hall will remain closed (as is also true of our surrounding cities). The Police Department at the rear entrance remains 24/ 7. We are permitting people seeking Building permits/housing inspections to fill out forms at designated hours at a table in the atrium so staff can review forms for accuracy right then. The drop box is also in place, including for the RITA office. There has also been increased use of our app and online services.

- **Boards and Commissions are being advised by staff of the option for Virtual meetings.**
- **Meeting schedule for the rest of September:**
 - Monday, September 20th – COW and regular Council meeting
 - Monday, September 27th – no meeting
 - Thursday, September 30th – Public hearing on Zoning in front of Council, COW if need be
 - Monday, October 4th – Regularly scheduled COW and Council
- **Heights Music Hop**

The Future Heights - Heights Music Hop is this Saturday September 18th – along Lee Road, in the mini park and other spaces.
- **Block party**

The Compton Greenway group is holding their party on Sunday, September 19th from 3:00 to 6:00pm. Street blocked from EHB to Berkeley and all intersections along Compton.
- **Additional**
 - Staff is reviewing recent materials from NEORSD and continuing to search for an outside consultant to review materials.
 - Good progress on the Start Right documents with the target date of October 4th for Council.
 - Staff proceeding with elements important to furthering the Cedar Lee Development.
- **Financial/Budget**

Staff is reviewing their fourth quarter budgetary needs for this year and advised to be conservative re any spending. In the next few weeks the 2022 budget will be discussed.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

September 15, 2021

Universal Indoor Mask Advisory

On August 4th, a countywide recommendation strongly urging residents to wear masks in all indoor settings when around others and a plea for everyone to get vaccinated were made, in an attempt to blunt the surging Delta variant. This recommendation included universal masking for all staff and students in schools. These evidence-based public health recommendations followed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) guidance for an area with substantial or high community spread of COVID-19.

Since that time, the Delta variant has continued to surge in Cuyahoga County and across the state and nation. Our current trajectory of cases has us rapidly approaching a level of countywide transmission that is four times the threshold identified by the CDC as "high transmission". Area hospitals are reporting that they have reached 80% of their capacity to treat patients who may present with any illness, just as flu season is starting and their admissions are predicted to increase. Restrictions on visitation and elective procedures will follow in order to handle the demand to treat COVID-19 patients of all ages.

We are also seeing significant increases in COVID-19 cases from exposures in the school environment, requiring isolation and quarantine of students and staff to reduce risk, interrupting the in-person education we know that children need. Most concerning are reports from area hospitals of an 80% increase in positivity rates among children presenting with COVID-19 symptoms over the last week and increases in the number of children being admitted to the hospital for care because of COVID. Clearly, conditions continue to deteriorate and the risk is rising.

If we want to keep our schools and workplaces open and more of our residents from getting COVID-19, we must meet the imperative to vaccinate more people now and embrace universal masking in all indoor environments when around others. To date, about 54% of residents in the community have been fully vaccinated and about 33% of African Americans and 44% of the Hispanic Latin X population have been fully vaccinated. This means that many people remain unvaccinated and vulnerable to contracting and spreading the Delta variant in the community. We urge everyone age 12 and older to get vaccinated as soon as they can. Vaccinations are readily available from the local health departments, pharmacies, hospitals, and community health centers.

We thank everyone that has already embraced indoor masking in schools, businesses and other public, social settings. However, we must do better. Now is the time for all of us to mask when around others who live outside of your family, regardless of your vaccination status. We have to embrace our shared

civic responsibility to protect and save as many lives as we can from the ravages of COVID-19 and protect our hospitals from being overrun and unable to treat those who need care.

Time is running out.

Today, County Executive Budish joins County Health Commissioner Terry Allan in issuing a Universal Indoor Masking Advisory for the whole community. We implore everyone to mask in all indoor environments when around others to prevent a deluge of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and fatalities that may be heading toward our community. We urge our businesses, non-profits, cities, villages, and townships to enforce the use of masks in all buildings. We urge schools to require masks for all students and staff so that kids can stay safe and learning in school.

Do it for the nurses, respiratory therapists, doctors, and other healthcare providers caring for our residents. Do it for the children who are not yet eligible to be vaccinated. Do it for our elderly and other vulnerable populations. Most of all, do it to save as many lives as we can in our community.

Now is the time.



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

To: Susanna Niermann O'Neil, City Manager

From: Mary Trupo, Director of Communications and Public Engagement

Date: September 15, 2021

Subject: Communications and Public Engagement Update

- Cedar Lee Meadowbrook Press Release
- Pitched CLM to media
- Preparing further CLM communications
- Flyers for CHPD/FHPD 9/11 Ceremony
- Flyer for Donuts Drive CHPD
- Flyers for Coffee with the Cops
- Updated New Residents packets
- Focus news/articles sent to graphic designer for layout/design



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – September 14, 2021:

CEDAR-LEE-MEADOWBROOK:

- Staff continues to be in negotiations with the Development Agreement with our Development Partner Flaherty & Collins at this time;
- Traffic & Parking: WSP and Desman consulting have been contracted with to analyze the traffic and parking analysis associated with this project – this analysis is underway;
- Public engagement process is underway – open house meetings were held on August 5, August 11, and September 1.

NEIGHBORHOOD REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NRP) INFILL HOUSING CONSTRUCTION:

- Given Council's approval of the MOU Agreement for the Caledonia Neighborhood infill housing project, the staff is now engaged in negotiating the Development Agreement with Start Right CDC – the Development Agreement is scheduled to be considered by City Council at the October 4, 2021;
- Given Council's approval of the MOU Agreement for the Desota Avenue infill housing project, the staff is now engaged in negotiating the Development Agreement with Amato Homes – the Development Agreement will then go to Council for consideration;

TAYLOR TUDOR PLAZA:

- The RFQ/RFP for the rehabilitation/redevelopment of Buildings #1, #2, & #3 was issued on 8/27/2021. The deadline for interested qualified Developers to submit proposals to the City is October 29, 2021.

TOP OF THE HILL:

- Construction on the project continues, with the completion date anticipated to be July of 2022 with a ribbon cutting soon thereafter;



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

To: Susanna Niermann O'Neil, City Manager
From: Joseph P. McRae, Parks and Recreation Director
Subject: Parks and Recreation Department Reopening Plan Update
Date: September 16, 2021

Please find a brief summary of Parks and Recreation activities attached for your reference.

General Updates

- **Cain Park** will end the summer season this Sunday, September 19. The performance venues will be closed and winterized by staff. The basketball courts, tennis courts and skate park remain open.
- **Picnic Shelter** rentals are available at Boyd, Denison, Forest Hill and Cumberland parks through the month of October.
- **Fall Recreation Programs** will be limited indoors due to the recent surge in Covid-19 infections and recent advisory from the County Board of Health. Fitness center hours will continue to be modified as well.
- **Indoor rentals at the community center** will be limited during this surging pandemic in order to preserve public health and safety.

Upcoming election related events at the Community Center:

- **General Election** – Tuesday, November 2
- Due to the pandemic, all League of Women Voters Candidates Forums will take place virtually to ensure public health and safety.



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

To: Susanna Niermann-O'Neil, City Manager

From: Annette M. Mecklenburg, Chief of Police

Date: September 14, 2021

Subject: Police Department Update

Crime Update - On Friday, September 10, 2021, at 3:50 pm officers responded to reports of an auto theft in progress in the 1700 block of Radnor. It was also reported that there three small children, ages 4, 3 and 7 months old, in the vehicle at the time it was stolen. A short time later dispatch received a call from residents in the area of East 113th St. and St. Clair that the vehicle had been abandoned and a man was seen running from the area. The good Samaritans remained with the children until the arrival of Officers. The children were not harmed. The area was checked for the suspect with negative results. Detectives are continuing to investigate this incident but at this time there are no leads on the suspect.

On Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 6:33 pm Officers responded to a call of shots fired in the area of Coventry and Avondale. Preliminary investigation indicates that a vehicle arrived and parked in the lot at Coventry and Mont. The driver exited the vehicle and gunshots were heard coming from the house across the street at 1612 Coventry. Officers were able to recover 26 bullet casings in the area. No one was injured. Seven handguns were recovered at the scene and returned as evidence. One adult male has been arrested for Felonious Assault and another adult male has been and charged with Tampering With Evidence. A third male has also been identified as a suspect and a warrant is being obtained for him for Felonious Assault. Detectives are continuing to investigate and more charges are expected to be filed. The residence at 1612 Coventry is being declared a nuisance based on this incident and prior calls. A warning letter will be sent to the owner of the property and the residents.

Community Events – The Police Department has tentatively scheduled Coffee with a Cop for Wednesday, September 6th from 10:00 am – Noon at the Police Academy, 2595 Noble Road. The first day in October is National Coffee with a Cop Day each year.

The Police Department in conjunction with the Fire Department and Bryan's Marathon are planning on hosting a safety night during the month of October. During this event residents can stop by with their vehicles for a safety inspection and they will also receive safety tips for their residences. This event is still in the planning stages and more information will be released soon.



