



October 20, 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 President

Start: 7:42 PM

2) Roll Call of Council Members

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

Excused: Jim Posch

Also Present: Mayor Cuda, Director Hanna, Clerk Balester

3) Excuse absent members

- None

4) Introduction of New Councilmember

- President Larson introduced the newly appointed Councilmember, Zenobia Sheets, who was sworn in this evening at 5:30pm by Representative Juanita Brent

5) Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)

- None

6) Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)

- a. August 4, 2025

APPROVED

b. August 18, 2025

APPROVED

7) Teen Poets

- Teen poet from Lake Erie Ink read a poem about the Girl with the Pearl Earring painting by Vermeer.

8) Severance Center Presentation (15 min)

- Ryan Porter from MPACT gave an updated timeline for the submission of the proposed rezoning for Severance Town Center

9) Communications from the Mayor

- Met with NEORSD and the Mayor of Shaker Heights to discuss the situation at Lower Lake. There are three alternatives that the district is looking at; the one he believes has the most discussion is the option that has some sort of water feature. The district is willing to do a feasibility study on a water feature that could have a stormwater management capability that would allow for the district to pay for it. There will be three meetings with Council, with ODNR, the Metroparks, and NEORSD.
- Announced that our Finance Director, Director Hairston, will be resigning to take a position closer to home. Expressed his appreciation for the work he has done while with the City.
- The Mayor and the Finance department have been working hard and will have a budget prepared for council for review by the Nov. 1 deadline.
- Announced an agreement that is before council for a vote tonight, that will allow for CH residents to use the CHUH School District high school pool
- Introduced Metro Health's CEO, Dr. Alexander who gave Council an update on the fate of the behavioral health clinic at the Cleveland Heights medical center. Effective Dec. 31, the psych emergency department will close, but the medical emergency department will remain open. The behavioral health hospital will remain open. Metro Health's commitment to CH is unwavering, and they are excited and grateful to partner with the City and to be an anchor for the redevelopment of Severance Town Center.

10) City Administrator's Report

- The Assistant Director of Finance, Rachun Caldwell, will be stepping into the role of Finance Director in the interim until a new Director can be found.
- There will be ALICE training (major incident training/emergency operations training) at City Hall which will be closed for 2 hrs at that time.

- Climate Action Day(s), Oct 23 from 6pm at the Lee Rd. Library, and Oct 24 from 1-3pm at City Hall.

11) Departmental Report(s)

- None

12) Report of the Clerk of Council

- None

13) 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
Alecia Vanier	Resident	RES 214-2025: NABA Agreement
Gavin Venier	Resident	RES 214-2025: NABA Agreement
Franklin Myles	Resident	RES 214-2025: NABA Agreement
Anntoinette Muhammad	Resident	RES 214-2025: NABA Agreement
Jacquelyn Remmer	Resident	RES 214-2025: NABA Agreement
Adam Dew	Resident	RES 213-2025: Heights High School Pool
Jose Quiles	Resident	RES 214-2025: NABA Agreement

14) 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

Resident	Resident/Board Member/Other	Topic
Amber Gibbs	Other	Cuyahoga Board of DD

		Services for Cleveland Heights Residents
Douglas Whipple	Resident	Use of emergency measures
Patricia Frost Brooks	Resident	Blanche Ave. Extension Project
Sandra Ware	Resident	Blanche Ave. Extension Project
Lawrence Bradley	Resident	Blanche Ave. Extension Project
Barbara Sosnowski	Resident	Budget
Sheila Keller	Resident	Immigrant rights
Karly Whitaker	Resident	Immigrant rights
Sophie Hall	Resident	Immigrant rights
Abigail Staudt	Other	National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week and Launch of the Cleveland Heights Rent Escrow Project
Mike Corradini	Resident	Immigrant rights
Gus Manley	Resident	Immigrant rights
Jamie Hickner	Resident	Immigrant rights
Quinton Yoder	Resident	Immigrant rights
Edgar Mitchell	Resident	Tree root issues

15) **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. 208-2025(F): First Reading. An Ordinance to amend certain subparagraphs of Ordinance No. 011-2025, relating to appropriations and other expenditures of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Jim Petras

Yes: Craig Cobb, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Zenobia Sheets
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 209-2025(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Vasco Sports Contractors for the Cain Park Tennis Court Resurfacing Project; waiving competitive bidding; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Craig Cobb

Yes: Craig Cobb, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Zenobia Sheets
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 210-2025(AS): First Reading. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 023-2025, "An Ordinance establishing salary schedules, position classifications, and other compensation, and benefits for officers and employees of the City," to rename the position of "Director-Employee Resources" as "Director-Human Resources" and to change "Assistant Director-Employee Resources" to "Assistant Director-Human Resources"; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Craig Cobb

Yes: Craig Cobb, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell, Jim Petras, Zenobia Sheets
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 211-2025(PSH): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2026 Ford F-250 Fire Command Vehicle and one (1) 2026 Ford Hybrid Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle from Ken Ganley Ford, Inc.; waiving competitive bidding; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 212-2025(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) 2026 Ford Transit Cargo 250 Vans from Classic Ford of Madison for the Parks and Recreation Department; waiving competitive bidding; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 213-2025(CRR): First Reading (As Amended 10.20.2025). A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District Board of Education and the City of University Heights for access to the swimming pool located at the CH-UH High School building and providing terms and conditions applicable to such use; and declaring an emergency.

Introduced by Council Vice President Russell, Council President Larson, Councilmembers Cobb, Mattox, Petras, and Posch, and Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Davida Russell

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 217-2025(CRR): First Reading. An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with California Skateparks for the Cain Park Skatepark Renovation Project; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Zenobia Sheets

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

No: None

b. LEGISLATION PASSED

c. First Readings Only

RESOLUTION NO. 214-2025(PD): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing a grant agreement with the Noble Area Business Association; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Vice President Russell

READ INTO THE RECORD

d. Consent Agenda

Motion to suspend rules: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Davida Russell

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Jim Petras

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 215-2025(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing October 24, 2025 as *Climate Action Day* in the City of Cleveland Heights; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Cuda

Passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 216-2025(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution declaring November 29, 2025 *Small Business Saturday*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by All City Councilmembers and Mayor Cuda

Passed on consent agenda

16) Committee Reports

- **CRR:** There are some scheduling issues with tomorrow's meeting so it will be canceled.
- **PD:** Let the Taylor Merchants know that she was able to get \$10k from the County to start the Taylor Merchants Association.
- **MSES:** Gave an update from Oct 13 Committee Meeting. The next meeting is Nov. 18.

17) Old Business

- None

18) New Business

- None

19) 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:** Welcomed new Councilmember Sheets.
- **Russell:** Encouraged residents to go to the new Caledonia playground.

20) Council President's Report

- Council leadership will meet to discuss Committee assignments for Councilmember Sheets.
- Council has a meeting on Oct 27 at 6pm to discuss the proposed charter amendments.

21) Adjournment

End: 9:25pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: NOVEMBER 3, 2025

MINUTES APPROVED: February 02, 2026



Tony Cuda
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council