



February 20, 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

Start: 7:52 pm

2) Roll Call of Council Members

Present: Jim Petras, Gail Larson, Tony Cuda, Craig Cobb, Davida Russell, Janine Boyd, Anthony Mattox Jr.

Excused: None

Absent: None

3) Excuse absent members

4) Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)

Motion to amend agenda and move ORD 020-2024 to First Readings

Consideration of Adoption Requested: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Gail Larson

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

5) Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)

a. January 16, 2024

APPROVED

6) Communications from the Mayor

Notified by NOACA that two locations within the city have been selected as locations for DC fast charger ports. Heights Libraries Lee Road branch will have 4 ports and City Hall will have 4 ports.

Requested an amendment to the agenda to move the vote for Resolution 193-2023 to before public comments to respect the time constraints and family obligations of the city staff that need to go home.

Motion to move Res. 193-2023 to the front of the agenda: Davida Russell
Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

7) City Administrator's Report

Nothing to report

8) City Departmental Report(s)

Nothing to report

9) Report of the Clerk of Council

Nothing to report

10) LEGISLATION

Fourth Readings

RESOLUTION NO. 193-2023(PD): Fourth Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a development agreement with WXZ CPV LLC, concerning the redevelopment of the Taylor-Tudor buildings; 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: President Cuda says this project is a big transformative project and he is looking forward to the improvement on Taylor Rd.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

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

Sara Olson	Citizen	Concerned with the use of surveillance cameras
Adam Dew	Citizen	Is in favor of lifeguard funding
Jeffrey Gifford	Citizen	In favor of CHUH pool access to community
Scott Wachter	Citizen	In favor of CHHS indoor pool access and lifeguards
Astrid Burkle	Citizen	RES 019-2024; in support of transgender rights
Drew Herzig	Citizen	RES 019-2024; thanked Council for this resolution in support of transgender rights
Nancy Ballou	Citizen	In favor of CHHS indoor pool access
CJ Nash	Citizen	Supports street cameras in Cleveland Heights
Juanita Brent	Citizen	RES 019-2024; thanked Council for this resolution in support of transgender rights
Joanne Siegel	Citizen	In favor of CHHS indoor pool access for residents and lifeguards
Diane Hallum	Citizen	RES 016-2024; Concerned with safety
Tonya Horn	Citizen	RES 016-2024; Concerned with safety,

		wants more action from the City
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12) 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

Maurice Rhodes	Citizen	Health issues in his building related to rat/mice infestation; also wants to see black history flag at city hall
Melody Joy Hart	Citizen	Concerned about APRA money distribution and Gaza resolution
James Williams	Citizen	Sang a song
Susan Ford	Citizen	Cumberland opening and construction deadlines
Alan Federman	Citizen	Infrastructure maintenance/road maintenance issues (Euclid Heights Blvd and Lennox Rd.)
Kim Ulatowski	Citizen	Cumberland pool construction schedule
Jack Slater	Citizen	Called for a ceasefire resolution
Spencer Everhart	Citizen	Called for a ceasefire resolution
Matthew Habermusch	Citizen	Called for a ceasefire resolution
Tanmay Shah	Citizen	Called for a ceasefire resolution
Chance Zurub	Citizen	Called for a ceasefire resolution
Joanne Siegel	Citizen	Not in favor of a ceasefire resolution
Sara Olson		Called for a ceasefire resolution

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

RESOLUTION NO. 016-2024(PSH): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing a renewal of any agreement with Flock Group, Inc. for a subscription for a specialized road surveillance network; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson

Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 017-2024(PSH): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with All City Management Services, Inc. for crossing guard services; providing compensation therefor; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Jim Petras

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 018-2024(AS): First Reading. A Resolution reappointing Steve Cummings and Jody Taslitz as members of the Commission on Aging 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: Gail Larson

Seconded: Davida Russell

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 019-2024(COTW): First Reading. A Resolution opposing Ohio House Bill 68 (“HB 68”), which restricts gender-affirming healthcare and sports participation for transgender youth, undermining the judgement of medical professionals, the recommendations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, and the intuition of the families who support transgender youth.