Date: September 15, 2021

To: Susanna Niermann-O'Neil, City Manager

From: Collette Clinkscale, Director of Public Works

Subject: Public Works Update

NEORSD – 2022 Member Community Infrastructure Program (MCIP)

NEORSD awarded 13 Design and Construction Contracts and 4 design only projects to be funded under their 2022 MCIP Program. As indicated in the last public works update, the City received 1 design and construction project grant and 1 design only project grant. Those projects are listed below with general map locations:

Design and Construction

1. SSO Control of CH-2, CH-12, CH-30, CH-33, CH-39 and Rehabilitation
MCIP Grant: \$ 824,841
Local Share: 388,161
Total Project: \$ 1,213,002

Design Only

2. Design for Control of SSOs CH-9, CH-32, CH-57 and CH-58
MCIP Grant: \$ 479,700
Local Share: 258,300
Total Project: \$ 738,000



Working with our partners at Wade Trim, we were very deliberate in putting forth MCIP projects that we thought would score high from Tier 1 of the IOCMP plan submitted to and currently under review with the USEPA as required under the Consent Decree. Our community cost share dollars were used for the local match. I would like to continue to pursue grants to get ahead of the IOCMP plan, but in order to do that, Council must determine how much of the ARPA funds will be available for sewer projects. The Finance Director must submit a financial statement certifying that the local match funds are available. Amy cannot make this certification without having clear authorization that the funding is available. I have applied for a sewer grant that Cuyahoga County is pursuing, however, I am unable to apply for any additional sewer-related grant funding that requires a local match at this time.



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Committee of the Whole

September 20, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Legislation overview
2. Executive Session
 - a. *To consider the appointment of a public official*
 - b. *To consider the investigation of complaints against a public official*



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

AGENDA (tentative) - CLEVELAND HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, September 20, 2021
Regular Meeting
7:30 p.m.

Cleveland Heights City Hall
Council Chambers
40 Severance Circle
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

- 1) Meeting called to order by Council President**
- 2) Roll Call of Council Members**
- 3) Excuse absent members**
- 4) Approval of the minutes of the Council meetings held on August 2 and August 16, 2021**
- 5) Personal communications from citizens**
- 6) Report of the City Manager**
- 7) Report of the Clerk of Council**
- 8) Committee Reports**
 - a.) COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
 - b.) FINANCE COMMITTEE**

ORDINANCE NO. 129-2021 (F), *First Reading*. An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 and declaring an emergency.

Introduced by Council Member _____

Vote _____
For _____ Against _____ No. Reading _____

- c.) MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

- d.) **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
- e.) **PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE**
- f.) **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

9) Council President's Report

10) Adjournment

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021

Proposed: 9/20/2021

ORDINANCE NO. 129-2021 (F), *First Reading*

By Council Member

An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances all relating to appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 be, and the same hereby are increased, decreased and/or transferred in the amounts set forth in Exhibit 1.

SECTION 2. All expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights within the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, shall be made within the appropriations herein provided. "Appropriation" as used herein means the total amount appropriated for the individual fund. Notwithstanding the financial detail herein presented within an individual fund, the City Manager is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts within each fund, so long as the total amount appropriated for each individual fund is not exceeded.

SECTION 3. Notice of the passage of this ordinance shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one paper of general circulation in the city of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the ongoing and continuous need to preserve the faith and credit of the City. Wherefore, 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.

JASON S. STEIN
President of the Council

AMY HIMMELEIN
Clerk of Council

PASSED:

Exhibit 1

Fund	Department	Object	Reason	Approved Budget	Requested Change	Revised Budget
101 - General	6203 - Refuse Coll/Transfer Sta	Personal Services	Decrease budget to move expense from General Fund, 101, to new Refuse Fund, 605.	1,768,618.79	(1,768,618.79)	0.00
		O.T.P.S.	Decrease budget to move expense from General Fund, 101, to new Refuse Fund, 605.	996,088.90	(996,088.90)	0.00
		Capital	Decrease budget to move expense from General Fund, 101, to new Refuse Fund, 605.	8,030.00	(8,030.00)	0.00
605 - Refuse Fund	6203 - Refuse Coll/Transfer Sta	Personal Services	Increase budget to move expense from General Fund, 101, to new Refuse Fund, 605.	0.00	1,768,618.79	1,768,618.79
		O.T.P.S.	Increase budget to move expense from General Fund, 101, to new Refuse Fund, 605.	0.00	996,088.90	996,088.90
		Capital	Increase budget to move expense from General Fund, 101, to new Refuse Fund, 605.	0.00	8,030.00	8,030.00
Total				2,772,737.69	(0.00)	2,772,737.69



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, August 2, 2021 Minutes

CITY COUNCIL

8:13 – 9:49 p.m.

President Stein presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Stein, Ungar

Staff present: Butler, Clinkscale, Hanna, Himmlein, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niermann O’Neil, Smith, Zamft

Report of the City Manager

City Manager Niermann O’Neil requested permission to bid Project 21-06 – Superior Road Rehabilitation & Waterline Replacement

City Manager Niermann O’Neil requested permission to bid Project 21-07 – East Overlook Resurfacing & Waterline Replacement

City Manager Niermann O’Neil reminded Council that Tuesday, August 3, 2021, is the annual Safety Night at the Community Center and recognition of the City’s centennial.

Matter of Record

Personal communications from citizens

Nancy Peppler Thank you. I am assuming I can remove this when I am speaking. Thank you, Council President Stein and Vice President Seren and members of Council. I am Nancy Peppler. I’m the district supervisor of community and school partnerships. And I was brought on board at the district several years ago in part to make a recommendation around and then lead the work on bringing new community partnerships and using existing

community partnerships to expand student support and enrichment opportunities for our students. After research and consultation with external partners and internal partners and colleagues, I made the recommendation to move forward with a model known as Community Learning Centers. And a little fun side note is that rest of the country they are referred to as Community Schools, but in Ohio that phrase, Community Schools, is codified as meaning Charter Schools, so we call them Community Learning Centers in Ohio. But if you are interested in doing a little reading on it and what's going on in other parts of the Country, they are called Community Schools. But CLC's are a place-based strategy for school improvement that promotes stronger ties between family, students, staff and the community and community organizations. And the models is shown to have impact on attendance, reduced behavior referrals, improved test scores and grades over time. So, it is an evidence-based strategy for school improvement, and so it is one that we have decided to embrace. And most importantly, it has shown to increase family engagement and connection with the community. And CLC implementation for the district is part of our strategic plan and specifically Goal 3 of our strategic plan. And we chose Noble Elementary for our pilot for the CLC strategy in large part because Noble has strong ties to the community and community partner organizations, like the Heights Libraries and Lake Erie Ink and many, many more. So, we chose Noble from a place of strength, which is another component of the CLC

strategy. It is a strength-based, not a deficit-based strategy. So, we are very excited to have hired our first organizer for Noble Elementary Community Learning Center, and she is right behind me, and her name is Kristiaun Copez-Minor. I am going to let her introduce herself and say a little bit more. Thank you.

Kristiaun Copez-Minor

Good evening. My name is Kristiaun Copez-Minor. I am the new Community Learning Center organizer for Noble Elementary. Coming from a background in the non-profit sector and youth development, and I am excited to jump into this role. The purpose of a Community Learning Center is to reinforce family school partnership and community school partnerships that will benefit the students of the schools, their families, and the community at large. Noble Elementary was chosen for this pilot because there is a rich assortment of non-profits and community members in the area. The goal is to expand the CLC model to other schools in the district in the upcoming years. The first year's main focus will be battling chronic absenteeism and raising the attendance of the school to 95% to combat students falling behind their peers in their grade level. Long-term, I am looking forward to Noble becoming a hub for the community with a resource center that will benefit families regardless of if they have children in Noble Elementary or not. Stronger communities increase unity and even help individuals improve their physical and mental health.

Stronger communities and sense of belonging are more important than ever as we navigate this ever-changing world. Thank you.

President Stein Thank you. Welcome. Any Council members have any questions? No?

Council Member Russell I'm just very happy that you have chosen Noble Elementary School. I think it is going to be a great asset to that community.

Nancy Peppler Well thank you, and it is sincerely meant that it comes from a place of strength and also a place of great partnership with our Union. The CLC strategy is a focus for American Federation of Teachers, OFT and for Cleveland Heights Teacher's Union. So, the strategy has been embraced by the district, and Noble is the perfect place for it.

Council Member Russell Make sure you include the Ohio Association of Public School Employees in that as well.

Nancy Peppler Thank you.

Council Member You are welcome.
Russell

Vice President Seren Yea, I had a quick question. Just wanted to know if you envision any particular role for either the City Government or even the County government, as I can ask about that too, playing a role in assisting or collaborating with you.

Nancy Peppler That's a great question, and thanks for that. One of our first orders of business this year will be conducting a community needs assessment. So instead of us coming in and saying, we think that the CLC should include a dental clinic or legal aid services for landlord tenant disputes or whatever it is that some other CLC's in other parts of the state may have, we need to conduct that needs assessment. So, we obviously would be looking to our partners in the City and in the County to help us to do that – both to engage members of the community but also to gather data that would help us answer the questions as to what the critical needs are for the Noble neighborhood. Would love to work with you on that.

Vice President Seren You know how to reach me.

Nancy Peppler Thank you so much.

President Stein Ok, so the order number 1-5 – it is my understanding that you have numbers When it is your turn, you can come up to the podium, state your name, your address and your purpose of Council.

