

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2020
7:00 PM**

COUNCIL MEETING

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Mr. Bloam explained that they are going to use the roundtable order for voting since there are no issues with any of the pieces of legislation.

Mayor Bacci asked Council to go into Executive Session for a contractual matter, two property related matters, and an employment matter.

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

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

None at this time.

PERMITS:

None at this time.

PURCHASES:

None at this time.

MINUTES:

July 8, 2020 Council Meeting

Mr. Centa 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:

Statement of Cash Position July 2020
RITA Preliminary report August 2020

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

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-53

Payment of Certain Claims: \$1,034,252.55
Payroll
General Bills
Transfers

Mr. Bloam 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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-54

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.

Ms. Harris 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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

Mayor Bacci gave Council an update on the medical committee meeting. Mr. Unger called a meeting together with CFO Meriwether, and members of the bargaining unit in reference to the health care rates. Mr. Unger and Ms. Meriwether made it very clear that we could not afford to continue getting large increases in the health care plan without making changes. Mayor Bacci explained that we are currently in a three year contract with the bargaining units, and coming out of this contract in 2023, we will most likely see imminent changes in our health care because of the huge yearly rate increases.

Next year, we need to start looking at all of our different options for 2023. It is up to that body to make everyone a part of the solution to our health care increases. Ms. Henley, who attended the meeting said that was the message given to the bargaining unit by Mr. Unger and Ms. Meriwether.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-55

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ACCEPT MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO'S "INSURED RENEWAL RATE" FOR THE PERIOD EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2021

Ms. Henley 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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-56

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ACCEPT DELTA DENTAL'S "RENEWAL RATES" FOR THE PERIOD EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2021

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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-57

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO PURCHASE LIFE INSURANCE FROM PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE FOR FULL TIME VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR THE PERIOD EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

Mr. Centa moved, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler 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. 2020-58

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY HEINTZ AS A FIRE FIGHTER IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS, OHIO

Mr. Schoeffler 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, 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. 2020-59

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE
TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF
NORTH ROYALTON FOR PRISONER HOUSING SERVICES

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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

Mr. Schoeffler asked if there are any guarantees that the jail will be open for a period of time with this increase. Mayor Bacci said that is the goal, but they are just trying to stay afloat with the loss of revenue that every city is running into during this time.

Mr. Schoeffler asked if we could send them to the County. Mayor Bacci said during this Covid period, the County is not accepting any prisoners unless it is a heinous crime. With the amount of money it costs to house prisoners, we cannot justify the cost to keep them here at the Village Jail.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-60

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION SCHEDULE RANGES FOR
VILLAGE EMPLOYEES TO CLARIFY AND CORRECT CERTAIN JOB TITLES LISTED
ON THE COMPENSATION SCHEDULE

Ms. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Henley that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-61

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY
COST-SHARE AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER
DISTRICT

Ms. Henley 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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

Mayor Bacci said the cost share agreement pays for the Phase 2 of the Nicky Boulevard Project. We get it back for what we put into the project.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-62

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO EXECUTE CERTAIN AGREEMENTS NEEDED TO ACQUIRE A PORTION OF PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 522-08-034 (4550 WILLOW PARKWAY) NECESSARY FOR THE NICKY BOULEVARD SLOPE STABILIZATION AND STORM SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT

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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-63

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ACCEPT AN ACCESS AND UTILITY EASEMENT OVER A CERTAIN PORTION OF THE LAND COMMONLY KNOWN AS PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 522-11-003 FOR THE NICKY BOULEVARD STORM SEWER EXTENSION AND SLOPE STABILIZATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-64

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION OF THE VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021; SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE BUDGET COMMISSION OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Schoeffler 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. 2020-65

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1464 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO GIVE THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER THE AUTHORITY TO MANAGE THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, LOCATION, AND APPEARANCE OF FENCES, WALLS, PLANTINGS, AND OTHER THINGS CONSTRUCTED ON OR NEAR BOUNDARY LINES ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS

Mr. Contipelli 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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

Mr. Contipelli believes this legislation will help the Building Commissioner with certain issues concerning property lines, boundary lines and sites.

Mayor Bacci wanted everyone to know that this is a change to an existing chapter in the Codified Ordinances.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-66

A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR DANIEL TUCHOLSKI

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, and Schoeffler voting aye for suspension of the rules. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris, Henley, and Schoeffler voting aye for the adoption, motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A motion for the Village Engineer to advertise for bid for the "Nicky Boulevard Storm Sewer Extension & Slope Stabilization – Phase 2

Mr. Bloam made the motion for the Engineer to advertise for bids, seconded by Ms. Harris. Bloam, Centa, Contipelli, Harris and Henley for the motion, Schoeffler – Abstain. Motion carried.

