



November 18, 2024
Regular Meeting
7:30 PM

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

MEETING MINUTES

- 1) **Meeting called to order by Council President**
8:00 P.M.
- 2) **Roll Call of Council Members**
Present: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
Excused: None
Also Present: Mayor Seren, Administrator Williams, Director Hanna, Clerk Balester, Director Gonzalez
- 3) **Excuse absent members**
- 4) **Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)**
Motion to amend agenda to add RES 227-2024 to *First Readings* -
Consideration of Adoption Requested: Jim Petras
Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

MOTION PASSED

- 5) **Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)**
a. September 16, 2024

APPROVED

- 6) **Happy 5k/10k Presentation**

7) Western Reserve Land Conservancy Presentation

8) Communications from the Mayor

- Sealed bids were received Nov 15, 2024 for project #24-12 – CH30 SSO Control. Two companies
- Request permission to bid Project #24-19 – East Fairfax Water Main Replacement Project
- **Motion to authorize permission to bid project #24-12:** Jim Petras
Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

MOTION PASSED

- Briefly spoke about the recently published Climate Action and Resiliency Plan which can be found on the city's website.
- Announced that the City is the recipient of an \$800,000 grant from USDOT, requiring a \$200,000 match from the City, for the Safe Streets For All program that will make our roads safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. He anticipates the plan being completed soon.
- There were 2 incidents of death by suicide in our community over the weekend. He encouraged people to check in with their people; life is not easy and deaths of despair can be preventable. Call 988, the Suicide Prevention Hotline if you need to talk. You can also chat with somebody online at chat988hotline.org

9) City Administrator's Report

- In his last meeting with the Council he offered his gratitude for serving this great city. He is confident with collaboration between the Administration and City Council the City can reach its full potential. He has great expectations for where this City can go.

10) Departmental Report(s)

- The new Director of Parks and Recreation, Andres Gonzalez, introduced himself to Council and the residents. He is looking forward to working with the great staff in place and to hit the ground running.

11) Report of the Clerk of Council

12) Public Comment - Legislative Agenda Items only

(Note: Persons wishing to speak must register in advance. A 3-minute time limit applies. Council President reserves the right to reduce time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda).

Speakers

Name	Resident/Board Member/Other	Topic
Drew Herzig	Resident	Legislation for transgender day of remembrance

13) Public Comment - General

(Note: Persons wishing to speak must register in advance. A 3-minute time limit applies. Council President reserves the right to reduce time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda).

Speakers

Name	Resident/Board Member/Other	Topic
Arthur Blakey II	Resident	Christian Thomas' death
Bill Swain	Other	Christian Thomas' death
Sara Thomas-Peterson	Resident	Police oversight; Christian Thomas' death
Chalana Freed	Other	Community safety- Youth Violence Prevention Program
Mike Bier	Resident	Western Reserve Land Conservancy Housing Assessment
Chris Brace	Resident	Traffic calming budget
Mary Kelsey	Resident	Climate Action and Resilience Plan

14) LEGISLATION

Note: The title for each piece of legislation contains a parenthetical reference to the Council Committee within which the subject matter of the legislation falls. Council Committees are abbreviated as follows: (AS)-Administrative Services; (COTW)-Committee of the Whole; (CRR)-Community Relations and Recreation; (F)-Finance; (HB)-Housing and Building; (MSES)-Municipal Services and Environmental Sustainability; (PD)-Planning and Development; (PSH)-Public Safety and Health. See Resolution 97-2022 for a list of Council Committee subject matter areas.

a. First Readings – Consideration of Adoption Requested

RESOLUTION NO. 212-2024(HB): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with A & J Cement Contractors, Inc. for implementation of the Concrete Driveways, Aprons, Sidewalks & Pathways Program; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Jim Petras