Destiny Burns My name is Destiny Burns. I live at 3251 Meadowbrook Boulevard here in the Heights, and I thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. I want to make the following statement about support for the Flaherty & Collins plan for the Cedar Lee Meadowbrook Plan Development Project, and I thank you for supporting it as well. I own CLE Urban Winery in the Cedar Lee District, and I also own a home on Meadowbrook Boulevard near the intersection of Silsby. My life and my life savings

are both literally invested in the Cedar Lee District, so I have a great deal of personal and professional skin in this game. I am also current vice president of the Cedar Lee SID and am planning to assume the role of president of that organization later this year. I am making this statement on behalf of myself as a Cleveland Heights resident and business owner, but I have to discuss these matters with other Sid members and they share and support these opinions. I want to be very clear that I do not support the entire lot at Cedar Meadowbrook becoming a park and that I strongly am in favor of the multi-use commercial development plan as currently proposed by the Flaherty & Collins team. In addition to several parks in the district, the Cedar Lee mini-park is just a block north, and the Flaherty & Collins proposals include improved green space for about half of the lot at Meadowbrook and Cedar. In my opinion, there is no need for yet another park in this business district. We have an incredible opportunity to work with this proven and committed development team to modernize and upgrade our commercial district now, and if we delay or cancel this project because of fear of change or other notional rhetoric or political noise, what developer will ever want to work with the City in the future. We desperately need the economic development and investment in the district and in the City. Without it, both will decline. Residents will move. Businesses will close. We need this development project now. No delays. No excuses. We have plenty of green spaces in Cedar Lee. What we need now is more customers, more tax revenue, and more economic

activity. Trees don't pay taxes, and trees don't buy wine. The businesses in Cedar Lee have worked tirelessly to pivot and remain viable in these difficult times. Won't you please help us by moving forward with this very important development project now to build and strengthen our economic future. Doing that will truly help us recover and grow. Missing out on this opportunity will do the opposite. As a resident and business owner in the district for more than six years, I am well aware that parking and traffic is always an issue. I'm committed to working with the City and the Flaherty and Collins team to ensure that a comprehensive study of parking and traffic for the district is performed as part of the project and that all issues and concerns are addressed. We have the opportunity to reimagine new parking solutions, such as current lots being used more efficiently, implementing tailored parking zones, and installing more modern parking pay stations to replace antiquated coin operated meters. Just maintaining the status quo is not the answer. I would choose to bring 200+ affluent millennial and empty nester residents to our walkable business district over protecting metered parking spaces any day of the week and twice on Sunday. That's the way to bring sustainable economic activity to the district, to increase tax revenue for the City, and the help businesses survive and grow. To me this is an absolute no brainer. Both as a resident and as a business owner in Cedar Lee. We need this development project to compete and to grow as a community. I'm

committed to doing all I can to help bring this development to fruition and to make it a success. Thanks for the opportunity to speak tonight.

President Stein Thank you, Mrs. Burns. I failed to say before Mrs. Burns got up – which she did a great job of staying under 3 minutes. So, we are encouraging, please stay under 3 minutes. There are a lot of people that want to speak tonight. Number 2. Whose number 2? Number 2 must have left. Ok, number 3.

Gail Larson Good evening. It's good to see you all in person. My name is Gail Larson. I live at 3797 Montevista Road. Tonight, I am representing the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Chapter of the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland. Future Heights, the Heights Libraries, and our Chapter are sponsoring a candidate's night forum for the Cleveland Heights Mayoral Primary. The forum will be held Thursday, August 12th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cleveland Heights Community Center. The four candidates for Mayor, Barbara Danforth, Melody Joy Hart, Josephine Moore, and Kahlil Seren will be present. The candidates will present brief statements and answer questions from the audience. I hope you can all join us. Thank you.

President Stein Thank you, Gail. Number 4.

Karen Lash I'm Karen Lash, and I live on Monticello Boulevard in the Noble neighborhood, and I am here to speak about the development that is going on or being proposed for. I have several comments and a few questions.

I was amused when I heard you, Mike, talk about taking an issue and going slow and hearing what the residents of the City felt about an issue. That's certainly not what Council did with Top of the Hill, and it's certainly not what you are doing with the development at Lee and Meadowbrook. I lived right on Meadowbrook for several years in an apartment in that short little block. I am very familiar with the area. I'm not saying this shouldn't go on. I'm saying you need to slow down. I'm saying you need to not rush like you did with the Top of the Hill. There are several things that you are not taking into consideration. First of all, the building is going to be over five stories high. You are going to be blocking the view of people's houses just like you swallowed up that condo building at the Top of the Hill. You are not giving enough credence, not credence but there is not going to be adequate parking in the plan as it stands right now. Oh, why are you letting Flaherty have the land for only \$10 a year? Whose bright idea was that, and why is the City even doing that? Why aren't you getting more money for it? You are giving away a lot of tax money plus the 100% tax abatement that you are giving away. It's just not in the City's advantage, a lot of the pieces of the agreement as it stands right now. So I'm not opposed to it going on, but I think that the new government should have a piece in this, that this should not be rushed, and I guess, yeah. Why was it put through as an emergency and holding executive sessions on this when you didn't even allow the community to communicate about it? So, I just urge you to

slow down and not do a repeat of Top of the Hill on the Cedar-Lee project. That's it.

President Stein Thank you, Karen. We're up to number – are we up to number 5? Number 5?

Mya White Hi, I'm Mya White. I recently moved back to Cleveland Heights after being away for 12 years. I am very glad to be here. I live at 3324 Meadowbrook, so this corner is of interest to me. And I'm just trying to understand, since I'm kind of newly here and I don't have the entire history, but I think I'm with a group of some 900 or so citizens who feel enthusiastic for the development and unhappy for losing the only green space in it where it could be a park and also just wondering about the process that makes this a kind of pants-on fire-venture that we have to go get settled now in an emergency kind of method. I guess my question really is for the Council. How would you intend to include this 900-some people, all those folks who have signs about the park on their property hoping? My sign means can we consider this wonderful opportunity to have a park, is there a way? I'm not a mindless tree hugger that wants to slow down progress. I just see a lovely opportunity for a beautiful park that could be really serviceable to that whole community, including the businesses there. So that's just my question to you.

President Stein Thank you, Mya. City Manager is Eric still in the building? Could we bring him in? Oh, you're going to cover this? Do you want to maybe just

announce...? I do want to give a cite response because I think Mya is actually asking about the public engagement process. I just wanted something because she might not be in the room at the time. Do you mind telling her about a couple of the public (inaudible) given the process on public meetings coming up? Just mention that.

Council Member Ungar

There is a meeting coming up on August 11, it has been corrected, it was August 12, got moved up a day and that is going to be a public spaces and connectivity open house and that will take place at the... where Susanna? at the Library? Oh.

City Manager Niermann O'Neil

August 11 will be in the Atrium here at City Hall beginning at 6:00 and it will be a discussion about public spaces and connecting and it will be devoted to the project.

Council Member Ungar

On August 5, this Thursday, that one is at the Library is it?

City Manager Niermann O'Neil

Yes, that one is at the Library.

Council Member Ungar

At the Library and that will be on parking and traffic and that will be community workshop as well. In addition he is not here to defend himself so we might as well give this up right now and that is we welcome everybody's input just as we did with Top of the Hill and the best way to get those to us right now at least unless we put something up on the

website it to send it to Eric Zaft who is our Director of Planning if anybody wants his email address I have it here. He is also on the website.

President Stein Ok, so those are a couple of the upcoming opportunities to be heard. Ok, now we are going to numbers 6-10. Before number 6 comes up, we are encouraging to keep it to 3 minutes of less for those who want to speak tonight. So please number 6 come on up to the podium. State your name, address and purpose of coming to Council tonight. Number 6. Number 7.

Franklin Miles Council and Mayor Stein, my name is Franklin Miles. Address 3970 Mayfield Road. So, I am the owner of the strip plaza right at Mayfield almost at the corner of Warrensville Center Road. I sent you guys an email a few weeks ago. I did a project at the strip plaza, store renovation program. I think it looks awesome, but we have an issue here where we are blocked by 11 trees kind of lining the building and its actually right in the sight of the awnings that we put up on the building. So my ask in the email, I think I had one of you guys respond but we can beautify that area much better than just having trees there and I would like to get the consensus of you guys to reposition the trees to a different area of Cleveland Heights, just not kill them and really put some beautiful plants, almost similar to what you guys have leading into City Hall, is what I would like to see lining the building of my office. I'm the State Farm agent that's in the office and the other business owners are downstairs but you guys have packed house so it probably wouldn't be wise to have all

of us coming up talking about the same thing but I want to hear some feedback. Have any of you been by the building? I asked in my letter to you that you take a ride by and look at it and I think, would like to hear what you had to say.

President Stein

I'm going to have Councilperson Russell respond first.

Council Member
Russell

Yes, I have been by there. Actually, I live in the neighborhood and I think you have done a wonderful job. I have been trying to get that same look on Noble Road and Taylor. I did have a conversation with Laura, the lady who deals with the trees. I hate to call her that. Marks?

President Stein

Yes, Laura Marks

Council Member
Russell

Yes, and we talked about those trees, about what her thought was because she deals with all the trees in Cleveland Heights and she was very interested in moving those trees so that the beautification of your awnings and things can shine on Mayfield.

Franklin Miles

One of the other points that I wanted make, I'm sorry is that going through the Storefront Program, and it was a very nice experience, we did have the trees removed prior so the City, Dan and team came out and removed the trees and planted trees that were only supposed to grow 3 or 4 feet and now that we have them here again right at the level of the signs, so we know that businesses don't pay rent on Mayfield Road and see all of this traffic going through and want to see their signage just have it

blocked by trees. They are paying that rent and they have that location so that they can be seen.

