

**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS  
CAUCUS  
MARCH 13, 2019  
6:00 PM**

**COUNCIL CAUCUS**

**MARCH 13, 2019**

---

Ms. Harris called the meeting to order. Clerk Unger called the roll.

Those present were, Mayor Bacci, Law Director Bill Mason, Clerk Unger, Todd Bloam, Rick Centa, Renato Contipelli, Cheryl Harris, Lois Henley, and Matt Schoeffler.

Also in attendance were Assistant Law Director Ben Chojnacki, CFO Angel Meriwether, Engineer Todd Sciano, Building Commissioner Norm Cassini, and Assistant Building Commissioner Ken LaBella.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None at this time.

**PERMITS:**

None at this time.

**PURCHASES:**

February 2019, Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee approved the disposal of surplus equipment that is no longer used in the Service department.

The Finance Committee also approved cutting a check to the Senior Citizens Committee for \$6,000.00 for their annual expenses. This is the amount that was budgeted by Council for 2019.

**MINUTES:**

February 13, 2019	Caucus
February 13, 2019	Council Meeting
February 27, 2019	Workshop

Ms. Henley agreed to make the motion to accept the minutes, Mr. Schoeffler agreed to second.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

Cash Position Statement February 2019  
R.I.T.A Preliminary report March 2019

Mr. Centa agreed to make the motion, Mr. Bloam agreed to second.

**LEGISLATION:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-20**

Payment of Certain Claims: \$1,117,491.43  
Payroll  
General Bills  
Transfers

Mr. Contipelli agreed to make the motion, Mr. Bloam agreed to second.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-21**

A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR DONNA L DERBIN

Ms. Henley agreed to make the motion, Ms. Harris agreed to second.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-22**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO  
ENTER INTO EASEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE  
TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION

Mr. Bloam agreed to make the motion, Mr. Centa agreed to second.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-23**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER WITH CTL ENGINEERING, INC.  
FOR SLOPE FAILURE EVALUATION, EAST 71<sup>ST</sup> STREET AT THE INTERSTATE 77  
CROSSOVER**

Mr. Contipelli agreed to make the motion, Mr. Bloam agreed to second.

Mr. Contipelli asked Engineer Sciano to give us a quick update on the slope failure. Engineer Sciano explained that they wanted to reevaluate what was going on down below from our initial point in the project. It's obvious that it is moving quicker after the water main break, but I wanted the data to back it up. So we are going to have them read it twelve more times. We don't have all the data yet, but the movement from the machine that went through it is definitely moving if not shearing. Mr. Contipelli asked when he will have all the data. Mr. Sciano said we will have the first initial readings within a week, were shooting for the end of March to have all the readings, and a report in early April. Mayor Bacci explained that we will follow up with this shortly.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the Police Department and Jail upgrades needed to relocate Dispatch to Chagrin Valley Dispatch not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Mr. Bloam agreed to make the motion, Mr. Contipelli agreed to second.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the Fire Department upgrades needed to relocate Dispatch to Chagrin Valley Dispatch not to exceed \$20,000.00.

Mr. Centa agreed to make the motion, Ms. Harris agreed to second.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the Dispatch Department upgrades needed to relocate Dispatch to Chagrin Valley Dispatch not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Mr. Contipelli agreed to make the motion, Mr. Bloam agreed to second.

Mr. Contipelli asked CFO Meriwether to quickly explain these three motions to Council concerning the costs to move our Dispatch unit to Brecksville. He said that she explained it to the Finance Committee, but asked her to explain it to the rest of Council.

Ms. Meriwether said that the first motion was for the Police Department for security upgrades for the key system in the building and jail area. Since no one is going to be in the building at certain times of the day, they need to put in a new keying system for the Policemen to open and lock the doors.

In the Fire Department, the costs are associated with updating the tone and sound system to be able to get the signal from Brecksville to the Fire Station. In the Dispatch area there are upgrades that need to be made to the 911 system and adding emergency phones to the Police Department, so when someone comes to the Police Station, there will be a phone line in the front of the building that they can use to contact a policeman since no one will be there at all times. This will be just like Brooklyn Hts. And Valley View.

Ms. Henley asked if we will still have Swiftreach to contact all residents. Mayor Bacci said yes, we will still have it.

Mr. Schoeffler asked if these are all costs that were originally scheduled. Mayor Bacci said they were included in the original costs associated with the move, they are not additional costs. Ms. Meriwether explained that these are one time fees associated with Capital Improvements to the buildings due to the move. Mayor Bacci said we will not recognize the full savings until 2020.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the annual operation and maintenance within the Village of Cuyahoga Heights for Sewer & Catch basin Video, Jetting, & Cleaning for the 2019 season, not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Mr. Bloam agreed to make the motion, Mr. Schoeffler agreed to second.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the annual operation and maintenance within the Village of Cuyahoga Heights for Annual Pavement Repairs for the 2019 season, not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Mr. Schoeffler agreed to make the motion, Ms. Henley agreed to second.

