

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

April 16, 2018

Members: Mike Brillhart, Chair
Drew Reilly
Vic Pallotta

Mr. Brillhart called the meeting to order at 8:51 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. A-36

Temp. Ord. A-37

Temp. Ord. A-38

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-36

An ordinance amending Chapter 133 of the Codified Ordinances and creating the Division of Neighborhood Excellence, Communications, and Community Outreach (“NECCO”) and the positions of Neighborhood Excellence, Communications, and Community Outreach Director; and Neighborhood Excellence and Downtown Administrator; renaming Public Utility Customer Advocate to Public Utilities and Community Outreach Coordinator; and abolishing the position of Riverfront Centre District Manager in the Community Development Department and amending Exhibit “A” of Ordinance 117-2015, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brillhart stated that he wanted to highlight two items contained in the package. The first one, "Whereas City resources should be aligned and adjusted to focus on areas that provide the greatest benefit to the residents whom the City serves," he thinks that is what they are doing is updating and keeping pace with what the public demands. Number 2, "Whereas, strong, safe and vibrant neighborhoods are the lifeblood of the City's thriving community," is why they are all here. Having excellent neighborhoods is really what makes the City and public stand out.

Mr. Pallotta asked if Temporary Ordinance A-36 is sorting out the various titles and appropriations for that position. He stated that Mrs. Pyke brought up that she would like to see a breakdown of Temporary Ordinance A-32, in that she supports some parts of the ordinance and not others. He asked if this is going to affect that ordinance, as well. Mr. Russell Balthis, Law Director, stated that Mrs. Pyke was requesting additional information about the specific breakdown in the line items. That is going to be provided by Mr. Hoffman. The two ordinances are connected. Temporary Ordinance A-32 adjusts the appropriations and plans for the filling of the positions described in Temporary Ordinance A-36.

Mr. Reilly asked if there have been amendments made to Temporary Ordinance A-32. Mr. Brillhart stated that there have not.

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Mr. Gorbach stated that if anyone on the Rail is considering making any amendments to any piece of legislation, he certainly would like to know about it prior to Monday evening's meeting, as he thinks all of Council should be aware of it, so they can review that. He would hope that that stands with any possible amendments in Mr. Brillhart's committee, as well. Mrs. Pyke stated that that should be any time they are making an amendment to anything, because Council wants to make sure that they have gone through the Law Department, so that the wording is satisfactory to them, since they will be the ones who have to implement those changes. If she does plan on making an amendment, she will definitely work through Mr. Balthis beforehand, and then he could get that out to Council to yay or nay. She stated that she wanted to make sure that Mr. Hoffman was going to get Council these salaries, not just the grade, but the actual amount associated with N29, N32 and N31. Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, stated that he believes the two things that he is to get out is wage and benefits and, also, the miscellaneous contractual services line items. Mr. Brillhart asked when they could expect to see that. Mr. Hoffman stated that it would be Wednesday at the latest.

Mr. Reilly moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-36 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed (2-1).

Temp. Ord. A-37

An ordinance re-assigning the nonbargaining positions of Tax Administrator, Deputy Service Director and Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Superintendent to the appropriate pay grade within the classification and compensation plan, and amending Exhibit "A" of ordinance 117-2015, and declaring an emergency.

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

Temp. Ord. A-38

An ordinance amending the Traffic Control File by providing for installation of various traffic control devices, and declaring an emergency.

Police Chief Davis stated that there are three items to be added to the Traffic Control File. The first item prohibits a right on red turn from south on Front Street onto Portage Trail. This came to the Committee from Mr. Chuck Novak, Street Commissioner, from cars having to pull too far out onto Portage Trail, due to sight problems, to see down the road. Number two was to prohibit parking on Boulder Avenue on the odd side between Quartz Avenue and Quartz Avenue. Mr. Iona brought this to the Committee, as well as the HOA from that area. It's a very narrow street with the islands there. This is for the traffic going in. It would eliminate the parking on that side. Number three is to prohibit parking on the even side of Boulder Avenue within 50 feet of any island. This is for traffic coming out of the development. It will allow for a few parking spots. There are not that many homes on that side, but, with the islands, it is narrow and causes problems for people trying to get through.

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Mr. Pallotta asked if a utility box was blocking the view on Front Street out to Portage Trail. Chief Davis stated that the way the building sits on that corner makes it necessary to have to pull very far out to see, and then with people making the turn, it creates a problem. Mr. Iona stated that he wanted to thank Chief Davis. The situation on Boulder Avenue was a three-month process. There were people that absolutely wanted no parking, people that wanted parking, and there was no comment. Once the survey was sent out, everybody agreed on how to do the parking.

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

Mrs. Pyke stated that, on the Next Door Cuyahoga Falls Facebook page, a lot of residents have been asking about the light at Sixth Street and Broad Boulevard. She asked if there been any changes that would have caused that light to be holding longer on Sixth Street, and have they been getting complaints. Mr. John Konich, Director of Information Technology, stated that he was not aware of any. They went out and checked it. The light appears to be operating normally, but they have gotten those complaints. Mrs. Pyke asked if they were considering any type of study to see if it's changed the length of time on Sixth Street. Mr. Konich stated that they are trying to get more specific information from residents that are having these problems, such as what time of day and what the traffic is.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.