President Stein Anyone else want to give a comment.

Council Member Russell I totally agree with you and I would like to talk with you further about that and helping me with getting those business on Noble and Taylor into that same program to get the beautification in those other areas as well.

Franklin Miles The office address is 3970 and I'm there.

Council Member Russell I've been there.

Franklin Miles Ok. Oh, this young lady has a business there as well.

City Manager And I do want to say that staff will definitely sit down with you. We got your letter as Councilwoman Russell mentioned, Laura Marks was involved. We know we have to take care of it because it makes no sense that these trees are obstructing the signs and your stores. It's common sense that we have to do something so I appreciate your being here and I apologize that we didn't get out sooner. We are trying to get out of this COVID world that we are in and this week we will make contact with you for sure.

Business Owner I don't have much to say other than I am the owner of Charter Educational Services also located in the strip plaza. I think he hit every point but the signs can't be seen so we can't advertise we are on Mayfield Road. No

one can see us. I have clients all the time that says “oh my gosh I have never seen you here” or they come to my office and they can’t, if they’re even looking for the office they can’t find it so let alone we can’t advertise to the traffic going by. That’s all I have to say. Thank you.

Franklin Miles I appreciate your time.

President Stein Thank both of you for your commitment to the Mayfield/Noble area, that’s a very important district for us. Just to reiterate the staff do work with them this week to really come up with a plan to remove those trees.

City Manager We absolutely will come a consensus.

Niermann O’Neil

Council Member Russell Thank you so much for the beautification on Mayfield.

President Stein Yes, thank you.

Franklin Miles And I’m not finished by the way.

President Stein Excellent, thank you. Thank you. Ok number 8. I’m not skipping 7, we just had 7. Number 9, number 9.

Deanna Bremer Fisher Good evening. I’m Deanna Bremer Fisher, I am the Executive Director of Future Heights, the City’s Community Development Corporation and I am a Cleveland Heights resident as well and I am here tonight to speak in support of the proposed Mixed-Use Development at Cedar Lee and Meadowbrook. That site is very important to the City as well. We urge

Council to move forward with this project. The proposed project fills a large gap in the Cedar Lee business district by strengthening the retail building wall which will increase pedestrian foot traffic and consumer spending at our locally owned businesses. New housing would add more residents to increase our tax base and the proposed green space at Lee and Meadowbrook and the Cedar Lee mini park will enhance the district and meet residents' needs for green space. Developing this site has been an objective of the City for over a decade. A qualified developer has stepped forward to work with the City to make it happen. Let's keep the process moving. Thank you.

President Stein Thank you, Deanna. Number 10.

Kathy Schaffer My name is Kathy Schaffer and I live actually in South Euclid, I'm from a foreign country but I spend a lot of time in Cleveland Heights and I did hear about the park and I just thought it was a great idea. I just feel that it is important and I would hate to see more development blight in Cleveland Heights or anywhere as so much of my neighborhood and that's why I sort of leave South Euclid and come and shop in Cleveland Heights. I hate to see the neighborhood gentrified, it's a historic district and I think that it has its own unique way of looking and attracting people. Basically, I just would hate to see it ruined. I mean I live in a place where we took out a beautiful green space and put in a Walmart and now we are having a nice little Mr. Chicken on the corner of Mayfield and Green so

I come over her a lot and I would really like to see it stay a lot like it is now. I think a green space is valuable in and of itself and it should definitely be a part of the community. Thank you.

President Stein Thank you, Kathy. Now we are moving on to numbers 11-15 so in case you weren't here before we are encouraging to keep your comments to 3 minutes or less because there are so many people that want to speak tonight and again, please your name, address and purpose of Council, please. Number 11.

James Williams Hi, my name is James Williams and I reside in Cleveland Heights also. Good afternoon, good evening Heights. I just wanted to know a couple of questions as far as the status of the Cleveland Heights police review board. Is that open for the public or is it concealed? If anyone knows the question of that.

President Stein The Racial Justice Task Force is currently working on that. That is public, all of their meetings are public.

James Williams Ok. Next, I would like to say that I appreciate Heights for their job training programs in the community. I appreciate Heights for their housing, their GED programs and that there is still much more that we can be doing for our community and for the youth as well. I know that we are striving to do a great deal of work and become much better. Especially where we are headed today. I wish I could explain it better but here I am today. I would also would like to bring more awareness to

drinking under the influence and that we all are doing our part to keep our law enforcement aware that it happens and that most of the accidents that happen across our nation is due to drunk driving. I also want to still bring awareness to the LGBT community for transgender murders that are still happening across our nation to hate crimes that are still happening. I don't know if you know or are aware that the LGBT pride flag now has a new flag which also includes a black strip in the middle which is a pretty cool funky looking flag today right now. Also, I want to bring this fun fact. There is floating water in space about 10 billion light years away. Astronomers have found that. So that is just a thing that we are going much further than what our racial indifferences bring in that we still need to be together and pull together because we have tons and tons of space go to and we have to track that together. That will be it for me.

President Stein

Thank you, James. Number 12.

Sal Russo

Hi, my name is Sal Russo. I am the president of the Cedar Fairmount SID (Special Improvement District). I am here today to give you a quick history of the SID and tell you where we are presently. The SID right now is in a deficit. We had a summer festival that we would do every year. We did it for years and years and years. The festival made us money and we were whole every year. COVID hit and we weren't allowed to do the festival this year and so we are in a little bit of a bind right now. It's a one-time bind. We're asking for about \$25,000.00 to

make our budget whole. We do have a plan for the next year. We are going to try to increase the size of the SID. We have talked to Flaherty & Collins and they have been very, very generous in what they want to give us. They have been great, they have been great partners, but we need this one-time ask to kind of get this deficit in line. We are also going to change the way we do promotions. We are not going to do a one-time festival. We might go back to it but right now we are going to do more promotions in the district. We are doing some musical venues, we are doing food trucks, we are trying to do some different things to promote the district for the business owners. So, I'm here today to ask for that deficit shortfall and if you guys have any questions I would be glad to answer them.

President Stein Anyone have any questions? There is a piece of legislation that Councilperson Russell has put forth for use of our Art Funds which would be dedicated for different areas of the City which might be an avenue that we can look at if this legislation was to pass. I believe it is in Finance Committee. Councilperson Hart do you yet have a date for that meeting to discuss that legislation which I believe would help the Cedar Fairmount district.

Council Member Hart Have we chosen a date yet? Pardon me? We can have it anytime between now and...

President Stein Yes, it is up to you. If you don't have it tonight maybe you could work on that and figure it out with your committee members.

Council Member Hart I will give you a call tomorrow and we will set a date.

Sal Russo Thank you, I appreciate it.

President Stein Thank you, Sal. Number 12. 13. I'm sorry I lost track.

Catherine Osborne Good evening, my name is Catherine Osborne. I live at 3255 Cedarbrook. That's near the dead-end of the Cedar Lee parking lot. I purchased my house in 2015 in part because the neighborhood was close to many amenities and quiet due to reduced car traffic. I'm here because since last summer Cedarbrook has only been partially blocked from the Cedar Lee parking lot by a single bollard after others was knocked down and removed. Cars frequently and quickly squeeze through in both directions to reduce the number of stop signs and lights they encounter. I cannot blame my neighbors for doing so because we have numerous police cruisers, delivery vehicles, city utility trucks that do the same. I contacted Public Works in September and again in November last year and was reassured that a chain would soon be installed but the issue has not been resolved. This is a public safety issue. I have been nearly hit by vehicles cutting through the neighborhood when walking from the pedestrian path behind the parking garage. I have seen near collisions yesterday as vehicles, including a FedEx truck from both directions encountered the

less than two lane passage and there are a lot of small kids that live at the end of that street and ride their bikes in this area and now have to contend with through traffic on a street with dead-end signs. This current arrangement is not sustainable and I understand and support the move you Flaherty and Collins to develop Cedar Lee and Meadowbrook. I look forward to having new homes and businesses as my neighbors instead of a parking lot. I understand new construction on this sit might make placing new bollards seem like a waste and while I would personally prefer a chain and look forward to having this site developed. Can we at least put up a stop sign or something in the meantime? At the present it is treated like an intersection with no signage and I've heard this Council note the importance of resident input on this project for years now so it is unfortunate that this issue on the development's boundary has not been addressed while we the residents near by wait for it to be finalized. That's it.

President Stein Thank you, Catherine. City Manager, can we get something done?

City Manager Yes, we will definitely take care of that. I am so sorry.

Niermann O'Neil

President Stein Thank you, City Manager. Thank you for coming Catherine. Number 14.