## **MAYORS REPORT:**

We had three families sign up for Arbor Day. Mayor Bacci said that we will get them all something commemorating this day. The deadline to sign up is March 27<sup>th</sup>. We will be planting trees this year for Mr. & Mrs. Bohdan, Mr. & Mrs. Bartczak, and one for Mr. & Mrs. Kosicki.

Motion to go into Executive Session for pending litigation and employment matters.

Mr. Centa made the motion, seconded by Ms. Harris. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of Executive Session.

Mr. Contipelli made the motion, seconded by Ms. Harris. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Caucus ended at 6:50 pm.

**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 13, 2019  
7:00 PM**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**MARCH 13, 2019**

Mayor Bacci called the meeting to order. Clerk Unger called the roll.

Those present were, Council members Todd Bloam, Rick Centa, Renato Contipelli, Cheryl Harris, Lois Henley and Matt Schoeffler.

Also present were Law Director Bill Mason, Assistant Law Director Ben Chojnacki, CFO Angel Meriwether, Engineer Todd Sciano, Assistant Building Commissioner Ken LaBella, Administrative Assistant Lee Ann Schoeffler, Administrative Accounting Assistant Amanda Domzalski, Administrative Assistant Christina Caporuscio, Service Director Dave Sammons, Police Chief Brian Sturgill, Head Dispatcher Barb Cash, and Fire Chief Mike Suhy.

Before the Mayor called the meeting to order, he asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. Derbin.

**ROLL CALL: Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler**

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None at this time.

**PERMITS:**

None at this time.

**PURCHASES:**

February 2019, Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee approved the disposal of surplus equipment that is no longer used in the Service department.

The Finance Committee also approved cutting a check to the Senior Citizens Committee for \$6,000.00 for their annual expenses. This is the amount that was budgeted by Council for 2019.

**MINUTES:**

February 13, 2019	Caucus
February 13, 2019	Council Meeting
February 27, 2019	Workshop

Ms. Henley made the motion to accept the Minutes as prepared and place them on file, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

Cash Position Statement February 2019  
R.I.T.A Preliminary report March 2019

Mr. Centa made the motion to accept the Financial Statments as prepared and place them on file, seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**LEGISLATION:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-20**

Payment of Certain Claims:	\$1,117,491.43
Payroll	
General Bills	
Transfers	

Mr. Contipelli moved, seconded by Mr. Bloam that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-21**

**A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR DONNA L DERBIN**

Ms. Henley moved, seconded by Ms. Harris that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-22**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO  
ENTER INTO EASEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE  
TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION

Mr. Bloam moved, seconded by Mr. Centa that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-23**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER WITH CTL ENGINEERING, INC.  
FOR SLOPE FAILURE EVALUATION, EAST 71<sup>ST</sup> STREET AT THE INTERSTATE 77  
CROSSOVER

Mr. Contipelli moved, seconded by Mr. Bloam that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the Police Department and Jail upgrades needed to relocate Dispatch to Chagrin Valley Dispatch not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Bloam, and seconded by Mr. Contipelli. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the Fire Department upgrades needed to relocate Dispatch to Chagrin Valley Dispatch not to exceed \$20,000.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Centa, and seconded by Ms. Henley. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.



Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the Dispatch Department upgrades needed to relocate Dispatch to Chagrin Valley Dispatch not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Contipelli, and seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the annual operation and maintenance within the Village of Cuyahoga Heights for Sewer & Catch basin Video, Jetting, & Cleaning for the 2019 season, not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Bloam, and seconded by Mr. Schoeffler. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion authorizing the CFO to purchase services for the annual operation and maintenance within the Village of Cuyahoga Heights for Annual Pavement Repairs for the 2019 season, not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Schoeffler, and seconded by Ms. Henley. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:**

### **MAYOR BACCI:**

Our condolences to Jennifer Derbin Ulery and Brian Derbin – along with their families. Their Mom, Donna Derbin passed away last Wednesday, March 6 at the age of 74. A good, good lady, she loved to polka, and we will miss her. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our annual “Business Networking Breakfast” will take place next Friday. As I’ve stated numerous times before, this is a great event for our administration to spend “face-to-face” time with our business community. Jeff Crossman, our State Representative will be our guest speaker.

Reminder that Wednesday, March 27 is the deadline to turn in your Arbor Day Memorial Tree applications into the Village Hall.

I received a thank you letter from Superintendent Evans thanking Chief Sturgill and his department for leading the active shooter training that was part of the school’s staff professional development day last month.

Chief Sturgill explained that there were five hours of training with all the school staff, going through active shooter drills. He was the designated shooter this year, and this teaches everyone what can really happen if an active shooter enters the building. Chief Sturgill said there is no substitute for putting everyone in a very real situation. There is no sound like a gun going off inside the school. It is extremely loud and terrifying. The Mayor said it is a deafening sound inside the halls, and congratulated the Chief and his men for doing a great job.

Very special birthday wishes to Mrs. Bernice Suhy who will turn 94 years old on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Happy birthday and God Bless.

