

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council  
Minutes of the Public Affairs Committee**

**June 3, 2019**

**Members:** Drew Reilly, Chair  
Mike Brillhart  
Vic Pallotta

Mr. Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. All members were present.

**Legislation Discussed:**

Temp. Ord. B-35  
Temp. Ord. B-36  
Temp. Ord. B-37  
Temp. Ord. B-38

**Discussion:**

**Temp. Res. B-35**

A resolution approving and adopting the Summit County Hazard Mitigation Plan, for the Executive's Department of Law and Risk Management - Division of Public Safety, Emergency Management Agency, and declaring an emergency.

Fire Chief Fred Jackson stated that this is the Summit County Emergency Management Plan for Mitigation. It's the 2018 update. It is a requirement that it is updated every five years. Summit County adopted this plan April 1. FEMA adopted it April 12th. There are 31 political and private jurisdictions within the County that are required by Federal and State law to have a mitigation plan in a disastrous-type circumstances. They choose, in Summit County, to selectively review it. Mr. Reilly asked if there were any major changes since the last plan was updated. Chief Jackson stated there are no major changes at all.

Mr. Pallotta moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-35 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Ord. B-36**

An ordinance amending Sections 505.20 to 505.31 of the Codified Ordinances, relating to vicious and dangerous dogs, and declaring an emergency.

Police Chief Jack Davis stated that they found there were some conflicts with State law in the City ordinance, so Officer Reuben Miller, who handles a lot of the vicious animal complaints and makes sure people are in compliance, worked with Matt Dickinson in the Law Department to update this to bring them into compliance and streamline the procedure to make it more efficient, as well.

**Public Affairs Committee**  
**June 3, 2019 – Page 2**

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes asked if other areas have an Animal Appeals Board like Cuyahoga Falls. Officer Reuben Miller stated that there was one jurisdiction that had an Animal Appeals Board. The very nature of the Appeals Boards for vicious and dangerous does not apply under State law; however, they have a stipulation that if an aggressive dog attacks a domestic animal, other than a dog, and kills it. The Appeals Board would only handle an aggressive dog; anything else would have to go through Municipal Court according to State law.

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-36 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Ord. B-37**

An ordinance amending Chapter 921 of the Codified Ordinances for the City of Cuyahoga Falls by enacting Section 921.12, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Zachary Jones, Utility Billing Manager, stated that this ordinance is a recommendation made by AMP to communities across the Ohio. It gives the City a mechanism to back-bill utility customers should a mistake be made. This will primarily impact the snowbirds that leave town, come back and perhaps forget to reactivate their sanitation service. It gives them something official to allow them to go back and collect. It will not affect residents' ability to collect from the City should there be overcharges.

Mr. Pallotta moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-37 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Ord. B-38**

An ordinance amending Section 921.03 of the Codified Ordinances, relating to fees for certain utility services and declaring, an emergency.

Mr. Jones stated that there are two fees being introduced here. The first one is a meter-tampering fee. As of right now, there's Ohio law that makes it a criminal offense, but there is nothing in the ordinance. If they were to charge somebody for tampering with their meter, those costs that are recovered by the court system and not the City. The goal with this is to help cover for time spent for utility billing staff, the Cuyahoga Falls Police and the Cuyahoga Falls Electric Department. They conducted survey with AMP. There are several communities throughout the state that have meter-tampering fees within their ordinance. Additionally, it's trying to deter residents from doing unsafe things like tampering with their electric meter. There is a green tag placed on their door that gives them a set amount of time to establish an arrangement to pay their bill. What these fees would be for is the second green tag that would go out in the calendar year. It is an administrative cost to cover for the time spent out dropping, as well as hopefully deter customers from waiting to get a tag before they pay their bill.

**Public Affairs Committee**  
**June 3, 2019 – Page 3**

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-38 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed (3-0).

Mr. Iona stated that he has gotten a couple e-mails and a couple phone calls since the round building on Portage Trail has been torn down. It was a 1960 retro building. It's considered very unique. He asked if the City could obtain one of those panels that's been torn down to maybe put on display. Mayor Walters stated that, when the building came down, there were four individual panels that had the design within. Out of the four, they broke one, so there ended up being three. Two were sold to Akron. Cuyahoga Falls has the best one. It's currently located at the new Fire Station 3. It will be incorporated in the screening at the generator on the side or in the landscaping. The Testa family donated that to the City for no charge.

Mr. Iona stated that Falls Hardware on State Road has been one of the longest running businesses. It closed last year. He was wondering if the owner, John McClain, might be someone the City would consider for the Honorary Boulevard, due to the fact that there was a long-running business in the Falls. Mayor Walters stated that that is a wonderful submission. He knows Mr. McClain and his wife well. They do quite a bit for the community. He stated that he will put his name in the file that they have for nominees.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.