

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
CAUCUS
OCTOBER 9, 2019
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL CAUCUS

OCTOBER 9, 2019

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

Those present were, Mayor Bacci, Clerk Unger, Todd Bloam, Rick Centa, Renato Contipelli, Cheryl Harris, and Lois Henley. Mr. Schoeffler showed up later in Caucus.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

To the Mayor and Council:

A report from Park and Recreation Director Mr. Jason Deal updating them on the 2019 Summer Pool season. Mr. Deal explained that it was a great summer at the pool and problem free. He said they provided jobs for any young adult that wanted one, and thanked Council for the opportunity to serve our residents. He is looking forward to next year to continue the tradition of working with our youth and the veteran staff members.

He also thanked the service department and concession workers for all their help in making this a great summer season. They did a great job, and looking forward to working with them next year.

PERMITS:

None at this time.

PURCHASES:

No purchases this month.

MINUTES:

September 11, 2019	Caucus
September 11, 2019	Council Meeting

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Statement of Cash Position September 2019
RITA Preliminary report October 2019

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

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-77

Payment of Certain Claims: \$1,649,311.57
Payroll
General Bills
Transfers

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-78

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; APPROVING, ADOPTING AND ENACTING NEW MATTER IN THE UPDATED AND REVISED CODIFIED ORDINANCES; REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-79

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “STORMWATER AWARENESS WEEK” BEING CONDUCTED BY THE CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON OCTOBER 20-26, 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING AND AIDING IN THE UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF RELATED CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF STORMWATER RUNOFF AND FLOODING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-80

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A DEMOLITION PROGRAM COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-81

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS TO PROVIDE FOR AN AMENDED PROCEDURE FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENTS IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Mr. Contipelli asked Mayor Bacci to give us an update on these changes. Mayor Bacci said he worked with the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief and the Law Director to work out how we can put people that are working for us in a part time capacity now that are working solely for us or working for us in other departments to come into the ranks without going through the every two year testing process.

Mr. Contipelli asked if we were ever going to test again. Mayor Bacci said we will test, but it gives the people already working for us a better opportunity than someone that walks off the street.

Mr. Chojnacki said that we will give a test as needed, and part-time workers will be eligible to get up to eight percentage points based on the amount of time they have worked for the Village. We will still have a written test, physical test, and an interview from a list of candidates. Anyone 37 years or older are not allowed to test for an initial appointment to the Fire Department. This is not very different from what we did with the Police Department years ago. The process is the same, it allows for impartial evaluation while considering factors that are unique to the Village.

Mr. Contipelli understands the changes, and wants to make sure the process is fair.

Mayor Bacci said we have changed the testing procedures many times over the years with giving extra points to candidates for many different things. This just gives the people that are already working for us a little edge. They still have to test against everyone that signs up. Chief Suhy just wants to be able to nurture the guys already working for us part-time. We are giving them some

value in test taking for an initial appointment. There is still a very competitive test, everything else stays the same.

Mr. Contipelli just wanted to make sure we still give a competitive test, and it is fair. Mayor Bacci said it is fair and will put the best candidate in the job.

Mr. Contipelli said he is convinced the changes are needed, and will vote for the legislation.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-82

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A PASS THROUGH PAYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CLEVELAND AND ANTHONY ALLEGACEMENT CONTRACTOR, INC. TO REPLACE UP TO 450 FEET OF EIGHT INCH WATER LINE AND ALL RELATED APPURTENANCES OWNED, OPERATED, AND MAINTAINED BY THE CITY OF CLEVELAND; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Mayor Bacci explained that this project was at or about \$500,000.00, but per Mr. Sciano, we worked out a plan that would reduce the costs approximately \$90,000.00.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Motion to authorize the Village to enter into a quality assurance/quality control contract with David Lewyn Co. for oversight of the East 49th Street Slope repair in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

Mr. Bloam agreed to make the motion, seconded by Ms. Henley.

Motion to authorize the Village to engage structural engineers in conjunction with the Bacci Park Multi-Purpose Trail, Phase 3A in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Mr. Contipelli agreed to make the motion, seconded by Mr. Centa.

MAYORS REPORT:

The Mayor asked Council to go into Executive Session for employee negotiations and real estate matters.

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

Mr. Contipelli made the motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Caucus ended at 7:15 pm.

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2019
7:00 PM**

COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 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 Ben Chojnacki, CFO Angel Meriwether, Engineer Todd Sciano, Building Commissioner Norm Casini, Assistant Building Commissioner Ken LaBella, Administrative Assistant Lee Ann Schoeffler, Service Director Dave Sammons, Police Chief Brian Sturgill, Assistant Fire Chief Howard Selig, Administrative Accounting Assistant Amanda Domzalski, Administrative Assistant Christina Caporuscio.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

To the Mayor and Council:

A report from Park and Recreation Director Mr. Jason Deal updating them on the 2019 Summer Pool season. Mr. Deal explained that it was a great summer at the pool and problem free. He said they provided jobs for any young adult that wanted one, and thanked Council for the opportunity to serve our residents. He is looking forward to next year to continue the tradition of working with our youth and the veteran staff members.

He also thanked the service department and concession workers for all their help in making this a great summer season. They did a great job, and looking forward to working with them next year.

PERMITS:

None at this time.

PURCHASES:

No purchases this month.