March birthday wishes to employees: (1) Christina Londrico, (8) Chief Brian Sturgill; (11) Joe Wallace; (12) CFO Angel Meriwether; (15) Jeremy Grabowski; (18) Jeff Baciak; (24) Cathy Zmija; (25) Barb Cash & Tracy Deal; (26) Jimmy Berdysz; and (29) Jeff Heintz.

Please continue to keep several residents in your thoughts and prayers: Theresa Bentejewski, Mrs. Barbara Combs, Mrs. Ernestine Deliberato, Cleri Knapik, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, Mrs. Helen Leciejewski, & Mrs. Dorothy Sonoda.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy St. Patty's Day this Sunday.

**MR. BLOAM:**

Nothing to report.

**MR. CENTA:**

Nothing at this time.

**MR. CONTIPELLI:**

Mr. Contipelli asked Service Director Sammons if they are going to plant grass at the bottom of E.71<sup>st</sup> Street where we took down the houses. Mr. Sammons said the demolition company will do that in the spring, and put on a finished grade.

Wished everyone a happy Easter, and sends thoughts and prayers to the families in town that lost loved ones. He asked to also keep Mr. Norbert Chase in your prayers so he gets better. He is a longtime resident and previous Clerk in our Village for many years.

He asked the Mayor when we will receive the Anniversary books that are currently being done by Laura Bacci and Lee Ann Schoeffler. The mayor said that they have invested so much time and effort into this project, that they are not going to just let it be finished without making sure everything is correct, and it is something we can all be proud of. The amount of volunteer hours that have gone into this project is enormous, and when it is finished, the Mayor will let him know.

Ms. Lee Ann Schoeffler said that they are still crosschecking all the information to make sure everything is accurate. The finished book will be a coffee book around 300 pages of pictures and information from the beginning of our Village. It will be beautiful, and something that can be passed down for generations.

Mayor Bacci said that it is very hard to corroborate all the information. We have lost so many residents without getting testimonials from them before they passed. We lost a lot of information, but like always, we don't realize what we have until it's gone. They are trying to put out the most factual account of the Village that they can, and it takes time. Between Laura Bacci, Laura Hine, and Lee Ann Schoeffler, they have put in thousands of volunteered hours into this project.

**MS. HARRIS:**

Nothing at this time.

**MS. HENLEY:**

Ms. Henley said that she is glad Ms. Schoeffler is working on the book, and trying to verify all the information. She received a similar book from Independence, and found mistakes in it. Mayor Bacci said we may have mistakes in this one, but we are trying our best to make it as factual as possible.

Ms. Henley also asked about the plaques for the 100 year old homes. Mayor Bacci said we have them, and will be working with the Service Department to install all of them on each house, so they are neat and clean.

The seniors want to thank everyone for the check they received to help pay for their trips during the year.

**MR. SCHOEFFLER:**

Mr. Schoeffler was contacted by Brooklyn Hts. Service Director concerning the Art to Park program. He said he still needed to talk to Recreation Director, Jason Deal concerning the program. Mayor Bacci said he had a meeting with Jason, and his message to him was that he is managing this program, and if he needs anything from the Mayor or Council, to let him know. We will support anything he needs.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR DAVE SAMMONS:**

Nothing at this time.

**HEAD DISPATCHER BARB CASH:**

The week of March 17<sup>th</sup> is National Weather Week, so on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:50, the sirens are going to go off. On March 19<sup>th</sup>, I will be sending out a message on Swiftreach letting everyone know about the drill on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRE CHIEF SUHY:**

Nothing at this time.

**POLICE CHIEF STRURGILL:**

On Friday, the Fire Chief and I are going to go to a meeting concerning the closing of Harvard Avenue for construction. The bridge over I77 is going to be closed for construction, and it will impact everyone. As we get more information, we will let everyone know. Mayor Bacci said as we get the information, we will send a letter to all the businesses and residents in the Village.

Have a safe Saint Patrick's Day, don't drink and drive. The season opener is coming soon, Go Tribe!

**LAW DIRECTOR BILL MASON:**

Nothing to report.

**CLERK UNGER:**

Nothing to report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR LEE ANN SCHOEFFLER:**

Nothing to report.

**CFO ANGEL MERIWETHER:**

Nothing to report.

**ASSISTANT LAW DIRECTOR BEN CHOJNACKI:**

Nothing to report.

**ENGINEER TODD SCIANO:**

Nothing to report.

**ASSISTANT BUILDING COMMISSIONER KEN LABELLA:**

The Building Department will soon start residential inspections. Ms. Henley asked if they go into the back yards. Mr. LaBella said they will go in the backyards only if given permission by the homeowner.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT AMANDA DOMZALSKI:**

Nothing to report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT CHRISTINA CAPORUSCIO:**

Nothing to report.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

None.

WHEREFORE, there is no further business before this Council, Ms. Henley moved, seconded by Mr. Contipelli that the Council Meeting be adjourned at 7:35 p.m. All voting aye, none opposed: motion carried.