A motion authorizing the Village’s Chief Fiscal Officer to create a purchase order for the 2nd Half of 2020 annual operation and maintenance within the Village of Cuyahoga Heights for the Joint & Crack Sealing for the 2020 season.

Ms. Harris made the motion to have the CFO create a Purchase Order for Joint & Crack Sealing for 2020, seconded by Ms. Henley. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

A motion authorizing the Village's Chief Fiscal Officer to create a purchase order for the annual operation and maintenance within the Village of Cuyahoga Heights for the Flexible & Rigid Pavement Repairs for the second half of 2020 Season.

Ms. Henley made the motion to have the CFO create a Purchase Order for Flexible & Rigid Pavement Repairs for the second half of the 2020 season, seconded by Mr. Contipelli. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

A motion to authorize the Village Engineer to solicit proposals from qualified professionals to perform the Benjamin Moore Demolition and Redevelopment Project, to authorize the Mayor and his designees to evaluate said proposals and negotiate the terms and conditions of performance of the Project.

Mr. Contipelli made the motion to authorize the Engineer to solicit proposals to perform the Benjamin Moore Demolition and to authorize the Mayor to evaluate said proposals and negotiate the terms, seconded by Mr. Centa. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

MAYOR BACCI:

Mayor Bacci has reached out to the schools to see if the Town Hall could help in any way during the pandemic with distance learning. All of the Mayors from the three communities have gotten together in the conversation, and if there is a safe way to accommodate some of the students, we would look into it. It is not to accommodate all of the children, it is to help those kids to give them some structure. It is not to house the entire school district. It is to help those that need structure, to help those whose parents work, to help those that need a place on certain days, to give parents a break. It is an outreach to assist those in need. We are proposing that the basement of the Village Hall, as well as the upstairs of the Village Hall, be maintained separately from the main floor of the Village Hall, with students having separate entrances, with doors closed to any and all employees. The school district will have to staff, manage, sanitize, and clean areas that are used during that time. This is still a work in progress, and conversations are still ongoing as to what will happen. Superintendent Evans is working with all of the villages to see if they can be of service to the school. There are many families that are struggling to find solutions on how to manage children distance learning while they have to work, and we want to help them. Before we do this, we will make sure that it will be as safe as possible, and the Mayor will pass on the information as he gets it.

Dan “Tuzzy” Tucholski passed away on July 23 after a long battle with cancer; he was 77. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you for the appointment of Jeffrey Heintz who will replace Randy Eliason. Randy retires on August 17th. He is a great guy who never had a problem with anybody. If you had a problem with Eli, you had a problem with yourself. He was a very likeable person. Patrolman Jamie Lucas is retiring on August 17th as well. Jamie had 20 years on the department, and Eli had 34.

We have a Proclamation that will be given to Ohio Crankshaft Company on their one hundredth anniversary. Unfortunately, they had to cancel their celebration due to the pandemic, but we are incredibly happy and honored to have them in the village. Congratulations!

My office has been working with Drug Mart and Nurse Socausky—and we are still planning on having flu shots and blood work for our senior citizens on Friday, September 11 as originally scheduled. However, the location will be Klima Gardens instead of the Village Hall auditorium and strictly by appointment only, and no sit-down breakfast. We are working out the details and hope to have the information to our seniors in the next several weeks.

August birthday wishes to employees: (4) Randy Eliason & Brian Baciak, (11) Ted Mackiewicz, (15) Jamie Lukas, (16) Wes Unger, (18) Richard Sweeney, (21) Dan Bauccho, and (30) Craig Morrow.

Please continue to keep several of our residents in your thoughts and prayers: Mrs. Barbara Combs, Mr. Howard Combs, Mrs. Helen Krusinski, Ms. Marti Malek and Joe Vitanza.

Special prayers for Ms. Marti Malek. She is too young to be in this position, and we wish her well.

Mayor Bacci hopes that everyone has a good Labor Day weekend.

MR. BLOAM:

Since Ms. Henley said that his daughter did a fabulous job of keeping the hanging baskets watered in the village, he thanked his daughter for doing her job.

MR. CENTA:

Nothing at this time.

MR. CONTIPELLI:

Nothing at this time.

MS. HARRIS:

If anyone would like to see high school sports in the fall, please contact the school board.

On behalf of the Tucholski family, they were very appreciative of what the Fire Department and Village has done for them during this tough time. Everyone did a great job for Daniels funeral.

MS. HENLEY:

Ms. Henley said that the plants in the village are absolutely beautiful, and commended Mr. Bloams daughter Michaela with keeping them watered and taking care of them. She does a great job.

MR. SCHOEFFLER:

Nothing at this time.

MR. UNGER:

Nothing at this time.

MS. MERIWETHER:

She had a TIRC meeting with the County, and we are going to continue the program with Charter Steel for one more year.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

WHEREFORE, there is no further business before this Council, Ms. Henley moved, seconded by Ms. Harris that the Council Meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m. All voting aye, none opposed: motion carried.