



**April 15, 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: 7:35pm

2) Roll Call of Council Members

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

Excused: None

Absent: None

3) Excuse absent members

None

4) Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)

Motion to amend the agenda to move RES 063-2024 to First Readings-

Consideration of Adoption Requested: Davida Russell

Seconded: Anthony Mattox Jr.

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

5) Communications from the Mayor

Request Council to authorize an application for a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area ("DORA") for the Cedar-Lee Business District.

The Mayor expressed his congratulations to Detective Russ Topin on his retirement after 39 years on the police force. Also congratulated Dee Marsky of Parks and Recreation on her retirement after 32 years of working in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Read a proclamation and congratulated the Heights High School Indoor Track

Team who won the 2024 State Championships.

6) City Administrator's Report

Nothing to report

7) City Departmental Report(s)

Nothing to report

8) Report of the Clerk of Council

Nothing to report

9) Poet Laureate

Siaara Freeman

Read a poem called "For Each of You" by Audre Lorde and one of her poems... in honor of National Poetry Month.

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.)

None

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

Lou Radivoyevitch	Citizen	Spoke about the application process for the vacant council seat; had some recommendations.
Gordon Oliver	Citizen	Issues with a garbage/dumpster on Woodridge Rd and the lawn behind an apartment garage on Noble not being mowed.

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. 054-2024(COTW): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing and congratulating the Cleveland Heights Lutheran East boys' basketball team for winning their second-straight Division III state championship; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Larson, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Mattox, and Councilmember Petras

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Davida Russell

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 063-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution proclaiming April 28th, 2024, and every April 28th hereafter as *Workers Memorial Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Vice President Russell

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

Discussion: VP Russell made brief comments about this piece of legislation which is to memorialize any worker that has died on the job. There is a celebration every year, and it will be in Cleveland Heights this year.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

b. First Readings Only

RESOLUTION NO. 055-2024(COTW): First Reading. A Resolution supporting U.S. House Bill 82 (H.R. 82), the Social Security Fairness Act, sponsored by Rep. Graves (R-LA-6), the companion bill U.S. Senate (S. 597), sponsored by Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH), which seeks the elimination of the Government Pension Offset ("GPO") and the Windfall Elimination Provision ("WEP").

Introduced by Vice President Russell

READ INTO THE RECORD

c. Second Readings

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

Introduced by Vice President Russell

Motion to adopt: Gail Larson

Seconded: Davida Russell

Discussion: VP Russell thanked the para professionals in attendance tonight and President Cuda expressed his thanks to the para professionals he has worked with in the past.

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

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 053-2024(PD): Second 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

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Discussion: The Mayor said it has been fun to work on this and it is fun to see a young person working so diligently on a project like this. VP Russell pointed out that this building is located in the distressed Caledonia Neighborhood. President Cuda said the owner is a former student of his.

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

LEGISLATION PASSED

d. Consent Agenda

Motion to suspend rules: Anthony Mattox Jr.
Seconded: Gail Larson

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

MOTION PASSED

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. 056-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution proclaiming May 2024 to be Mary Dunbar Bike 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 Cobb, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 057-2024(PD): First Reading. A Resolution declaring May 2024 National Preservation Month; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 058-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing May, 2024 to be *Mental Health Awareness Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 059-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing May 5—May 11, 2024 to be *Professional Municipal Clerks Week*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 060-2024(MSES): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing May 6-10, 2024, as *Air Quality Awareness Week*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 061-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing May, 2024 as National Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 062-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing April 23, 2024 as *National School Bus Driver Appreciation Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

Legislation passed on consent agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 064-2024(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution proclaiming May 2024 as *Jewish American Heritage Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren, President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Petras, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Mattox

Legislation passed on consent agenda

13) Committee Reports

HB: Update from the committee meeting on April 2nd; announced there will be an upcoming special meeting on May 3, as well as a regular meeting May 14th at 5pm.

MSES: Update from the committee meeting from this morning; update on events coming up. Reminded everybody that the Mayor still has 3 members to appoint to each committee for the new CESC and TCM committees

PD: Planning and Development Committee will meet Wednesday, May 8 at 10am.

With personal privilege, VP Russell asked Brian Pearson from the Northshore Area Labor Federation to come up and speak on RES 063-2024 (Workers Memorial Day) and RES 055-2024 (Social Security Fairness Act).

14) Old Business

15) New Business

16) 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: Shout out to CHUH Public Library system; on June 2 the new Noble Rd Library Branch will have its grand opening!

Russell: June 29th will be the first tenant-landlord series with Judge Costello and Legal Aid lawyers at the Noble Rd Library Branch at 10 am.

Cobb: Landmark Commission still has a vacancy and encourages residents to apply.

17) Council President's Report

Review of what was discussed in COTW about the development project on Noble Rd., now being called Nobility Court.

Gave a brief update regarding the timeline for council appointment to the vacant council seat.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss the appointment of a public official: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Tony Cuda

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

No: None

MOTION PASSED

18) Executive Session

a. To consider the appointment of a public official.

19) Adjournment

End: 9:03pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MAY 6, 2024

APPROVED: May 20, 2024



Tony Cuda
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council