

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
6:00 PM
OCTOBER 28, 2015

ROLL CALL: BIRO, BLOAM, CONTIPELLI, DUSZYNSKI, HARRIS, HENLEY

A the request of Ms. Harris, we have Margaret Lann from the Cleveland Restoration Society to explain the Heritage Home Program offered through their Society. Mr. Contipelli turned the meeting over to Ms. Lann.

Ms. Lann explained that they are the largest non-governmental organization for housing preservation in Ohio. We believe that historic preservation equals neighborhood development that increases property values, and gives communities stability.

Our organization has two parts, one is guidance in preservation, and the second is the ability to give low equity loans to fund the project for homes that are over 50 years old.

Ms. Lann went over the specific criteria and information for Council concerning the program, and left handouts for Village residents that might be interested in her program. They are also located on the web at www.heritagehomeprogram.org to learn more about the program.

The Mayor told Ms. Lann that we will get something about the program in our monthly Newsletter, and one of the keys to the program is that the initial assessment is free. John Traffis, a local resident said that he used the program, and is very satisfied.

MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor handed out some revisions to the Charter Steel legislation concerning the Enterprise Zone. Mr. Greenberg explained that it had to do with the new agreement with the County. He explained that we are just crossing our T's and dotting our I's. We are doing what we can to help Charter Steel, and they are most appreciative.

Mr. Greenberg went over the County Grant that we will be applying for to tear down the Hillside Party Center property. The Mayor would like to tear the building down before winter, and have it

shovel ready before spring in order to market it to potential buyers. The Mayor stated that if we get the grant and don't use all the money, we might be able to use the remaining amount to tear

down the Yarmesh home that we are purchasing. We have to find out if we can do multiple properties under one grant. Mr. Greenberg stated that we will apply what we are allowed to apply correctly.

Mr. Unger is going through some very tough times concerning his brother, but I asked him if there was anything I need to let Council know concerning finances. He said that we are on track financially, and that there will be a re-appropriation Ordinance coming in December, not unlike any other year.

Ms., Duszynski wanted everyone to know that a resident did not receive their absentee ballot, and called the Board of Elections to let them know. The Board of Elections told them that if they did not receive it the next day, they would hand deliver it to their home. She did not know they would do that. Ms. Biro also stated that if you don't file an absentee ballot, you can go to the polls and file as a provisional ballot.

Ms. Biro asked if we were going to have some discussion at a Workshop concerning the letters that went to the residents from the Building Department, with Norm and Kenny in attendance. The Mayor said that at a Work session we were going to go over all things related to the Building Department including any new legislation, and Norm or Kenny or both will be in attendance. Mr. Contipelli stated that we pulled the legislation that they wanted to pass for the last meeting. The Mayor stated that Norm was doing some sampling from other communities to try and find a baseline so that we were not the most ridged, or the lowest as it relates to fees.

Ms. Duszynski asked the Mayor to explain the legislation for selling salt to Newburgh Heights. The Mayor said that they used to purchase salt from Independence, and they asked if they could buy salt from us in the future. The Mayor said as long as we have the necessary amount for us to run our town, and said there needs to be a policy in place for extenuating circumstances, and that's what this legislation does. Ms. Duszynski asked if they would pay for the salt. The Mayor said absolutely. He explained that their needs are minimal, we put down more in one day than they put down in a week.

Ms. Biro asked about the wording in the legislation for the down payment. She asked what amount the down payment will be. Mr. Greenberg explained that that is yet to be determined, this legislation is just authorizing us to have an agreement. Ms. Henley asked if we still plow a portion of Newburgh, the Mayor said we used to do a portion of the Village, but they thought it was too much money to pay so we stopped.

There was a discussion concerning a home on E.72nd Place that was taken to Garfield Municipal Court for code violations. The Mayor explained that originally the home owner told our Building Department that in no way shape or form were they allowed on the property, now they embraced them to come in and inspect the property, and now things are not any better, they are worse. Mr. Contipelli said that for the first time in a long time, they cut the grass. The Mayor said it is a very strange situation.

WHEREFORE, there being no further business before this Council, Ms. Henley seconded by Ms. Duszynski that the Work Session be adjourned. All voting aye, none opposed; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.