



February 18, 2025
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 Vice President

Start: 7:46 pm

2) Roll Call of Council Members

Present: Craig Cobb, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

Excused: Tony Cuda

Also present: Mayor Seren, Director Hanna, Clerk Balester

3) Excuse absent members

- President Tony Cuda is excused

4) Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)

Motion to amend agenda to include a second reading of 011-2025: Gail Larson

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

5) Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)

- a. December 16, 2024

APPROVED

6) Student Update on CHUH School District Activities

Chelsea Gipson

- Update on CHUH activities and announcement of upcoming events

7) Communications from the Mayor

- He clarified his position and his recollection of the budget process at the end of 2024. Gave some additional information regarding the amended appropriation ordinance before the council tonight which include all the capital requests that the administration is making for 2025.

8) City Administrator's Report

- None

9) Departmental Report(s)

- Update from Assistant Director Brian Anderson regarding the parking garage and general parking situation at the Cedar-Lee business district after the fire at the Marquee development. The investigation is ongoing but they are making progress. The city is looking into solutions in the meantime, such as boarding up the portion of the garage exposed to the fire-damaged building to make the parking area safe.

10) Report of the Clerk of Council

- None

11) Public Comment - Legislative Agenda Items only

(Note: Persons wishing to speak must register in advance. A 3-minute time limit applies. If there are more than 15 speakers, the time will be automatically reduced to 2-minutes. Council President reserves the right to reduce the time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda).

Speakers

Name	Resident/Board Member/Other	Topic
Michael Bending	Resident	In favor of ORD 021-2025
Pat Dillard	Resident	In favor of ORD 021-2025
CJ Nash	Resident	In favor of ORD 021-2025
Melody Joy Hart	Resident	In favor of ORD 021-2025

12) Public Comment - General

(Note: Persons wishing to speak must register in advance. A 3-minute time limit applies. If there are more than 15 speakers, the time will be automatically reduced to 2-minutes. Council President reserves the right to reduce the time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda).

Speakers

Name	Resident/Board Member/Other	Topic
Jeffrey Gifford	Resident	Lifeguards
Quintin & Amanda Jones	Other	Cedar-Lee Parking Garage
Jack Valancy	Resident	Coventry PEACE Park

13) 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

ORDINANCE NO. 024-2025(COTW): First Reading. An Ordinance establishing July 2025 as a month of recess for City Council and canceling the July 7, 2025 and July 21, 2025 regular council meetings of the City Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda and Vice President Russell

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson

Seconded: Jim Petras

Yes: Craig Cobb, Gail Larson, Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: Anthony Mattox Jr.

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 025-2025(PSH): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with TAC Computer, Inc., to provide CAD, OIBRS interfacing, and e-parking citation software and support for the Department of Public Safety, Division of Police; 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: Gail Larson

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 026-2025(AS): First Reading. A Resolution reappointing Harmony Cross, Mara Layne Schoch, and Saralene Oakley Toombs as members of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the City of Cleveland Heights, OH; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Councilmember Cobb

Motion to adopt: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Jim Petras

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

b. First Readings Only

ORDINANCE NO. 023-2025(AS): First Reading. An Ordinance establishing salary schedules, position classifications, and other compensation and benefits for officers and employees of the City; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

READ INTO THE RECORD

ORDINANCE NO. 027-2025(MSES): First Reading. An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with, and requesting the cooperation of, the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio, ("COUNTY") in the matter of the Resurfacing of Euclid Heights Boulevard in the City of Cleveland Heights ("MUNICIPALITY"); and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

READ INTO THE RECORD

c. **Second Readings**

ORDINANCE NO. 021-2025(PD): Second Reading. An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a real estate purchase agreement for the sale of certain real property located consisting of approximately 1.049 acres of vacant land on Lancashire Road, and identified as Permanent Parcels Nos. 685-110-24 and 685-110-04; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Jim Petras

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 022-2025(MSES): Second Reading. An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to take all actions necessary to apply for and accept one or more Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council 2025 Energized Community Grants; 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, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Jim Posch

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 010-2025(PD): Second Reading. An Ordinance introducing amendments to various Sections of Part Eleven, Zoning Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights to update the City's regulations regarding enclosed private parking garage regulations, driveway widths, accessory parking, fences, frontages and yards, sidewalks/shared-use paths, landscaping requirements, non-conformities, yard requirements in residential districts, PRD District, zoning complaints, role of the Zoning Administrator, inclusive language, and general changes to ensure consistency within the Zoning Code, and transmitting the same to the Planning Commission.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 011-2025(F): *Second Reading.* An Ordinance making appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025; repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 265-2024; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to amend by substituting exhibit 1: Gail Larson

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

NO VOTE

d. *Consent Agenda*

Motion to suspend rules: Gail Larson

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 028-2025(CRR): *First Reading.* A Resolution recognizing March 2025 as *Women's History Month* and March 8, 2025 as *International Women's Day*; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 029-2025(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing March 2025 as *Red Cross Month* in the City of Cleveland Heights; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by All City Council Members

Passed on consent agenda

14) Committee Reports

a. Administrative Services (Cobb)

- No report

b. Community Relations and Recreation (Mattox)

- Black History Month celebration is this Saturday, February 22nd
- Both Focus Magazine and the City Calendar for 2025 have been mailed out to residents

c. Finance Committee (Larson)

- Spoke about the budget process and the outstanding items that the council previously requested from the Mayor.

d. Housing and Building Committee (Petrus)

- Update from meeting on February 11, 2025.

e. Municipal Services and Environmental Sustainability Committee (Larson)

- The next committee meeting is February 20, 2025 at 5pm

f. Planning and Development Committee (Russell)

- The next Planning and Development Committee will be on February 26 at 10:30 am
- The next committee meeting with Noble Merchants will be on March 4 at 10:30am
- There will be a Merchant Mixer will be on Monday, February 24th at 5

pm at Urban Winery.

g. Public Safety and Health Committee (Posch)

- The next PSH Committee meeting is Monday, February 24th at 5pm
- Tentatively planning a public hearing Tuesday March 18 at 6pm

15) Old Business

- None

16) New Business

- Petras would like to work on legislation to create a resident committee for business owners to connect with the council.
- Russell asked about outstanding public records requests.
- Russell will be submitting revised legislation regarding lifeguards at the high school pool.

17) 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.)

- **Mattox:** Gave a shout-out to City staff and the public works department for their snow removal effort after the recent winter storm. Also thanked all the people involved in keeping the kids safe at the high school during the beginning and end of the day, especially while Cedar Rd. is closed.

18) Council President's Report

- Council President and Vice President will be hosting a community meeting on February 26 at 6 pm at the Community Center. The post office has a shortage of mail carriers, and Cleveland Heights will be losing 6 routes.

19) Adjournment

End: 9:16 pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MARCH 3, 2025

MINUTES APPROVED: APRIL 21, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Cuda'.

Tony Cuda
President of Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Addie Balester'.

Addie Balester
Clerk of Council