

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council  
Ad Hoc Committee Meeting for Redistricting  
November 7, 2011**

**Members:** Don Walters, Chair  
Jerry James  
Jeff Iula

Mr. Walters called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes from the October 24, 2011 Ad Hoc Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

**Discussion**

Mr. Walters stated he found a typo in the September 26 minutes. The numbers were transposed in the chart under Ward 6. It should have read "574" instead of "547." The number was reflected correctly, however, under Ward 7.

Mr. Walters stated there were currently two proposals, and everyone should have had a chance to review them. He felt it was important that the Committee come to a consensus so that the legislation could be adopted by December and especially by the end of the year. Mr. Iula stated they looked at the two original proposals and came up with two more that incorporated the suggestions made the previous week. Portage Crossing is back in Ward 5 and all of the presidential streets are together in Ward 6. They stuck with their goal to make each ward more of a neighborhood. Under both new proposals, Wards 1, 2 and 3 have not changed. One of the proposals affects 9% of residents and the other affects 11%. They also took future community development projects into consideration.

Mrs. Pyke stated they are calling the two new proposals, Proposal C and Proposal D. They decided to totally discard Proposal B. Mr. Rubino stated he liked Proposal B because it gave him the Sill-Taylor-High-Tallmadge Rd. area. Mr. Walters asked Ms. Jones whether it would be possible for a map, other than the one brought out of Committee, to be the map actually adopted if someone moved to amend the legislation with their map preference. Ms. Jones stated the proper protocol in that case would be to refer it back to Committee for further review. Mr. Walters asked whether Mr. Rubino would have the right to amend by substitution. Ms. Jones stated he could make that motion. Mr. Walters stated that if that amendment would then pass, Council would be voting on something different than what was brought out of Committee. He stated the purpose of the Committee was to bring out what it felt was the best proposal.

Mrs. Pyke stated that Wards 1, 2 and 3 did not change in Proposal C. This map moved only 9.3% of the population, which is approximately 500 less than the amount moved under Proposal A, which moved 4,600 residents. Proposal C also put Portage Crossing back into Ward 5 and the border was adjusted so it did not look jagged. If Mrs. Colavecchio wanted Ward 5 to move farther north, that could be done and an additional 112 people would be added to Ward 5. Ward 8 could be given the area in Ward 3 that contains the nursing home, which would be 138 people added back into Ward 8. If that change were to occur, the proposal would still stay under 10% of the population affected. The area that Mr. Rubino received under Proposal B could also still be moved over but that would then put Ward 1 at the high end and Ward 2 at the low end. In Proposal D, Ward 5 still gets Portage Crossing but Ward 6 would also get all of the presidential streets. There are a total of 5,571 people moved in Proposal D, which is 400 more people than in Proposal A. All wards are maintained within 2.1% of the mean. She pointed out that this map mimics how the police set up their districts. Proposal D is her preference.

Mrs. Hummel asked if Proposal D kept all Council people in their ward. Mrs. Pyke stated she did not specifically look at that but assumed everyone stayed in their ward. Mr. Walters pointed out there is a candidate running in the election tomorrow who would be drawn out of her ward in Proposals A, C and D. He stated that Council members need time to review the newest proposals and asked Ms. Jones if it would be a violation of the Sunshine Law if a member were to contact him with their preference. Ms. Jones stated as long as they only contacted him it would be fine. Mr. Walters did not think it would be prudent for the Committee to make a recommendation this evening after only having ten minutes to review the latest proposals. He stated he would like to hold a meeting next week prior to the Council meeting and whatever map was decided on at that time would be the map that would be attached as an exhibit to the legislation that would be introduced during the Council meeting. He stated if the Committee recommended Proposal "Z" and someone was not happy with that recommendation, they could make an amendment on the floor. It is difficult for three people to make a decision when you are working with maps. He added that his phone number has been listed in the *Falls News Press* each week and he has not received one call from residents. He does not think it's because they don't care, he just thinks residents fine with whatever Council decides. Mrs. Pyke stated she had five people talk to her about this. She stated she is not doing this for any political reason but only sees it as an opportunity to correct decades of moving wards to where they maybe should not have been moved. She agrees with holding off on making a recommendation until next week. Mr. Walters stated should not happen is to have more proposals presented every time the Committee meets. Council has a timeline. Mrs. Pyke stated there would be no further proposals. She appreciated the Committee taking its time on this. Tonight, she presented Proposals C and D because Mr. Iula would not allow her to present E and F. The purpose behind Proposal C was to displace the least amount of people. Proposal D is to accommodate requests made by Council members last week while staying as close as possible to the original number displaced. She stated 9.3% of residents were displaced under Proposal C and 11.2% under Proposal D. Mr. Walters reiterated that he has received no phone calls so he does not think it is the hot topic that everyone thinks it is.