Joann Siegel

I'm Joann Siegal, a longtime Cleveland Heights resident in walking distance from Cedar Lee and a small business owner in Cleveland Heights. I am addressing Council tonight to show full support of your decision to hire Flaherty & Collins to fully develop the hole in our Cedar Lee business district. This is long overdue and my family his hoping that you break ground as soon as is humanly possible. We are glad you chose this plan and develop all parcels whether than wait and do part of it at a later time. We know that if we wait, it may not happen. Citizens have had plenty of time to express opinions. It is time to act now before we scare developers away and we have developer that is will to work with us. The new tenants will be able to walk to our establishments that are already in the district. They will add tax dollars vitality and an element of safety to our beloved business district. They will add jobs and income tax revenue. They will bring their friends and their family members to show off their new neighborhood. This new development also has the potential to provide another option for those families who wish to downsize but stay close to the action of the City of Cleveland. There are families that would otherwise move to places that we are competing with for citizens such as Lakewood, Shaker and parts of Cleveland. Please disregard the fearmongering comments that I am quite certain that you have heard and will still hear. Most of the people I have discussed this project with are very excited to see it happen and they are also eager to see the ground breaking take place as soon as possible. We all love parks

but the business district needs to be continuous so the people will walk from place to place. A park, no matter what type and what attractions it supposedly has, will interrupt the flow of people going from shop to shop and restaurant to restaurant. Besides, we have several nearby parks. Fairfax Elementary School park and playground is just a few blocks south and the mini park next to the theater is in the business district. Cain Park, Cumberland Park, Shaker Lakes Trails, they are all nearby. Regarding the argument that our City needs affordable housing, we can look around and see plenty of empty homes and apartments on all sides of town. I have heard that some of this housing is owned by absentee landlords who are not keeping their buildings up to code. Maybe if the City cracks down on these slumlords who live far away, they will be more compelled to fix up their buildings and rent them. We need to maintain income diversity among our residents. If we do not include market rate, an aim to bring in residents whose incomes are higher than the medium income here, we will not be able to afford excellent City services that people of all incomes can enjoy. Thank you for your time.

President Stein

Thank you. Number 15.

Walter Theme

Thank you Mayor Stein and Deputy Mayor Seren and Council for allowing me to speak in support of the development.

President Stein

Excuse me, what is your name.

Walter Theme, I live in the St. Ann's area. I'm here to support the development and can pretty much agree with everything that the owner of the Cleveland Urban Winery had stated. We have plenty of parks, we don't need another one particularly. We have a shortage of market rate housing, new market rate housing, and we have a big hole in the district. I'm not sure when that whole was created or when the City took over that land but the last development proposal was like 13 years ago when we got shutdown by the economy. So, that's all.

President Stein Thank you, Walter. Thank you. Okay now we are moving on to 16-20. For those of you who were not here, we are encouraging you to keep your remarks to 3 minutes because there are still more people who want to speak. When you come to the podium state your name, your address and your purpose of Council. Number 16.

John Fleshon Good evening. I'm John Fleshon. I live at 3239 Cedarbrook. That's right near the 50 foot wall that's going up and yes I'm one of those awful people that's gonna tell you how awful it's going to be. There is already green space in a park there that is probably about 10 times the size of our proposed mini park that's gonna be the width of the street if it's lucky over by Heights Art. I have pictures here I will be glad to give you if you want to know what it looks like. This is what it looks like. I hope your eyesight is better than mine. I have taught at Cleveland State for 30 years in Urban Studies, Geology, Biology and 30 years in the high schools. I

have been a resident of Cleveland Heights for 45 years now. I bought the house, it was a project, and now it's a bigger project but my neighbors and my house this past year all have new roofs so part of that degrading housing is right there. This is right in my face and my neighbors, they are not super happy to see this. When I worked for the City, I also ran the YCC Program. We planted 200 trees in the parks. Carl Zaga nicely came in when they put the garage in and softened that side by putting in about 30 or 40 specimen trees that have matured very nicely. It's beautiful. It's there right now and it's going to be gone. This is kind of a bait and switch. Everybody knows that the part over by Lee Road has been something that has been thought about since it was a super fun site and suddenly they have added somehow, don't take it personally, I really don't know which one of you did it, but somebody has added 4 acres to that and that eats up the entire parking lot at Cedar Lee but it also comes very close to single family residential housing and I can guarantee you none of us want a 50 foot wall separating us from the rest of the community. They're basically stealing the sky. You are not going to be able to see the sky from anywhere at the end of Cedar Road and I really want you to think real hard about what's going on. You can kind of argue that the 15 years we have been talking about a part of it but all of a sudden last year we've added 5 acres, 4.4 acres is a total of 5 acres and it's a totally different project and somebody here said go slower. Sometimes you need to hurry slowly. Thank you for listening.

President Stein

Thank you, John.

John Fleshon

I have extra pictures if you want them.

President Stein

If you would like to leave them over there and we can pass them around, over there with Mrs. Himmelein. She will pass them around to Council.

John Fleshon

Thank you for listening.

President Stein

Thank you, John. Number 17.

Lynn Mentch

Hello, my name is Lynn Mentch. I live at 3002 Meadowbrook Blvd. and I am here to talk about the Meadowbrook Lee site. Our house is 5 blocks from the Meadowbrook Lee site. The construction noise and new traffic patterns will likely impact my daily life but I'm not against the development. However, I do believe our neighborhood deserves a larger park than what is currently included in the design. To me the proposed pocket park feels like an afterthought and I believe it would be a huge missed opportunity for our City and our neighborhood. As a 33-year-old, the places that my friends and I are attracted to are outdoor destinations. Beer gardens, play areas for kids, flea markets, you get the idea. This was true even before COVID. I have a hard time imagining the small park becoming a destination. It feels like the developers are getting a pretty good deal and I'm not sure what we are getting in return. In June, I received the City's email update in which the City highlighted Cedar Fairmount Summer Fun. This series of events was a lot like events we

would go to until I saw the locations. In the parking lot adjacent to Night Town, in the parking lot next to Luna, in the Firestone parking lot. We have a Tree City USA designation and we are holding events in parking lots. If this doesn't prove the need for an activity park, I'm not sure what will. Again, I am not against the development but I would like to see a larger park as part of the design. So, my question to Council is, why can't we have both? Thank you.

President Stein

Thank you. Number 18. Number 19.

Vickie Ham

Hello, my name is Vickie Ham, I live at 3318 Tullamore Road so I'm right down the street from Meadowbrook Lee. I want to say that I strongly support keeping the entire parcel at Meadowbrook Lee as green space and using the space as a public park. We want our tax dollars to go toward a healthier future for our children. Children need green space to play and they need us to reduce our impact on climate change. Building these condos would reduce existing green space and would also remove what actually is being used as a multi-use outdoor space currently. My dog Jack and I like to run around and mingle with other dogs in the green space and others enjoy their meals from neighboring businesses there. Preserving green space will also have a positive effect on climate change whereas the concrete and blacktop of the new building will accelerate climate change. This land is owned by Cleveland Heights so it should remain public green space and not private. We should postpone the final

decision on plans for the green space until our new Mayor is in office.

Thank you for your time.

President Stein

Thank you. Number 20.

Bob Brown

Hello strangers. I'm Bob Brown. I'm a 45-year resident of Cleveland Heights. As many of you know I am a City Planner. I worked for 9 years for the County and worked in several urban areas including Cleveland Heights and then for 30 years for the City of Cleveland as a Planner. With respect to Lee Road I want to see that mixed-use retail district strengthened as a more vital and vibrant pedestrian oriented space. It's already that way but it's not strong enough, not enhanced enough. I agree that green space should be an important part of the Lee Meadowbrook district. I believe that that can be achieved by the park and gathering space that's proposed by the developer on Lee Road and by what Future Heights is proposing between Heights Arts and Boss Dog. Many of you know we have lost probably about 15,000 people in Cleveland Heights over the decades and I think it's time we got more creative and I think we are beginning to do that about finding ways to rebuild and repopulate our community. I think this is one of the ways that we can do that. The last thing I will say is I do think that the development of the former Ohio Savings site on Lee Road is a pretty straight forward proposal. I do think and I agree with some of the people who have spoken that there needs to be more study of the other part of the development including the housing

that is proposed on the backside of the garage adjacent to the single family houses and also obviously there have to be more study of the parking there and making sure that the development that occurs there, if it does, does not rob the parking that the merchants and the theatre need. I think that part of the project is ready to go and makes perfect sense and part of it needs a little more study. Thank you.

President Stein Thank you, Bob. Now we are moving on to the next group. So, 21 is coming up, maybe you didn't hear so I'm encourage to keep your comments to 3 minutes or less because there are still some other people that want to speak and when your number comes up come to the podium state your name, address and purpose of the Council. Number 21. Number 21, Fran. Hi Fran.

Fran Mentch Good evening. My name is Fran Mentch and I am chair of the Northeast Ohio Sierra Club Executive Committee. Although I am speaking tonight as a resident. I am a member of the committee called People for the Park. People for the Park has gathered 991 signatures on our Change.org petition and we have many thousands of hits on our website and we have received a lot of encouragement from people requesting yard signs and coming to our events. People for the Park is comprised of all kinds of people and we stand together and our desire for the 1.07 acres at Meadowbrook Lee Tullamore to become an activity park. I have two quick points. One is the need for parks and green space and the second is

about the governance and the process that you have used. Climate change and its devastation and immense human suffering is upon us. The 1.07 acre of green space is small but important. Our motto is “What is green, stays green.” Building a park at Cedar Lee is in Cleveland Heights’ best interest, economically and socially and it sends the right message about our values and we will benefit from explaining to people and explaining to people that that is our value. My second point is that six times the City has attempted to develop this property and three times I was a part of a committee that submitted proposal in response to the City’s request for proposal to develop the site. In the past few months, I have requested 8 times for the park to be on your agenda. Phone calls and emails to elected and City officials have gone unanswered. You passed the Memorandum of Understanding about this development at a special meeting on June 28 as an emergency measure. The Memorandum of Understanding stated the goal is to move to the Development Proposal in 60 days, 30 days of which were used up in your July recess. Your conversation this far has only been with the developers. This process is developer driven and you have advocated the political process to the developers and you have excluded citizens. Is this good governance? This poor communication can lead to unnecessary bad feelings and can generate conflict. Let’s start tonight to repair the relationship. Please help to move the relationship between citizens and City government forward in a positive way. Based on these two concerns, we ask that City Council 1) revise the Flaherty & Collins

plan to include the park and 2) that you wait to decide on the Flaherty & Collins proposal until after the November election. What is green, stays green. Thank you.

