

VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING
March 13, 2024
6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

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MR. CONTIPELLI CALLED CAUCUS TO ORDER at 5:06 p.m.

MAYOR BACCI CALLED ROLL CALL: Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam

Mayor Bacci advised Mr. Contipelli that Mr. Centa reached out to him before the meeting to let him know that he was recovering from surgery and would not be attending tonight's meeting.

Council President Contipelli asked council if there were any questions about the agenda this evening. Mayor Bacci advised that there were two additional pieces of legislation that were added and asked CFO Meriwether to explain in more detail.

CFO Meriwether stated that Ordinance No. 2024-26 is funeral leave for non-bargaining employees to attend non-family members. The mayor requested this piece of legislation to mirror the collective bargaining contracts for police and fire departments who are non-bargaining. Mayor Bacci noted that past practice for the police and fire departments time off for non-family member funeral leave was up to their department heads to let the employee use that time off as personal and use their comp time. This legislation if it passes, will let the non-bargaining employees use sick time.

Mr. Volek expressed concern for Ordinance No. 2024-25 and the possibility of abuse of authority by future administrations, and if it can be reviewed. Law Director Chojnacki advised that council has control to change any legislation, at any time, if the majority of council agrees. CFO Meriwether reminded council on the roles of the purchasing agents and how they approve purchases. Purchases over \$10,000—\$25,000 being approved by both the mayor and CFO. The approval of purchases under \$10,000 being approved by both the mayor and CFO, but individually—and in her and the mayor's opinion, will better protect the community.

Council agreed to bundle the eight motions for the individual components for the Village Hall Campus Improvement Project and approve them all under one motion during the council meeting.

Mr. Chojnacki and the CFO spoke about how the finance committee approves their items. Moving forward, anytime the committee needs to approve items that are within the \$25,001—\$75,000 threshold, there is to be a finance committee meeting. Depending on the items, meetings will vary and public notices will be made around the village via the village marquees, newsletter, all government buildings and on our website.

Mr. Unger shared the news of Mary Phillips who was the mother of Joyce and mother-in-law to Dave, who rent a home from him; she passed away today at 12:37 at the residence. Mr. Unger commented that she was a very kind lady who had been very sick lately and had been on hospice.

Mayor Bacci reminded council that if they haven't done so and are planning on donating an Easter egg basket for our annual Easter egg hunt, please drop it off to my office no later than next Thursday, March 21.

Concession Stand Manager Kelly Hartman has been working hard and advised that she already booked food trucks each week for the month of June at Bacci Park. She also reached out to Dave Volek about music. Unfortunately, she is having a hard time booking food trucks for July— due to lack of customers in the past.

Mr. Contipelli asked if on Saturday, May 4, during RiverSweep at Bacci Park can Concession Stand Manager Hartman open the concession stand again this year until noon. Also, if Mr. Volek is free that morning, if he wouldn't mind playing some music for the volunteers. More information for the public to come.

Mayor Bacci asked council to move into a CIC meeting.

Mr. Contipelli made the motion to adjourn from caucus and to enter a CIC meeting, seconded by Mr. Bloam, all in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

CIC meeting started at 5:29 p.m.

Mr. Contipelli made the motion to end the CIC meeting and go back into caucus, seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

Mr. Contipelli made the motion to go into executive session for personnel matters, seconded by Mr. Volek. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

Executive session started at 5:36 p.m.

Executive session ended at 6:11 p.m.

Caucus ended at 6:11 p.m.

MAYOR BACCI CALLED THE COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER at 6:15 p.m.

Moment of silence for Mary Phillips.

MAYOR BACCI CALLED ROLL CALL: Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam

Mayor Bacci asked for a motion to excuse Mr. Centa from the business meeting. Mr. Bloam made the motion to excuse Mr. Centa from the business meeting, seconded by Mr. Contipelli. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

COMMUNICATIONS: None at this time.

PERMITS: None.

PURCHASES: None.