MINUTES:

September 11, 2019 Caucus
September 11, 2019 Council Meeting

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Statement of Cash Position September 2019
RITA Preliminary report October 2019

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

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-77

Payment of Certain Claims: \$1,649,311.57
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 and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-78

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; APPROVING, ADOPTING AND ENACTING NEW MATTER IN THE UPDATED AND REVISED CODIFIED ORDINANCES; REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bloam moved, seconded by Ms. Harris that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance 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. 2019-79

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “STORMWATER AWARENESS WEEK” BEING CONDUCTED BY THE CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON OCTOBER 20-26, 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING AND AIDING IN THE UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF RELATED CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF STORMWATER RUNOFF AND FLOODING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Contipelli 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. 2019-80

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A DEMOLITION PROGRAM COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bloam moved, seconded by Ms. Henley 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-81

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS TO PROVIDE FOR AN AMENDED PROCEDURE FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENTS IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Centa moved, seconded by Mr. Bloam that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance 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. 2019-82

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A PASS THROUGH PAYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CLEVELAND AND ANTHONY ALLEGA CEMENT CONTRACTOR, INC. TO REPLACE UP TO 450 FEET OF EIGHT INCH WATER LINE AND ALL RELATED APPURTENANCES OWNED, OPERATED, AND MAINTAINED BY THE CITY OF CLEVELAND; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bloam moved, seconded by Mr. Contipelli 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 to authorize the Village to enter into a quality assurance/quality control contract with David Lewyn Co. for oversight of the East 49th Street Slope repair in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

Mr. Sciano explained that this is a third party authentication to let the Regional Sewer District know that the work is done right.

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

Motion to authorize the Village to engage structural engineers in conjunction with the Bacci Park Multi-Purpose Trail, Phase 3A in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

MAYOR BACCI:

Happy Anniversary to Councilman Renato Contipelli and his bride, Michelle! Today is their 27th wedding anniversary. Congratulations and best wishes!

Last Friday we spent lunch with our businesses in town at our annual “fall fish fry” at Klima Gardens. It’s always great to get together with our business friends, as well as meeting new faces within their organization. Judge Deborah Nicastro was our key speaker and did a phenomenal job. I always look forward to this event.

Just wanted to make everyone aware that tomorrow is “Safety Day” at the schools, and they will be having evacuation drills. Just in case you get a call from a resident because they see an

overabundance of safety forces at or about the school.

No school this Friday – NEOEA Day

Corn roast is this Saturday! It's our 8th corn roast and we sure have come a long way since our first event in 2011. I hope to see everyone on Saturday. The event starts at 4:00 p.m.

Just a note that the Metroparks will be holding a full marathon this Sunday. East 49th Street will be closed for about 15 minutes at or about 7:00 a.m. so the runners can run in the street heading south to the towpath.

Our annual Village Halloween party for resident children and grandchildren will take place on Sunday, October 27 from 2:00-4:00 at Klima Gardens.

Trick-or-Treat will take place on Thursday, October 31 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Don't forget Election Day is Tuesday, November 5. The polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the basement of our Village Hall. Up for re-election are councilmembers Rick Centa, Renato Contipelli and Lois Henley. Exercise your right to vote!

October birthday wishes to employees: (2) Law Director Ben Chojnacki; (11) Steve Harris; (15) Nick Frye and (24) Mindy Armbrust.

Please continue to keep several of our residents in your thoughts and prayers: Mrs. Lori Borowy, Mrs. Barbara Combs, who recently had hip surgery, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, and Mr. Joe Vitanza.

MR. BLOAM:

Mr. Bloam informed everyone that the school Drum Line will perform at the Corn Roast at 7:00 pm.

MR. CENTA:

Mr. Centa attended a Best Committee meeting at the school, and told everyone that Cuyahoga Heights was ranked 31st out of 612 school districts in the state.

From 3rd grade to 12th grade we have 838 students. 258 from Brooklyn Hts., 272 from Valley View, 119 from Cuyahoga Hts., and 219 tuition paying students.

MR. CONTIPELLI:

Mr. Contipelli said this is his 27th wedding anniversary, and thanked his wife Michelle for putting up with him for so many years. He said that a couple of weeks after getting married 27 years ago, he was elected to Council, and thanked everyone for their support for all this time.

MS. HARRIS:

We had a Finance Committee Meeting this afternoon, and CFO Angel Meriwether was there to explain updates to the budget. She did a great job.

MS. HENLEY:

The senior trip to Chautauqua Lake was a big success, everyone had a great time. The Art Institute by the lake was gorgeous.

Be safe on Halloween, and please come to the Corn Roast this Saturday.

MR. SCHOEFFLER:

Matt mentioned that his son was elected Homecoming King at Toledo University, and we are all very proud of him.

See you all at the Corn Roast!

POLICE CHIEF STRURGILL:

Nothing at this time.

SERVICE DIRECTOR DAVE SAMMONS:

Nothing at this time.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF SELIG:

Thanked Council for passing Ordinance 2019-81 which changed the procedure for initial appointments. He strongly supports the changes, and feels it will help the department get the most qualified person for the position.

We will be distributing one new smoke detector for each home which we purchased from the FEMA grant.

CFO ANGEL MERIWETHER

Everyone has worked hard on the Corn Roast to make it successful, and hope to see everyone there this Saturday.

LAW DIRECTOR BEN CHOJNACKI:

Nothing to report.

CLERK UNGER:

Nothing to report.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR LEE ANN SCHOEFFLER:

Nothing to report.

ENGINEER TODD SCIANO:

Nothing to report.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER NORM CASINI:

Saint Mary's Cemetery will be putting a new roof on their garage. We are also working with them to put up a new fence running along E.71st Street. It will be a beautiful fence that will enhance the whole area.

ASSISTANT BUILDING COMMISSIONER KEN LABELLA:

Nothing at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT AMANDA DOMZALSKI:

Nothing at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT CHRISTINA CAPORUSCIO:

Nothing at this time.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

None.

WHEREFORE, there is no further business before this Council, Ms. Henley moved, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler that the Council Meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. All voting aye, none opposed: motion carried.