President Stein Thank you, Fran. Number 22.

David Klain Thanks for taking the time. My name is David Klain. I was born on Tullamore Road. Over the last 50 years I spent a lot of my time cycling. I have cycled across every (inaudible) United States. I have seen a lot of cities, a lot of towns and I'm here to speak out on behalf of the park. I think you should keep your green space. Almost all of the places I have pedaled to and from have started in Cleveland Heights. That's both coasts, the Gulf Coast, all along the Canadian Border, the Mexican Border. A lot of my wisdom is gathered in that way. I think it's pretty obvious from the behavior of the Cleveland Heights City Council that you have made up your mind. I think that you are going to go ahead with the Flaherty & Collins Plan and I think that most of the information that you have about that plan comes from Flaherty and Collins. There are a great number of people that I have spoken to over the past couple of months that would like to see that developed as green space. That's what brings people out. We go out to see people, not apartments. There are a lot of things about the Flaherty Collins plan that is dubious. It is unlikely I think that they are gonna find 200 people that want to occupy that space between Wendy's, the high school and a parking garage. I think it's a

much better idea to have it as an activities park to bring people out and use those businesses and that you are going through the motions right now as though there was a desire for public discourse. Those among us who were hoping to see this green space still green are speaking to fourteen deaf ears. Tony Cuta was right when he told me before June 28 that this was a done deal. This brings me back to the cycling because I still cycle around here a lot and what I've seen this year in particular since COVID is a proliferation of pint size plastic bottles with the lids replaced and those bottles are full of urine and they are placed right aside of the road. I saw one tonight on Cedarbrook. It is my understanding that the reason why that is happening is because of the delivery drivers need a place to go and don't have it. Given what I said, we know where this is headed. Flaherty & Collins are gonna get their way. We also know that they can't build south of the AT&T Access. That's why they are giving up that one-third, not one-half, but one-third of that green space because they can't build there anyway. So, what I'm asking you, would you please be so bold as to ask them to put in a public restroom and I'd like to ask you to ask them to maintain it as part of their lease agreement, their \$10 a year lease agreement that's a part of this giveaway for the next 100 years. I'm pretty sure they can handle that. There is a real nice public restroom in Beachwood in the Shaker median strip, they use it all year round, it's private, it's heated, it's clean, it's well lit. Thanks.

Report of the Clerk of Council

No report.

Matter of Record

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 100-2021 (MS). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an amendment to an agreement with Black and Veatch for professional consulting services in connection with the City's Sanitary Sewer Overflow Control Project

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Legislation Passed

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 101-2021 (PD), *First Reading*. An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 3424 Beechwood Avenue, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

Introduced by Council Member Ungar

Legislation Introduced

RESOLUTION NO. 102-2021 (PD). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Amendment to Grant Agreement with Cuyahoga County to fund the Cleveland Heights-SBA Small Business Performance Grant Program

Introduced by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

***MOTION** to extend the period of time for the Planning Commission to consider the proposed zoning amendments transmitted via Resolution 70-2020 until August 20, 2021.

Introduced by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Ungar made a statement responding to concerns regarding the Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook project.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

No report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 107-2021 (F). An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021.

Introduced by Council Member Hart, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

Clerk of Council Amy Himmlein made a statement explaining the ordinance.

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

Legislation Passed

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 103-2021 (PSH). An Ordinance amending various sections of Chapter 373, "Bicycles and Motorcycles," of Part Three, Traffic Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights

Introduced by Council Member Cobb, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

ORDINANCE NO. 104-2021 (PSH). An Ordinance authorizing an agreement with the Chagrin Valley Dispatch Council (CVD), a regional Council of Governments, pursuant to Ohio law, to join CVD's joint Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services communications system for the dispatch of Police, Fire and EMS services in and for multiple communities, and authorizing the City to approve the dissolution of the Heights Hillcrest Communications Center (HHCC).

Introduced by Council Member Cobb, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

Council President Stein made a statement regarding the ordinance and regional cooperation.

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Cobb made an announcement regarding a planned Public Safety and Health Committee meeting on Thursday, August 19, 2021, to follow up from a prior meeting concerning Housing Department staffing and the Novak report as well as immigration legislation.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 105-2021 (AS). An Ordinance to accept the fact-finding recommendations in the matter of the City of Cleveland Heights and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA), SERB Case Nos.: 2020-MED-12-1424; 2020-MED-12-1425; and 2020-MED-12-1426, and declaring an emergency.

Introduced by Council Vice President Seren, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar
Council Vice President Seren made a statement explaining the legislation.

Council President made a statement thanking police officers for their service.

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

Legislation Passed

ORDINANCE NO. 106-2021 (AS). An Ordinance repealing Section 107.02(a) of Chapter 107, "Public Meetings," of Part One, Administrative Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights; adopting a replacement Section 107.02(a) of Chapter 107, "Public Meetings"; amending Section 107.02(b), and declaring an emergency.

Introduced by Council Vice President Seren, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Seren made a statement regarding the special primary election scheduled on August 3, 2021, and encouraging everyone to vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason S. Stein
President of Council

Amy Himmlein
Clerk of Council



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, August 16, 2021 Minutes

CITY COUNCIL

7:31 – 8:56 p.m.

Vice President Seren presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Hart, Russell, Seren, Ungar
 Excused: President Stein

Staff present: Boland, Butler, Hanna, Himmelein, Niermann O'Neil, Smith, Zamft

Personal communications from citizens

Penny Allen I will. Thank you very much. I also want to thank Councilwoman Russell for urging me to come here tonight and speak to you. I would like to urge the Council to oppose the sewer district's recommendations for the Shaker

Vice President Could you just provide your name?
Seren

Penny Allen Oh. Penny Allen. 3118 Edgehill Road. Yes. I would like to urge the Council to oppose the sewer district's plans for the Shaker Lakes, and briefly address three important considerations. Public opinion, environmental impact and cost. I learned from talking to Shaker Heights and Cleveland Heights Library patrons, and Shaker Market shoppers about potential elimination of Horseshoe Lake that most are not aware of the sewer district's plans. The majority had strong reactions. What? No. That ain't right, and similar. So citizens need to be better informed about this and offered an opportunity to weigh in possibly through a referendum on a ballot or well conducted surveys. Regarding the environmental considerations, a remaindered stream is not a good environmental choice.

The reason is that these two lakes attract a much greater diversity of migratory birds than Stream corridors can. Some 25 species of dabbling and diving ducks, geese, loons, grebes, wading birds, as well as osprey, herons and eagles use the lakes on migration. And the majority require lakes, not streams. With the sewer district plan, we will lose the bird diversity that makes Shaker Lakes a designated audubon important bird area. And if planned amenities such as concessions, boating, swimming at Lower Lake come about, birds certainly will need Horseshoe to avoid the disturbance. And I have a hand out for you that goes into environmental considerations in greater depth and I hope I can give that to you all. And addressing cost. In its first presentation on Zoom, the sewer district laid out its four options with saving Horseshoe costing 6 Million Dollars more and said they would not have the money for that. Now, they say if the Cities want Horseshoe retained, the district will spend nothing on it and that more than 20 Million of the cost of dam building and dredging Horseshoe would be on Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights. Is that really true or is it a scare tactic? The business of heads I win, tails you lose should always make one suspicious I think. But the Councils need to find out whether the district might be obligated to pay for Horseshoe dam and dredging. Something Councilmembers could ask our City's Law Departments to investigate. But what's more, whether 6 Million or 20 Million, that might be raised without undue pressure on the City's budgets through a combination of public and private foundation funds, as well as state and national historic preservation grants. So, I thank you all for your time and is it okay if I give you Councilmembers this piece on the environmental considerations?

Vice President
Seren

If you would provide the material to the Clerk, she will distribute it.

Penny Allen Yes. Thank you so much. And I hoping that Bill Hopkins might talk to us next.

Vice President Thank you.