MINUTES:

February 14, 2024 Council Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes as prepared and place them on file. Mr. Contipelli made the motion to accept the minutes as prepared, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

FINANCE REPORTS:

Position of Cash February 2024
RITA Final Report February 2024

Motion to accept the financial reports as prepared and place them on file. Mr. Schoeffler made the motion to accept the financial reports as prepared, seconded by Mr. Unger. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-21

February Payment of Certain Claims and Transfers
\$ 1,684,276.55

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FLEET LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCING AGREEMENT WITH FIRST CAPITAL EQUIPMENT CORPORATION FOR THREE (3) NEW FORD ECO-BOOST EXPLORERS WITH POLICE UPFITS AND EQUIPMENT

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-23

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LETTER OF INTENT TO PURCHASE TWO VEHICLES FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT;
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. Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek and Bloam voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek and Bloam voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-24

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO AN LED STREET LIGHTING AGREEMENT WITH THE CLEVELAND ILLUMINATING COMPANY

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 234.10 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADJUST THE AUTHORITY OF THE VILLAGE'S PURCHASING AGENTS

Mr. Schoeffler moved, seconded by Mr. Unger, that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance be placed on third and final reading. Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek and Bloam voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek and Bloam voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-26

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 254.11 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ALLOW FOR EMPLOYEE ATTENDANCE AT FUNERAL SERVICES OF NON-FAMILY MEMBERS IN LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES

Mr. Unger moved, seconded by Mr. Volek, that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance be placed on third and final reading. Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek and Bloam voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Contipelli, Schoeffler, Unger, Volek and Bloam voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Council has before them eight motions that are numbered in the agenda that have been discussed in caucus prior to this meeting and have agreed to approve in one motion.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for splash pad area concrete surface not to exceed \$130,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for Pool Deck Upgrading

not to exceed \$140,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for Turf and prep for Pool areas not to exceed \$145,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for Utility Services including but not limited to Sanitary, Water, Conduit, Storm Sewer upgrades not to exceed \$145,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for VH Campus wide electrical upgrades not to exceed \$145,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for VH Campus Parking Lot including but not limited to parking stalls, bumper, stripping and signage upgrades not to exceed \$145,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for VH Campus wide security camera and technology infrastructure upgrades not to exceed \$100,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

A motion authorizing the CFO to create a purchase order for Pool House upgrades including but not limited to windows, doors, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, locker rooms and office area not to exceed \$150,000, to be opened on or after March 14, 2024.

Motion to approve all the motions as prepared and place them on file. Mr. Volek made the motion to accept the motions as prepared, seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

MAYOR BACCI: I would like to have a moment of silence for Council President Renato Contipelli's father, Ralph Contipelli—former village resident, who also served as a councilman, mayor and clerk for our village for many years. Mr. Contipelli passed away on February 22 after battling cancer; he was 88 years old.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy St. Patty's Day this coming Sunday!

Our annual Easter egg hunt takes place next Saturday, March 23 at 11:30 a.m. at Klima Gardens. This event is open to all Cuyahoga Heights resident children and grandchildren 0-12 years of age.

The village hall and service department will be closed on Friday, March 29 (Good Friday) and Monday, April 1. Rubbish collection and special pickup will be delayed by one day.

March employee birthdays: (8) Police Chief Sturgill; (11) Joe Wallace; (12) CFO Angel Meriwether; (15) Jeremy Grabowski; (18) Jeff Baciak; (19) Frank Marcelli; (25) Barb Cash & Tracy Deal; (26) Jimmy Berdysz.

Wishing everyone a very happy and blessed Easter holiday.

MR. CONTIPELLI: Reminder to all that RiverSweep is coming up on Saturday, May 4 and we need volunteers. Information will be found in our newsletters along with our social media. If anyone is willing to help me out with picking up trash along the river at Bacci Park, please reach out to me.

MR. SCHOEFFLER: Nothing to report.

MR. UNGER: Ralph will be missed. Also, my neighbor, Mary Phillips passed away.

MR. VOLEK: Nothing to report.

MR. BLOAM: Sorry for the loss of your father, Renato.

POLICE CHIEF BRIAN STURGILL: Nothing to report.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR SAMMONS: Nothing to report.

FIRE CHIEF SUHY: Nothing to report.

LAW DIRECTOR CHOJNACKI: Nothing to report.

CFO MERIWETHER: Nothing to report.

BARB CASH: Nothing to report.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER NORM CASINI: Nothing to report.

ASSISTANT BUILDING COMMISSIONER: Nothing to report.

VILLAGE ENGINEER SCIANO: Nothing to report.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

WHEREFORE, there is no further business before this council, Mr. Unger moved, seconded by Mr. Volek that the council meeting be adjourned at 6:28 p.m. All voting aye, none opposed, motion approved.

Approved 

Mayor


Renato Contipelli (Apr 12, 2024 07:46 EDT)

Mayor and or President of Council

On March 13, 2024



Chief Fiscal Officer and Clerk of Council