



April 1, 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: 7:30pm

2) Roll Call of Council Members

Roll Call

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

Excused: None

Absent: None

3) Excuse absent members

4) Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)

Motion to add RES 052-2024 to first readings for adoption and RES 053-2024 to first readings only: Gail Larson

Seconded: Jim Petras

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

Motion to add councilmember comments to the agenda after new business, where comments are limited to 3 minutes: Jim Petras

Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: 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. March 4, 2024

APPROVED

6) Communications from the Mayor

Requests permission to seek bids for the following projects:

1. Project #24-03 – 2024 Street Resurfacing, ADA Curb Ramp Replacement and Tree Planting Project
2. Project #24-03 – Surrey Parking Garage Rehabilitation Project
3. Project #24-04 – Clarendon Road and Edgerly Road Waterline Replacement and Road Resurfacing Project

Motion to authorize the Mayor to seek bids: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

Announced that last week the Mayor attended a meeting with several neighboring cities and county executive to discuss the roll out of our mental health response program which is an expansion of Shaker Heights' CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Program. It is expanding into Cleveland Heights, University Heights, Richmond Heights, and South Euclid thanks to various funding sources. The expected start date will be around June 1.

The Mayor has been selected along with six other US Mayors have been selected to participate in the Mayors Institute on City Design which is an initiative of the national Endowment for the Arts and the US Conference of Mayors. There is a special session hosted by Mayor Eric Adams of NYC. The Mayor was advised to selected a complex project in the realm of real estate/economic/community development and he chose the Warrensville triangle because it is a very complex set of transactions that will hopefully eventually result in the redevelopment of those parcels.

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) 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

Koby Picker	Citizen	Thanked council for passing a ceasefire resolution regarding the war in Gaza
Graham Ball	Citizen	Thanked council for passing a ceasefire resolution regarding the war in Gaza
Susan Efroymsen	Citizen	Wants Hamas to surrender/call a ceasefire; is not in favor of the resolution council will be voting on tonight
Melissa Wood	Citizen	If council is serious about the earth month resolution they will be voting on tonight, they should consider the impacts that war has on the earth

11) 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

Maurice Rhoades	Citizen	Had a problem with Christ Cultural Church on Easter using a loud speaker that disturbed his own prayers
Bob Berger	Citizen	Grocery store at Cedar-Fairmount; doesn't think a grocery store is right for the market in that location anymore; definitely not Grocery Outlet
Susan Efroymsen	Citizen	Disturbed by what she

		considers antisemitic comments made by councilmember Mattox at a previous COTW meeting
Mike Gaynier	Citizen	Spoke as a planning commissioner regarding public safety on Warrensville Center Rd. after a pedestrian was struck recently; brought up a previous case before the planning commission regarding putting sidewalks in along Warrensville
James Williams	Citizen	Is in favor of a living wage
Lawrence Bradley	Citizen	Construction permits for Blanche/Maple (behind Bainbridge Rd); is concerned regarding the lack of communication regarding potential/upcoming construction in this area
Patricia Frost Brook	Citizen	Construction behind Bainbridge Rd; lack of communication regarding potential/upcoming construction in this area. Wants to know what is happening and if the City has any information and/or can do anything to stop construction
Melissa Wood	Citizen	Is not happy with the piece of legislation council is considering regarding the ceasefire in Gaza; thinks council should do more to condemn Israel's part in the conflict

12) **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. 049-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing April 2024 as *Earth Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Councilmember Larson

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Discussion: Councilmember Larson read one of the whereas statements in the resolution. She felt this resolution was important and it elevates all the events that the administration and the Cleveland Heights Green Team has every April.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 050-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Wade Trim, Inc., for professional engineering services relating to construction administration and resident observation for the Control of Sanitary Sewer Overflow CH-9, CH-32, CH-57, and CH-58 Projects; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Gail Larson

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 052-2024(COTW): First Reading. A Resolution denouncing rising hate and discrimination in Cleveland Heights and around the world and calling for a peaceful solution for Palestinians and Israelis.

