



June 22, 2023
Special Meeting
7:00 PM

Cleveland Heights City Hall
Executive Conference Room
40 Severance Cir
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

AGENDA - CLEVELAND HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- 1) **Meeting called to order by Council President**
Start: 7:02pm
- 2) **Roll Call of Council Members**
Present: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell
Excused: None
Absent: None
- 3) **Excuse absent members**
None
- 4) **Executive Session**
 - a. *To consider the compensation of a public employee(s).*
 - b. *To consider the appointment of a public official(s).*
- 5) **Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)**
- 6) **Communications from the Mayor**

To notify Council that sealed bids were received on June 2nd for project #23-04 2023 Citywide Catch Basin Repair Project. Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. of Warrensville Heights, Ohio's bid of \$655,648.56 has been found to be the lowest and best responsible bid.

FOR THE RECORD

- 7) **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. 114-2023(AS): First Reading. A Resolution confirming the Mayor's nomination and appointing Stephanie Morris as a member of the 2023 Charter Review Commission of the City of Cleveland Heights; 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: Janine Boyd

Discussion:

Councilwoman Russell will continue to vote "no" on all of the CRC nominations/appointments as she feels there is not equal representation.

Mayor Seren believes diversity of all kinds are all things we in Cleveland Heights embrace, and there is a good point to be made in pursuing diverse representation and acceptance of diverse points of view. Focusing heavily on recruitment of a wide variety of people for future appointments like this would be a positive step in the right direction to avoid this situation in the future.

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr.

No: Davida Russell

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 115-2023(AS): First Reading. A Resolution confirming the Mayor's nomination and appointing Jonathan Ciesla as a member of the 2023 Charter Review Commission of the City of Cleveland Heights; 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: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson,

Anthony Mattox Jr.
No: Davida Russell

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2023(AS): First Reading. A Resolution appointing Graham Ball as a member of the 2023 Charter Review Commission of the City of Cleveland Heights; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Vice President Cobb

Discussion:

Councilwoman Larson agrees with her colleague that diversity is very important, however, she will be voting yes on the appointment of Graham Ball.

Councilman Cuda spoke to the process Council went through, and the struggles they faced. Even though the process didn't meet all of his standards, the needs to finish the process outweighs the problems he has had with it, and therefore he will be supporting the Mayor's nominations and Council's final appointment tonight.

President Hart commended all of Council for working through compromises to get this done, and also agrees that we need to recruit for diversity in the future.

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

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr.
No: Davida Russell

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 117-2023(AS): First Reading. A Resolution extending the deadline for the Charter Review Commission to provide a report and recommendations to Council, until December 31, 2023; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Vice President Cobb

Motion to amend legislation to January 31, 2024: Craig Cobb
Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Discussion:

Councilman Cuda pointed out that Council can always extend the date again.

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell

No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

*President Hart wanted to briefly discuss whether Council should appoint a facilitator for the Charter Review Commission; proposed that the Law Director select a facilitator and get them hired. General discussion regarding a facilitator and what they would assist the CRC with followed her proposal. There were some concerns with who the facilitator would be and concerns regarding the previous facilitator. The Law Director pointed out some issues regarding hiring a facilitator (whether legislation would be required), and the Mayor expressed in his opinion, that the CRC might be better served without a facilitator and recommended that the Council Clerk might be able to facilitate the organizational meeting where the CRC would select a Chair and Vice Chair. Once organized, they could determine for themselves if a facilitator is required. General discussion on how Council should or should not instruct the Commission as to what they should be reviewing, and whether or not it is appropriate for Councilmembers to attend meetings, where Councilman Mattox felt it wouldn't be appropriate for Council members to attend at least the first few meetings, allowing the Commission to remain autonomous.

b. Second Readings

RESOLUTION NO. 111-2023(PD): Second Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to commit \$1,500,000.00 of the City's ARPA funds for the Cain Park Village Stramp Project, and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Janine Boyd

Discussion:

Councilwoman Russell is uncomfortable supporting this legislation; she supports ADA compliance in Cain Park, but not with ARPA funds as she would like to respond to requests from non-profits and support for businesses among other things first.

Councilwoman Larson asked Director Unetic some questions regarding the

remaining ARPA funds and he went over what spending Council has already approved (regarding ARPA funds), what has been presented (but not approved) and what is remaining.

The Mayor spoke specifically to the Stramp Project as part of the larger conversation of the Taylor-Tudor development and mentioned there are certain deadlines that need to be made which is why this legislation is before Council now. Councilman Cobb commented that while the timing might not be great, the Mayor had presented a plan to spend \$1.5 million on Cain Park back in February as part of the larger Taylor-Tudor project, and that Council will have a chance in the next couple of months to allocate the rest of the available ARPA funds.

Councilwoman Russell reiterated her concerns with where and how ARPA money is going to be allocated and that Council needs to make sure that we are helping the residents who really need it.

Vice President Cobb says he doesn't want to hold this Stramp project hostage simply because Council has been slow to allocate ARPA dollars prior to now. Allocating ARPA money is entirely Council's responsibility.

Councilman Mattox believes that all the suggestions from the Mayor and from this Council on how to spend ARPA money reflects that we are listening to the community and their needs.

Councilwoman Boyd is in favor of this legislation because there is a small window to take advantage of State funding which typically have strict deadlines and passing this now would allow for the City and the developers to meet these deadlines.

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson, Anthony Mattox Jr.

No: Tony Cuda, Davida Russell

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 104-2023(PSH), *Second Reading*. An Ordinance amending Section 1351.34 "Registration of Dwelling Structure By Out-of-County Owners" of Chapter 1351 "Basic Standards for Residential Occupancy" and Section 1369.16 "Registration of Business Structures by Out-of-County Owners" of Chapter 1369 "Basic Standards for Business Occupancy" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights.

Motion to amend by substitution: Janine Boyd

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson,
Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell
No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Janine Boyd

Yes: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Melody Joy Hart, Gail Larson,
Anthony Mattox Jr., Davida Russell
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

Council commenced discussion on upcoming meeting dates to discuss ARPA funds.

8) Adjournment
End: 9:21pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: AUGUST 7, 2023

APPROVED: 9/5/2023



Melody Joy Hart
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council