Seren

Bill Hopkins Thank you. Honorable Vice President Seren and members of Council. My name is Bill Hopkins. I've lived in Cleveland Heights 58 years now. I presently preside at 2317 Lamberton Road. I have a Master's in Landscape Architecture and I have some experience writing preservation reports for national historic sites. I am a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historic Society and have written letters to members of both Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights City Councils expressing the Historical Society's arguments that the Shaker Lakes both have a historical right to exist. Given they are more than 100 years at the center of the growth and development of our two cities. Many people remember two years ago when the sewer district drained Horseshoe Lake. The reassuring promise that the historic lake and dam would be dredged and restored using the stones from both the original Shaker Dam and the 1920s parapeted spillway for the repairs. The sewer district has not satisfactorily explained why its priorities have changed so much in these past two years that now only the deconstruction of the entire site aligns with its goals. All the more confusing is the fact that lakes are beneficial to flood storage and control systems. They dissipate flooded stream energy, they filter out sediments, they break down contaminants and pollutants by the bacteria in the waters and lake beds, and they produce cleaner outflows to the waters downstream. One year ago, during the COVID shutdown, the Green Lake Dam and spillway was rebuilt with massive concrete pylons and steel girder bridge. This appears to be what we can expect from the sewer district that the historic Lower Lake's spillway near Coventry Road. Though on a much more massive scale. The sewer district seeks to cut its cost by destroying Horseshoe Lake and then handling the increased flood

waters at Lower Lake by constructing a much longer and more massive dam there. Again, of concrete pylons and a steel girder bridge. The uniquely beautiful, graciously scaled 1920s stone and iron bridge and spillway will be gone if the sewer district gets its way. It is well known that the sewer district is not directly beholden to the electorate. That it is a powerful and wealthy entity and that it awards grant money to various organizations. Many feel that the sewer district has not given straight answers to the questions that have been asked of them on the Shaker site. It is appreciated that some of you have not endorsed its plan yet. There are some Shaker Heights councilmembers who also have not yet made up their minds. Councilwoman Hart's position to obtain an independent environmental assessment is very much to be applauded. Because of the future consequences are controversial and serious on many levels for our two cities, I strongly urge you not to sign off on this sewer district's preferred plan until you put a proper process in place. Employing and clarifying independent assessments, not only of the environmental effects but also the costs, preservation and sewer options, quality of life issues, and recreational and esthetic preferences of our communities. Given more time, the former Cleveland Heights and now Shaker Heights preservation officer could research and report on state or federal preservation grants to ameliorate the cost of restoration work. Given more time, a more informed decision from the Council could be made better reflecting the communities' values and the abilities, willingness and responsibilities of the sewer district and our joint cities to pay the costs involved. Thank you for your time.

Vice President

Thank you. Do we have anyone else speaking on this topic?

Seren

Michael Madorsky

Hello Council. My name is Michael Madorsky. I have not prepared any remarks so I may be a little rambling but I will make it brief. I live at 3154 Redwood Road and I have lived in Cleveland Heights now almost 40

years. I support the retention of Horseshoe Lake on historical grounds, on environmental grounds and I think it's something we've enjoyed for generations. I think the lakes and the parks of Rockefeller Park were given by Rockefeller, not to be streams but to retain the lakes that we have enjoyed for generations. I know the sewer district is not a lake and recreational entity. Its mission is storm water management so I can understand why they are not whole heartedly throwing their weight behind a damn and a lake, but I think the citizens of Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights and the other communities that surround this lake know of its value for esthetic and environmental and historical reasons. I know this process between the Cities of Cleveland Heights and Shaker and the sewer district could take years to come up with the proper funding and design work. But I am willing to wait and I think generations ahead of us will be thankful that we do. So I urge you work with the Council of Shaker Heights and the sewer district to come up with a solution that we can all be happy with and will look proudly on for generations to come. Thank you for listening.

Vice President Seren Thank you, Mr. Madorsky. If there is no one else with comments on that topic, I think we will start with the back row. Is there anyone in the back row who has public comment this evening?

Resident What I have to say is written on an envelope but it's not four score and seven years ago, and it's not really well thought out. I'm just going to try to speak from what I feel. I live on Cedar Brook and I'm near the proposed extravagant construction. I want to thank the people, somebody asked one of the previous bidding for the change to be put back up to block it off there. It's gotten done and the Fire Department guy was out there and he was remarking they had a special lock on it so that when I'm suffering my fourth heart attack and in an EMS vehicle, they will be able to get out and get me through out of there. So I appreciate that. However, if we do put in this new construction, I think it's going to affect EMS and other kinds

of access to that end of the street. Also, I am going to repeat myself and say that it's way too close, according to the drawings that have been published, to the housing there. And if you really want to do something like that, then you need to go slower and try to figure out a better way. I don't know if it would be necessary to create more space, but you've got houses that are very, very close to what is proposed. Also, the Cedar Lee is the anchor for the area, Cedar Lee Theater. And from what I hear there is not going to be a whole lot of parking. Somebody commented awhile back that said, well you know people should walk a few blocks. If you know anything about the United States, there aren't a lot of people who would put up a new business without parking. It's just kind of the way we are. Anyways, I appreciate the opportunity to speak tonight. Thank you so much.

Vice President Thank you. What was your name again sir?

Seren

Resident [Can't hear name]

Seren

Tony Kuda Hello Tony Kuda. Finley Road Island. It's a little bit of a hodge podge tonight. So on the Taylor Tudor, if I understand it right, this guy basically didn't pay his taxes right? And didn't keep up the building. I hope we never do this again. You know, sell to, you know I mean where property changes hands to an out-of-country investor and we don't ask for an escrow account. We just kind of let it go. I just hope this is the last time we ever see this happening in Cleveland Heights. Um, few council meetings ago. This is number two on the hodge podge list. Councilman Ungar asked for an update on the administrative organizational chart and an overhaul of the report on the overhaul of the ordinances. I'd love to hear it. The ordinances especially because I don't think we know that everything, that every

ordinance that has changed might not have a problem with comporting with the Charter and if there is something that we needed to do, it would be better to know it now than later. So I would love to hear that. Lastly from the hodge podge list, the Charter Amendment. The Charter Review Commission, you know I think any commission, some of the stuff they came up with was thoughtful and others I, you know, certainly didn't agree with. But at the end of the day, Council has to make a decision on any recommendations that come to you and then make a decision. The 210 days of contingency and the 90 day recommendation, I don't think any of you agree with any of that anyway. So saying that Commission is going to come up with something and it ought to be good, I mean that may or may not be true. But certainly the process of having the Law Director delve into this and then you guys knock it around. I mean that's fine. I hope you solve the two problems if you do put something on the ballot and the two problems are obviously that the length of time and the contingency. And I agree just from what I listened to tonight, that 60 days would probably solve the problem of if you get 45 applicants, 45 days might not be enough. So that sounds good. As much as Councilwoman Russell I hear you on the whole letting it go to the people but it doesn't solve the problem. You're looking at probably nine months or more if it were to go. It doesn't solve the problem of the expediency. I do like the idea you came up with, the Toledo idea. The only question I have on that was if there were three years left on the term, would it, if it went to the next election after the appointment, would it then be three, would the three years just be the end of it? The next time, there would be an election? Or would it be an unexpired term and then second election? I didn't ask the question well. Balance of the unexpired term. It would be better if there weren't two elections I thought, but other than that. Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

Vice President Thank you. In the back row, do we have any further public comment?
Seren Please. State your name and where you live.

Angelina Bairn I'm Angelina Bairn. I'm a former Cleveland Heights Historical Society Board member. It was a trustee. I live on Silsby Road. I'm in University Heights and I am an architectural historian. I have a Master's Degree in Library Information Science. I have a few comments to make about the Meadowbrook development. I disagree with the five story plan with it. I am worried and have concerns about the preservation of the neighborhood of Lee Road. Also, I looked at renderings of it. It doesn't match the architectural blue print of the neighborhood. Also, with the Top of the Hill project, I felt that a lot of it. Some of the neighbors in the area didn't like the project. Some did. I feel like it is a sweetheart deal and there needs to be more careful research on this project is what I feel. Thank you.

Fran Mentch Good evening. I'm Fran Mentch and I have an important announcement. A happy announcement. The people for the park, the group of people who want the 1.07 acre of City owned land on Lee Road at the corner of Tullamore and Meadowbrook have launched an initiative. Why is this good news? The most direct power Cleveland Heights citizens have is to put an initiative or referendum. Can you hear now John? Sorry about that. On the ballot. It is more powerful than citizen's ability to elect their city officials who once elected, will vote as they may. A referendum is a citizen's veto but tonight I am talking about an initiative. A citizen proposed legislation. To put on the ballot. So this initiative is to put on the ballot whether or not we should have a park on the City owned land on Lee Road at the corner of Meadowbrook and Tullamore. If we succeed and it is a simple thing to do, but if we succeed, citizens will be able to

vote yes or no. It's simple because it only requires gathering 3,600 signatures of registered Cleveland Heights voters. So it's very doable. This is an exercise in democracy. People will then be able to vote yes or no on the park. Have you ever been able to vote on a City project? I am asking people too, I don't know where the camera is, but I'm asking people too that are listening or watching this later. People were not able to vote on the last large development at Top of the Hill. You could have a chance to vote on the large project. This is a 50 Million Dollar project. The project proposed at Meadowbrook, Lee and Tullamore. We only are talking about 1.07 acres of that, whatever else, we are not anti-development, whatever else happens, we're just talking about the park. What is green stays green. So why are we launching an initiative? Essentially, we have no choice. We all want to feel good about our community. We all want to feel good about our government. We all want to have a good relationship with our government. But in this case regarding this issue, Council has refused to let citizens participate. Other than to support it with their tax dollars. This is a highly subsidized project. Citizens were excluded in the following, from participating in the discussion in the following ways: Council refused eight times to put this discussion on the Agenda, the meetings were held in violation of open meetings act, they failed to properly notify citizens of public meetings, did not follow the ordinance of the City's Charter. The last meeting before the July recess was supposed to be on June 21st. But Council held a special meeting, not just about the topic, not just Meadowbrook, Lee, Tullamore, but they called a special meeting prior to the 30 days of their recess. So when they did that, at that meeting, they passed on an emergency basis a memorandum of understanding for this 50 Million Dollar project. Now previously we've heard them talk about three readings. They should have followed the correct process for three readings because there is no emergency involved with the 50 Million Dollar project. So they signed that memorandum of understanding as on an emergency basis and then