Introduced by Councilmember Gail Larson

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Jim Petras

Discussion: Councilmember Larson thanked all the citizens who have come into council meetings to express their feelings on this issue. Council wants everybody to know that hate speech in any form is not acceptable in this city. Councilmember Mattox thanked Councilmember Larson for bringing this piece forward and making the edits she did. He appreciates the work that has been done with this council and that we should continue to have conversations about the impact resolutions like this has in the future. Vice President Russell thanked Councilmember Larson as well for her diligence and for looking at all people and incorporating the AFLCIO language in this version. President Cuda added that he is sorry this resolution took so long but it was difficult. This Council is a diverse group of citizens and have an obligation to make decisions by consensus and that is what we did. He thanked Councilmember Larson for providing her gentle touch to a sensitive issue and her compassion for all.

Motion to suspend rules: Davida Russell

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

b. First Readings Only

RESOLUTION NO. 051-2024(COTW): First Reading. A Resolution supporting U.S. Senate Bill 3681 ("S. 3681"), the Preparing and Retaining All ("PARA") Educators Act.

Introduced by Vice President Russell

READ INTO THE RECORD

RESOLUTION NO. 053-2024(PD): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Strategic Structure Investments LLC for a loan under the City's Storefront Loan Fund Program to help

renovate the storefronts at 2201 North Taylor Road; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

READ INTO THE RECORD

c. Second Readings

RESOLUTION NO. 037-2024(AS): Second Reading. A Resolution appointing Harmony Cross, Mara Schoch, Sam Bivens, and Saralene Oakley Toombs as members of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the City of Cleveland Heights, OH.

Introduced by Councilmember Cobb

Motion to adopt: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Gail Larson

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 038-2024(AS): Second Reading. A Resolution appointing John Talley as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Cleveland Heights, OH.

Introduced by Councilmember Cobb

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 039-2024(AS): Second Reading. A Resolution appointing Elchanan Stern as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Cleveland Heights, OH.

Introduced by Councilmember Cobb

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 040-2024(AS): Second Reading. A Resolution appointing Charlie Mosbrook, Howard Maier, Cole Ware, and Aaron Hughes-Ware as members of the Transportation and Mobility 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: Gail Larson

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 041-2024(AS): Second Reading. A Resolution appointing Catalina Wagers, John Barber, Tami Masuoka, and William Hanavan as members of the Climate and Environmental Sustainability 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: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 042-2024(MSES): Second Reading. A Resolution authorizing participation in the ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program for road salt for the 2024-2025 winter season; 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

Discussion: Councilmember Larson asked that when placing their order, the administration think about the need to find a new location for the salt barn that is currently at the Warrensville Triangle.

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

Russell, Jim Petras
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 043-2024(MSES): Second Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Knowles Municipal Forestry, LLC, to update the street tree inventory system.

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
No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

13) Committee Reports

MSES: The next MSES Meeting is April 15 at 10am. Congratulated those appointed by the council tonight to the TMC and the CESC Committees. April is Earth Month and many events are happening in the city to celebrate and can be found on the city website.

HB: A special meeting is schedule for 10am tomorrow (April 2) to continue to work on the short-term rental legislation. Regular HB Committee meetings are at 5pm on the second Tuesday of the month; the next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday April 9th.

PD: Gave a recap of the most recent PD Committee meeting on march 6, where they discussed having a TAG Group to help PD Committee and Department with strategies. There will be another meeting on April 3rd at 10:30am where they will be discussing council's procedure around development and the legislation on places of worship.

15) Old Business

None

16) New Business

None

14) Council Member Comments

Mattox: Encourages the community to apply for the boards and committees. It is a lot easier to fill these positions when they become available if we have plenty of applicants.

Russell: Thanked the residents of Cleveland Heights for the emails of well-being to her in her time of need concerning her family and her mother's health. Announced that the school employees of CH-UH are "adopting" Oxford Elementary School. There will be a drive for people to donate goods to the school

and the kids who attend, to give 250 students a weekend of good health and love.

17) Council President's Report

Thanked all his fellow council members, the clerk of council, and the law director for their help and time in coming up with a legislative process that the council will follow.

On April 4, ABR will review the TWG/Noble Project, and on April 10, the Planning Commission will review the TWG/Noble Project.

Update on Sal Russo and Grocery Outlet.

Update on Council vacancy applicants and the process moving forward.

ORD 031-2024 referred to PD Committee

18) Adjournment

End: 8:49pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: APRIL 15, 2024

APPROVED: May 6, 2024



Tony Cuda
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council