Introduced by Councilmember Petras

Motion to adopt: Jim Petras

Seconded: Davida Russell

Discussion: Councilmember Petras urges his colleagues to pass this piece of legislation. He worked with a council member in Lakewood who drafted this piece of legislation. Thanked Drew Herzig and Representative Brent who came tonight to speak in support of this piece of legislation. Most importantly, he thanked Astrid Burkle and her family for being here to speak in support of this resolution; they shared their story with the media on how HB 68 would affect their family.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 025-2024(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; repealing 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: Janine Boyd

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 020-2024(CRR): First Reading. An Ordinance authorizing funding for lifeguard positions for community swim events at the Cleveland Heights University Heights High School Pool.

Introduced by Vice President Russell

Motion to amend by substitution: Jim Petras

Seconded: Gail Larson

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Motion to amend by substitution to include emergency language: Jim Petras

Seconded: Gail Larson

Discussion:

Yes: Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Davida Russell, Jim Petras

No: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Anthony Mattox Jr.

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Jim Petras

Seconded: Gail Larson

Discussion:

Yes: Tony Cuda, Gail Larson, Davida Russell, Jim Petras

No: Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Anthony Mattox Jr.

LEGISLATION PASSED (WITHOUT EMERGENCY LANGUAGE)

b. First Readings Only

RESOLUTION NO. 021-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution supporting and authorizing the Mayor to submit an application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Clean Ohio Trails Fund Program for a grant under the program, and to accept funding if awarded; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

READ INTO THE RECORD

ORDINANCE NO. 026-2024(AS): First Reading. An Ordinance to establish a living wage for employees of the city of Cleveland Heights in order to promote the economic well-being of its workforce, reduce income inequality,

and ensure that city employees can meet their basic needs.

Introduced by Vice President Russell

READ INTO THE RECORD
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

c. Second Readings

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2023(PD): Second Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit the Amended Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement application and plan for the year beginning January 1, 2019.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson

Seconded: Jim Petras

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 015-2024(PD): Second Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement application for the year beginning January 1, 2024.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Jim Petras

Discussion: Councilmember Larson would like to acknowledge the amount of work that goes into producing the CDBG-requested funding for our community. It takes many hours of interviews to get to this point. President Cuda agrees with his colleague and he thinks the CAC does a great job.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

d. Third Readings

RESOLUTION NO. 190-2023(HB): Third Reading as Amended. An Ordinance adopting and enacting new Chapters 769, *Short-Term Rentals*,

and 161, *Transient Occupancy Tax*.

Introduced by President Cuda

REFERRED TO HOUSING AND BUILDING COMMITTEE

f. Consent Agenda

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson

Seconded: Davida Russell

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt: Davida Russell

Seconded: Jim Petras

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 022-2024(CRR): *First Reading*. A Resolution recognizing March 2024 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 President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Boyd, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

Passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 023-2024(CRR): *First Reading*. A Resolution recognizing March 2024 as *Women's History Month* and March 8, 2024 as *International Women's Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Passed on consent agenda

14) Committee Reports

HB: Review of what happened during the previous HB Committee meeting, including the creation of a Housing survey; the next regularly scheduled HB Committee meeting is Tuesday, March 12 at 5pm, there will also be a special meeting in the next week or two.

MSES: Review of what happened during the previous MSES Committee meeting, including ideas for some legislation in 2024. Applications for TAM and CESC committees are available on the city's website. Please apply online. Next meeting is March 18 at 10am.

AS: The next AS Committee meeting will be Monday, February 26 at 4pm and will review vacancies on our boards and commissions. We will also be discussing the application process generally and if any changes need to be made to the application forms.

15) Old Business

16) New Business

Mattox: Will be submitting several pieces of draft legislation for consideration regarding the Israel/Palestinian conflict. In addition, he has some concerns over council rules that the council is currently considering, specifically to do with conflicts of interests and committee assignments.

Larson: The third annual Women's Day Celebration will be on March 21, at 6:30 pm. Nomination applications will be open soon. Categories are Amazing Women of Cleveland Heights, Outstanding Business Women, and Inspiring Young Women.

Russell: The third pathway to home-ownership seminar will be March 2, 2024 from 12:30pm-3:00pm at Urban City Codes on the corner of Mayfield Rd and Lee Rd. Financial institutions, lenders, and real estate agents will be available to talk.

17) Council President's Report

In recognition of Black History Month, he recommends listening to Miles Davis. Thanked Astrid for coming in to speak with council. Wants to let everybody know that he and Vice President Russell will be meeting with Forest Hill residents on Tuesday, March 5th at Forest Hill Church.

18) Adjournment

End: 9:45 pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MARCH 4, 2024

APPROVED: March 18, 2024



Tony Cuda
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council