

**VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
MAY 22, 2013**

ROLL CALL: BIRO BLOAM CONTIPELLI DUSZYNSKI FARAGONE HARRIS

Ms. Duszynski made the motion to excuse Mr. Contipelli from the Workshop, seconded by Mr. Bloam. Biro Aye, Bloam Aye, Duszynski Aye, Harris Aye, Faragone No. Motion carried.

ISSUE 1: LEGISLATION IN REGARDS TO HB5

Ms. Biro would like Council to consider for the June Meeting, a piece of legislation in support of opposition of HB5, where the State wants to uniform the Tax Code, and take Home Rule away from the individual cities. Mr. Greenberg explained that it is not dissimilar to what we did previously in opposition of another Bill; it will be a rehash of our opposition of this particular bill. Mayor Bacci explained that there are many Mayors in opposition of this bill, and we can solicit a Resolution from another community and pass it at the next meeting.

Ms. Biro also suggested a piece of legislation aimed at the Federal level in which the Federal Government wants to take away the Municipal income tax exemption from the purchasers of Municipal Bonds. This would devastate the communities that sell these Bonds in order to get revenue for major projects such as roads, infrastructure, and buildings. We don't want the federal government to take this tax exemption away. Mr. Greenberg explained that we could do legislation in opposition to this that would be very similar to HB5.

ACTION:

Mr. Greenberg will draft legislation in opposition to HB5, and opposition to taking away the tax credit for Municipal Bonds. .

CLERKS UPDATE:

We are currently doing our due diligence on the note, and we will close on June 26th.

MAYORS UPDATE:

We are finalizing the Alcoa retaining wall issues. Mr. Sciano is working hard to ramp up for the Harvard Avenue project and the Alcoa retaining wall project.

In regards to the resurfacing of E. 71st Street, the Mayor had a resident come to the Town Hall asking about a rumor of trees going down the middle of E. 71st Street. Their concern was that it would take away parking on the street. The Mayor told them that that is not going to happen, and if anyone else hears that rumor, please let them know that is not true. There will be a small grass strip at the North and South end of E. 71st Street, with some small plantings, and there will be power to that area for future signs and decorations.

Mr. Casini has supplied a rendering of the Lou Bacci sign at the park. He has made it a look a little rugged or trailesque. He suggested some railroad ties or timbers will give it an earthy look. This sign will be placed at the new entrance to the park. Ms. Duszynski suggested distressed timbers would be a good look for that area.

The ramp project at the back of the Town Hall is coming out exquisitely. This project has been an absolute pain. When we excavated the old ramp, we found brick work that needed to be replaced, and now we have to take out the trees that we planted in that area to save the wall. The door is in and the electronics are being replaced. The railings will be going in next week, and will be inspected by the Board of Elections before opening. Mr. Faragone asked about the button on the outside of the door. He was told that it is too high for wheelchair accessibility. The Mayor stated that there will be another button put in for wheelchair accessibility.

Mr. Faragone stated that the lines on the street on E. 49th Street look very nice except for the area by BP. He said the trucks coming out of that area are ruining the newly painted lines. The Mayor said that he would look into the situation.

The Mayor asked Mr. Bloam to give a quick update on the meetings he is having concerning the Master Plan. Mr. Bloam stated that the Master Plan Committee just had a meeting last Thursday, and it is coming along very well. They are currently going over the Harvard Road area and seeing how the properties are divided with other communities. We will be having a public meeting in June to get the public's input. We will be pursuing realistic goals for the Master Plan. Cuyahoga Heights is what it is, and we can't expect lofty goals of shopping areas, and entertainment districts. We don't have the space, and we are an industrial neighborhood.

Mr. Bloam asked if the Mayor had any more information concerning the Credit Union project. The Mayor explained that they are waiting for 2 builders to give them renderings of a building that has a gable roof as an option. The Mayor explained that this was a sticking point for us to have a Western Reserve look that would fit into our architectural scheme. Mr. Greenberg explained that we were still hashing out a purchase agreement for the property.

WHEREFORE, there being no further business before this Council, Ms. Duszynski seconded by Ms. Harris that the Work Session Meeting be adjourned. All voting aye, none opposed; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.