

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

November 21, 2016

Members: Vic Pallotta, Chair
Adam Miller
Jerry James

Mr. Pallotta called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. Mr. James was absent.

The minutes from the November 7, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. A-90

Temp. Ord. A-91

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-90

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a license agreement with Alan Ederer for the use of three feet of City right-of-way for the purpose of constructing and operating a parking lot in the Cody Avenue right-of-way abutting the property at 1928 Portage Trail (Parcel No. 02-20463), and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Guerra stated that Mr. Ederer was here tonight to answer any questions Council may have. Mr. Ederer bought the property and is renovating the building and the parking lot. In looking at the parking lot, he realized that it wasn't a very large area. He wanted to expand it by three feet beside the building. The extra three feet will allow him to be able to have normal-size parking spaces and make it wide enough for people to back up into. He came to the City and requested permission to use three feet in the Cody Avenue area to construct a better parking lot. In that area now is grass and the entryway to the Market District. Mr. Guerra said they can allow him to use part of that right-of-way as this license agreement.

Mr. Ederer stated that Cuyahoga Falls means something to him. He has built in the city before. He looks at this building as an opportunity to put a little sparkle in something that is otherwise down. It looks like one building, but it is two buildings. Pete Pappas owns the rest and doesn't want to sell it. Mr. Ederer stated that he is going to modernize the building and put a new front on it. This parking is essential. If this could be worked out, he will be very happy and can make people proud of it. He will get tenants in there that will pay a little more tax. Mr. Pallotta stated that Mr. Ederer has remodeled the old drive-through gas station/lottery ticket place on Marsha Boulevard and State Road and made it beautiful. As far as this small area he is requesting, right now, it is three feet of broken-up asphalt and weeds. Mr. Ederer is going to pave it. On the other side of that driveway are the storm sewers. When Mr. Stark put in Portage Crossing, that building was inundated with mud flow and water until they cleared out those storm sewers there. Now,

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they are clear and the people in those shops there have done their due diligence, but that building coming down Portage Trail could use Mr. Ederer's Midas touch.

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-90 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed (2-0).

Temp Ord. A-91

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a license agreement with Valley Park LTD. for the purpose of installing and maintaining a business identification sign in the public right-of way of State Road, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Guerra stated that this is another license agreement for a sign for the new Audi building at Cascade. This area is the wide area of State Road, and there has always been signs there. Cascade had an original sign there, a Porsche/Audi sign. This ordinance allows them to put a new sign there for the dealership. There is a lot of room there and the City agrees that that's where the sign should go. Mr. Pallotta stated that the sign will not obstruct the view at the exit and the entrance on both sides of that building, so it is not a safety hazard. It is his understanding that there are underground sewer lines there, but the City is aware of their location, so that won't obstruct any underground utilities. Mr. Guerra stated that they will look at that when they apply for the building permit. Mr. Colavecchio asked the property owners what type of sign they were installing and the dimensions of that sign. Ms. Michelle Primm, owner of Cascade Porsche/Audi, 4149 State Road, stated that it is a monument-type sign that will be lighted. Mr. Guerra stated that the dimensions of the sign are contained on the handout that was distributed. Mr. Colavecchio asked when the sign will be installed. Ms. Primm stated that it will depend on the weather. Mr. Iona stated that he had the pleasure of being inside that new building and it is phenomenal. The sign is only going to attract more people. He highly recommends that Council proceed with this ordinance. Mr. Brillhart stated that it is a very classy-looking sign and very beautiful building. Ms. Primm thanked Council.

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-91 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed (2-0).

Mayor Walters stated that, since the last Council meeting, two cycles have gone out, the 15th and the 20th cycle. The 15th went out on the 16th and consisted of 7,394 bills. That is the largest cycle. Cycle 20 was yesterday, so it went out today, on the 21st. That cycle consists of 5,290 bills. Both cycles went out within the window. Mrs. Pyke stated that she appreciates the Mayor's updates every week. Several members of Council have been notified that there are additional problems with Utility Billing; specifically, the commercial accounts. Mrs. Pyke asked when Council will be updated on that. Mayor Walters stated that they will have the full presentation next week. Everything is going out correctly on the commercial accounts, so he has not addressed them. The updates that he has given are for the residential accounts. The commercial account bills from June, July and August are being addressed individually, whether by phone call, mail or

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visit, and those will all be corrected individually. Mayor Walters stated that when Mrs. Pyke mentions there are problems, that is not factual. Everything is going out properly.

Mrs. Pyke asked if there are commercial customers that have not been notified that they were underbilled during June, July and August. Mayor Walters stated that they are going through all those right now. Mrs. Pyke stated that she understands that, under the Ohio Revised Code, the names of the businesses do not have to be released, but she would like to know the number of businesses that were affected. Mayor Walters stated it would be better to wait for the presentation next week. Mrs. Pyke stated that, next week, they will be discussing the Electric proposed budget, so she assumes that they will be going over the amount that they are not seeing in revenues because of this. Mayor Walters stated that they will have full coverage of the audit. The consultant that is working on it now will be present at the meeting. They will be given a complete timeline of what happened and where they are at now. Mrs. Pyke stated that they were supposed to get that audit in advance and asked when Council will receive a copy. Mayor Walters stated it is still in draft form and he expects that to be finalized by Wednesday. Mrs. Pyke asked how they found out they were being underbilled. Mayor Walters stated it was in the audit. Some of things that were given to Innoprise, as far as the demand and the different components of that, were not entered properly as they had submitted them. The classifications of commercial accounts are quite varied and very dissimilar to a residential account. They will try and explain that next week, as well.

Mr. Pallotta stated he had received social media messages about people that were talking about not getting their bill in 60 days and other complaints. He stated that he gave them Ms. Hazlett's name and phone number and told them that he would forward their contact information to her. They would not give him their names and phone numbers, so he doesn't know if these are people that are complaining and really don't want a solution. Ms. Teresa Hazlett, Deputy Service Director, stated that she had not received any phone calls today, but she would be happy to answer their questions.

Mr. Pallotta made a motion to excuse Mr. James from the meeting; second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.