went into recess. In that memorandum of understanding, it said that they wanted to move toward signing the developer's agreement in 60 days. Then they went into recess for 30 days so that reduced our ability to discuss it at Council to only the month that we have now. Council has used many executive sessions, these are closed door sessions, to talk about this land use. They have essentially abdicated the political process to the developer, Flaherty & Collins. This development, Istavel, has been developer driven and we did not elect Flaherty & Collins. City officials have spoken about the Flaherty & Collins project at Meadowbrook, Lee, Tullamore as a done deal from day one. This discouraged people from engaging in any discussion – feeling that it was over. This is a typical, this comes from the developer's play book. Hurry and make it sound as if it's a done deal, as the City has done in their press releases. So those of you listening, I hope you do not get discouraged, do not fall essentially for this tactic. You are permitted to engage in this and to participate in the initiative. We need to discuss this 50 Million Dollar important project, heavily subsidized project. If we put this initiative on the ballot, we will have a chance as a community, to discuss whether or not a park at that location is a good idea. We would have a chance to become informed about the issue. I mentioned the heavy subsidy, the financial subsidy that City Council has given the developer, Flaherty & Collins. But the most valuable thing that Council has given them is the opportunity to communicate with them. Council talks to them and not talking to citizens has generated unnecessary conflict and bad feelings and a lack of confidence in our City government. If you want to exercise your democratic right and put this initiative on the ballot, you then will get a chance to vote it up or down. Signing the petition is only to get it on the ballot. You don't have to be in favor of the park. If you want to sign or circulate a petition, please email us at cedarleepark@yahoo.com. Also, we will be at this site this Thursday and Friday from 5:00 to 8:00. Please come out to see us and to sign a petition

or to get a petition to circulate and I leave with the thought, what is green, stays green. Thank you.

Vice President
Seren

Thank you. Is there any other public comment? All right. Thank you very much. Let's move on to the report of the City Manager.

Report of the City Manager

City Manager
Niermann O'Neil

I just have a few brief items to mention. I want to assure the residents of Cleveland Heights that we did everything that we could to get the electrical back on throughout the community. I know it was a very difficult time for some of the neighborhoods. Going forward, we had been posting on Facebook and Twitter, but going forward whenever there is anything in the City such as that situation or anything else, we are going to be creating a banner on the front page of our website. So that anyone who goes online and is looking for information, will immediately see it. So, we hope to have that up within the next one or two weeks. And going forward, that will be a way to communicate in a much better way. Again, I apologize that we didn't get more information out. I mentioned earlier in Committee-of-the-Whole that our directors and our Chiefs are going to be providing much more detailed information in the Council packets. And as you know, all of those memos, all of that information goes on the website. So, we are hoping this will be a way going forward for our residents to be very aware of the depth of what is going on in each of the departments. Finally, I want to mention that we are in the process of going through all of our boards and commissions and looking to see how many of those appointments need to be reappointed. How many vacancies that we have, and hopefully by the middle of September we will be in a good place in order to advertise again on the website of openings in the different boards and commissions. So our goal the next few weeks is to make things a lot more, a lot easier

for our residents and our Council to understand what is going on within City government. Thank you.

Report of the Clerk of Council

Amy Himmeltein notified Council of a supplemental Fiscal Officer's Certificate for the purpose of refunding certain of the City's Severance Ring Road Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2014, dated July 2, 2014

Matter of Record

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 101-2021 (PD), Second Reading. An Ordinance adopting procedures for the transfer of 3424 Beechwood Avenue, received through the City of Cleveland Heights Land Reutilization Program, to FutureHeights, Inc.; declaring the property no longer needed for a public purpose

Introduced by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 108-2021 (PD). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Pass-Through Sale-Purchase Agreement with the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation for the acquisition of certain real property

Introduced by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

RESOLUTION NO. 109-2021 (PD). A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with Amato Homes I, LLC for the redevelopment of vacant residential lots owned or controlled by the City with new single family homes

Introduced by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Nays: None

Legislation Passed

***MOTION** authorizing the City Manager to issue a Request for Qualifications and Preliminary Development Proposals (RFQ/RFP), for the redevelopment and rehabilitation of the property located at 1932 – 1946 S. Taylor Road, known as the “Taylor Tudor Plaza,” for potential residential or mixed-use redevelopment.

Moved by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Motion Passed

***MOTION** to consent to the designation of the City-owned Bradford Cinder Path as a Landmark property pursuant to City of Cleveland Heights Codified Ordinance 143.08(c).

Moved by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Motion Passed

Council Member Ungar made a statement about the murder of London Hill, and expressed shock and outrage over the crime.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 110-2021 (PSH). An Ordinance accepting the material terms of the OneOhio Subdivision Settlement pursuant to the OneOhio Memorandum of Understand and consistent with the terms of the July 21, 2021 National Opioid Settlement Agreement

Introduced by Council Member Cobb, Seconded by Council Member Russell

Council Member Ungar moved to recuse himself due to his involvement in representing a party in the Opioid litigation. There were no objections to the recusal.

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

Legislation Passed

ORDINANCE NO. 111-2021 (PSH). An Ordinance repealing Chapter 150, “Transportation Advisory Committee,” of Part One, Administrative Code, of the Codified

Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights, and adopting a replacement Chapter 150, “Transportation and Environmental Sustainability Committee”

Introduced by Council Vice President Seren, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Cobb stated that he planned on holding a Public Safety and Health Committee meeting on August 26 at 6:00 p.m. Council Member Cobb stated that he was contacted regarding posting meeting notices and a discussion ensued on the same.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 112-2021 (AS) *First Reading*. An Ordinance repealing Section 139.13 “Maternity Leave” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights and enacting a new Section 139.13 “Paid Parental and Childbirth Leave” to provide paid parental leave benefits for full-time, permanent employees

Introduced by Council Vice President Seren,

Legislation Introduced

Council Vice President Seren stated that there will be Administrative Services Committee meeting to discuss the specifics of this policy change to take a look at the historical use of our maternity leave and FMLA leave for the purposes of welcoming a new child into a family. Then we will be looking at the levels, the costs, and the structure needed to implement such policy change.

Council Member Hart stated that the legislation covers both male employees and female employees for parental leave.

Council Vice President Seren stated that he would like to propose that creation of a system of email notification for meeting postings.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council Member Russell stated that she had no report or ordinance. Council Member Russell expressed her condolences to the family of the 13-year-old who was killed. Council Member Russell made a statement about posting notices and mentioned that she will be in and out of town to take care of her pregnant daughter who lives in Atlanta.

Council Vice President Seren stated that Ordinance No. 111-2021 was not written as an emergency piece of legislation and moved to reconsider Ordinance No. 111-2021 so that they could suspend the rules in order to dispense with the additional readings that are required under the rules and allow the legislation to become immediately effective. Council Member Hart seconded the motion.

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

Motion Passed

Council Vice President Seren moved to move to suspend the rules to allow for the immediate adoption on first reading of Ordinance No. 111-2021. Council Member Hart seconded the motion.

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

Motion Passed

Council Vice President Seren moved to approve Ordinance No. 111-2021 based on the foregoing. Council Member Hart seconded the motion.

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

Motion Passed

FINANCE COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 113-2021 (F). An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 127-2020 (F) and subsequent amending ordinances, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021

Introduced by Council Member Hart, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

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

Legislation Passed

ORDINANCE NO. 114-2021 (F) *First Reading*. An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$1,725,000 for the

purpose of refunding for debt charges savings certain of the City's outstanding Severance Ring Road Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2014, dated July 2, 2014

Introduced by Council Member Hart

Legislation Introduced

Council Member Hart made a statement about London Hill, including expressing condolences.

Council Member Hart discussed retaining experts to advise on Horseshoe Lake. Council Member Hart also commented on the meeting postings.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 96-2021 (MS), *Second Reading*. A Resolution adopting and supporting the ideals, principles, and concepts of Vision Zero for the City of Cleveland Heights, and affirming that the acceptable number of annual traffic deaths is zero

Introduced by Council Member Dunbar, Seconded by Council Member Hart

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

Legislation Passed

Council Member Dunbar made a statement about the old dairy building.

Council President's Report

Council Vice President Seren stated he would be making the Council President's report in the absence of the Council President and as the Council Vice President. Council Vice President Seren made a statement about London Hill, expressing condolences and heartfelt sympathy. Council Vice President Seren turned the floor over to Council Member Dunbar.

Council Member Dunbar stated that at the end of January 2020, she was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Council Member Dunbar stated she has been trying to understand the disease and how best to cope with it. Council Member Dunbar stated that she has no family in the Cleveland area but her older son and daughter-in-law live in Hanover, New Hampshire and that she should be moving there by the beginning of October. Council Member Dunbar made further statements regarding her time on Council.

A discussion ensued regarding Council Member Dunbar's impending resignation. All members of Council spoke regarding Council Member Dunbar's impact on the City and her legacy and presence on Council and what it meant to them. City Manager Susanna Niermann O' Neil also made a statement on the same.

***MOTION** to approve the resignation of Council Member Mary Dunbar.

Moved by Council Member Seren, Seconded by Council Member Ungar

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

Motion Passed

Respectfully submitted,

Jason S. Stein
President of Council

Amy Himmlein
Clerk of Council