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 213-2024(HB): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Romanin Concrete, Inc. for implementation of the Concrete Driveways, Aprons, Sidewalks & Pathways Program; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 214-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing an agreement with Lavery Automotive Sales & Service, LLC for the purchase of two (2) Chevy Bolt EV's; waiving competitive bidding; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 215-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with GPD Group for engineering services associated with the replacement of the existing sanitary sewer along Lamberton Rd. from Scarborough Rd. to Fairmount Blvd. within the City in order to control SSO CH50; providing compensation therefor; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Jim Petras

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 216-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Wade Trim, Inc., for construction administration and resident observation services relating to the Hampshire SSO Control Project; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 217-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Wade Trim, Inc., for construction administration and resident observation services relating to the Yellowstone Road Storm Sewer, Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement Project; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida

Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 218-2024(F): First Reading. An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 198-2023, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, repeal the prior version of Ordinance No. 198-2023; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson
Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 219-2024(CRR): First Reading As Amended 11.18.2024. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Frank Novak & Sons to furnish the labor, material, and equipment to perform the sandblasting, painting, and related services to repair the Cumberland pool; and declaring the necessity that this legislation be effective immediately as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Jim Petras

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 220-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a partnership agreement with Friends of Mendelsohn to participate in the Environmental Protection Agency Community Change Grant program to fund projects on the former Park Synagogue campus and elsewhere in the City; and declaring an emergency.

Introduced by Mayor Seren
Move for Adoption

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 221-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter agreements with various professional audio, visual, and lighting service and equipment providers and for the professional services and equipment to upgrade Cain Park's production capabilities in accordance with Ordinance No. 179-2023; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Jim Petras

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 222-2024(PD): First Reading. An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to solicit statements of qualifications from design-build firms for the Cain Park Restrooms Renovation Project; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 227-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing an amendment to the contract with Tanya R. Richardson for personal training services; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

b. First Readings Only

ORDINANCE NO. 223-2024(PD): First Reading. An Ordinance declaring the improvements to certain real property within the City to be a public purpose; describing the public improvements to be made to directly benefit such parcels; exempting such improvements from ad valorem real property taxation; requiring the owner of the improvements to make service payments in lieu of ad valorem real property taxes, and establishing a municipal public improvement tax increment equivalent fund for the deposit of the service payments in lieu of ad valorem property taxes, all pursuant to Sections 5709.40, 5709.42 AND 5709.43 of the Ohio Revised Code; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

READ INTO THE RECORD

RESOLUTION NO. 226-2024(COTW): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing an expanded scope of work for the grant to Heights Arts Collaborative, Inc. ("Heights Arts") through Ordinance No. 179-2023; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda

READ INTO THE RECORD

c. Consent Agenda

Motion to suspend rules: Gail Larson

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Yes: Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida

Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 224-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing December, 2024 as *Universal Month for Human Rights* and December 10, 2024 as *Human Rights Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Vice President Russell

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 225-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing November 20, 2024 as *Transgender Day of Remembrance* in the City of Cleveland Heights; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Legislation passed on consent agenda

15) Committee Reports

- **Finance:** Overview of Finance Committee meeting fond Nov. 4, 2024
- **MSES:** Overview of MSES Committee meeting on Nov 18, 2024
- **HB:** Overview of HB Committee meeting on Nov. 18, 2024
- **PD:** Overview of the public hearing for the dog park; gave a brief update on projects she is working on

16) Old Business

17) New Business

18) Council Member Comments

(Note: Council comments should directly relate to the business of the City of Cleveland Heights, rather than personal reflection or commentary. A maximum 3-minute time limit applies, but the Council President may reduce time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda, the time of evening, or other similar factors.)

- **Russell:** Expressed how hard it is not to be able to respond to public comments in some cases. However, as legislators, they are not part of the administration and therefore do not have all the information required to give a response.

19) Council President's Report

- Budget hearings are this Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday starting at 10am

20) Adjournment

End: 9:21 P.M.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: DECEMBER 2, 2024

APPROVED: January 21, 2025



Tony Cuda
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council