

**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
FEBRUARY 26, 2020  
6:00 PM**

**ROLL CALL: BLOAM CENTA CONTIPELLI HARRIS HENLEY SCHOEFFLER**

Ms. Harris was absent from the meeting.

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED**

1) Mayors report – Update on projects

Mayor Bacci explained that Arconics is going into contract negotiations with the UAW for a three year contract. He has talked to both sides, and they don't see any problems moving forward, but they still need to come to a solid agreement.

The Mayor went over the committees with Council. He asked Council if anyone had any interest in going over the housing and building codes. This would include both our housing codes and business codes. We want to protect our housing and business stock moving forward. The legal department and I are working with Mr. Sciano and the Building Department to identify anyone that is in violation where they are doing business. We don't want to kick them out, we want to work with them to fix the situation and make them compliant. We are looking for ambiguous or grey areas in the laws that we might be able to see if we can make them better. We want someone to help us with this task. We don't need to reinvent the wheel, but we would like to go over these laws to protect and educate our community. Take the rest of the week, and let me know who is interested in being on this committee.

Mr. Evans, the school Superintendent will be at the March 11 Business Meeting to go over the capital improvements plan for the future of the district. We look forward to seeing what they are going to need moving forward to keep the school intact.

Mr. Sciano was asked to go over the current projects in the Village for 2020-2021. The Mayor explained that this is just a refresher on where we are, not an in-depth report.

Mr. Sciano started with the Nicky Boulevard project. The majority of the infrastructure that was failing is complete. The impact with the surrounding businesses is 98% complete, we did the paving in the fall, and will do the striping in the spring. The lychee collection system needs to be extended, that work is scheduled for April, May, and June. The piping and catch basins are all installed, so the final plans are going to Regional Sewer District in April. We will award the final phase in May, and construction will start in June. There will be two parts to this phase, a parallel sewer will be installed on E.49<sup>th</sup> Street which will impact all residents from June 15<sup>th</sup> to August

31<sup>st</sup>. Hopefully it will be quicker than that. Other work will be at Nicky Boulevard, or our easements, and that will be wrapped up by the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. This project is half funded by grants.

Phase one of the Canal Road Project from the top of 49<sup>th</sup> Street to the bottom of the hill to Regional Sewer gate is 98% complete. The sidewalk, guardrails, catch basins, and drives of the Phase One is 100% complete, and there is only a little cleanup work left. The Allega Corporation has come up with an alternate plan to speed up the rest of the project. They were able to work this year from April 15<sup>th</sup> through Thanksgiving, and then in 2020 in May and June to complete the project.

The Mayor explained that this is going to put a heavy burden on E.49<sup>th</sup> Street. In addition, we are going to be doing the work from the Nicky Boulevard Project that impacts E.49<sup>th</sup> Street at the same time. We will advise the residents and businesses of what is going on, and make sure they understand the process at all times. Hopefully by August we will have traffic flowing as normal. Mr. Schoeffler agreed that the residents need to know what is happening, and believes that we need to do this as quickly as possible. Mayor Bacci said that Allega is very motivated to get the Canal Road and E.71<sup>st</sup> portion done as quickly as possible, and don't believe they will have any issues with the weather. Mayor Bacci said if we can get this portion done in April, May, and June, and then finish with E.49<sup>th</sup> by August, this would have minimal impact for the residents and businesses on E.49<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Sciano explained that this is the fastest route to getting the project finished. Mayor Bacci said all of this information will be mailed to all the residents.

Mr. Sciano went over the Willowbrook connector project. It is 90% complete. He explained that 43,000 yards of material have been placed, and this is a \$14,000 positive for the Village. The project was supposed to be a net zero project, but this is credits we weren't expecting. The balance of the work should start up in May. There is still 10,000 yards of material that need to be placed, and then we are going to tie in to the trail. In March there will be a change order for the natural species of grass because of the better root system.

Mr. Sciano went over the demolition of the old Combs property on E.49<sup>th</sup> Street. We were hoping for demolition in March or April. We are waiting for the green light from the county, and it might have to be pushed back a month because of the process, so we are planning for April or May. This is going to be done at no cost to the Village.

The plans for the Multi-Purpose Trail behind the Town Hall have been submitted to ODOT. They are not comfortable with the safety of the trail. They feel it is too steep, and want us to redo the alignment, which will make it longer and more expensive. The project is in flux, but there is a high possibility that if we can get a buildable project, it will not happen this year. There will be more environmental challenges, and some more clearing required to do the project. Mr. Sciano said it is too early to give you a final update on the project. He will report to Council at the next Workshop. Mayor Bacci asked Mr. Sciano to let Council know if the funding can be carried over

for another year. Mr. Sciano said as of now the answer is no, but we will continue to see if that can be changed. Mr. Contipelli explained that this project is important, and will connect the school and Town Hall with the park, as well as erosion control for the hill. He feels strongly that this project needs to happen, and knows that Mr. Sciano will do all he can to help complete this project.

Next project is the Hillside redevelopment. Mr. Sciano explained that in 2017, the Village executed their agreement with Independence Excavating for fill. To date, 33,000 yards have been brought to site. With the purchase of the property to the south, there is 130,000 yards still needed. Independence Excavating is working on Opportunity Corridor in Cleveland, and believes the balance of the project will be completed this year. Mayor Bacci said he has talked to Independence Excavating, and believes that they will have enough fill to complete the Hillside Development Project, and still have 100,000 yards left over for the Nicky Boulevard Project by 2021. He said this is taking some time, but we are trying to get it done with no cost to the Village.

Mr. Sciano talked about the Nicky Boulevard Project. He explained that 10,000 yards of material have been brought to the site for the berm construction and the backyards. We have held up filling the bottom because of the weather and the street getting worse. We will start up again in the summer.

The RFP for the Benjamin Moore Building on E.71<sup>st</sup> Street is slated to go out in March. There will be two developer walkthroughs prior to the April meeting. Once we receive their packages, we will have developer presentations in early or late April. We are looking to award the developer at the meeting in April, the work needs to be wrapped up by Thanksgiving. The Mayor explained that we have three warehouse type structures, and the brick structure on E.71<sup>st</sup> Street. The goal is to go from west to east till we get to a place we can stop at and go for future monies for a developer to utilize the existing building and land that remains. He explained that we are looking for someone that wants the whole project, someone that will work with us that has a vision for the property.

Mr. Sciano went over the Grant Avenue repaving project for 2022-2023. We are working with NOACCA to get a \$480,000 grant for the project. We also got the County to participate with us, and we will be going after another \$250,000 grant application. It will be bid in the spring of 2021 through the County. In exchange for the grant, the County is going to want complete oversight of the project. We are going to have a meeting with ODOT to see if we should move the project up in the schedule understanding the costs we have with the other projects in the Village.

The last project is the lower E.71<sup>st</sup> corridor and the crossover project by I77. There has been some movement on the hill, we are still waiting for a third reading to give us an idea of what our options will be for fixing the issue.

E.71<sup>st</sup> Street crossover plan and specs will be the summer of 2020, for construction in 2021. Right now the project is only a widening and stop signs. As things progress, we will have to look at shifting money to address the crossover portion of the project. Also, we want to wait until we fix the movement on the E.71<sup>st</sup> Street hill. The Mayor said that we will also look to put some aesthetically pleasing lamps and other amenities to match our entrance wall. This will move forward in 2021.

The Mayor asked Council for a motion to go into Executive Session for real estate, pending litigation, and imminent court action.

Mr. Schoeffler made the motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

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

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Centa made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Henley. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.