Mr. Mader stated he has not had any calls on this either. The bottom line is this is a common sense issue. People are not sensitive to the ward they are in. They just want to talk to someone. Anyone living in the areas that move out of Ward 8 will probably still contact him. He would just make sure he brings the appropriate Council person into the loop. He did not know how detailed the redistricting had to be other than the one candidate running tomorrow who may be drawn out of her ward. Mrs. Pyke felt there is a decrease in voter attendance when residents have to go out of their area to vote. She asked Mr. Guerra if he saw anything on the proposals he felt was important relating to zoning. Mr. Guerra indicated he did not think zoning mattered as much in this instance.

Mr. Walters stated he will call a meeting for 6:29 next Monday, prior to the start of the Council meeting. The plan is to have legislation drawn up for whatever proposal will be brought out of that Committee meeting. That map would then be attached to the legislation prior to it being read at the Council meeting, and it would then be assigned to the Public Affairs Committee for discussion the following week. Mrs. Pyke indicated she had all of the maps scanned onto her computer and, if anyone was interested, she would forward them.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

## Cuyahoga Falls City Council Wards

Wards with 2010 Population and Deviation  
Range (5% > Mean) to (5% < Mean)

Ward	Population (2010)
1	6,090
2	6,090
3	6,241
4	5,865
5	6,628
6	5,733
7	5,746
8	7,230

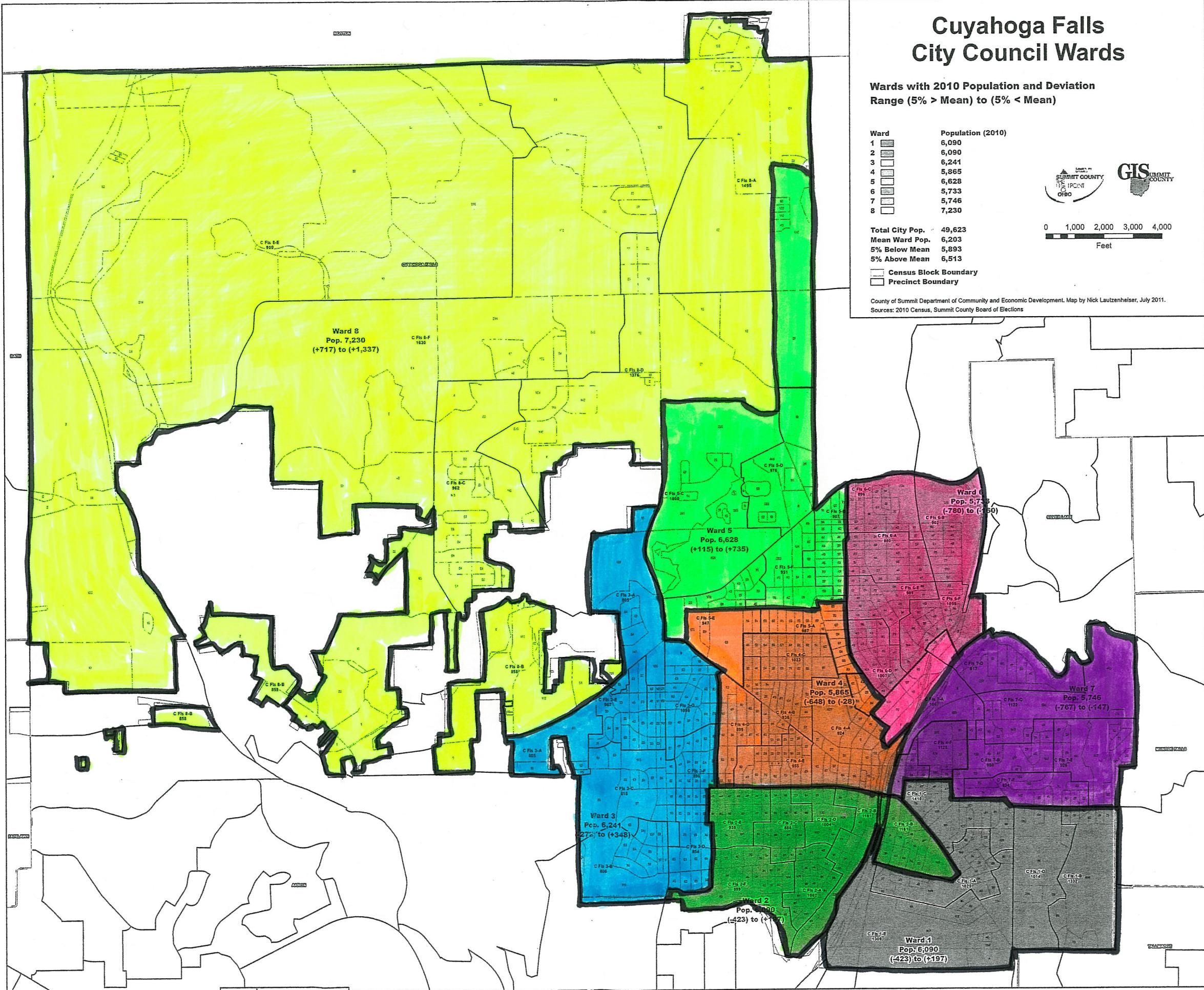
Total City Pop. 49,623  
Mean Ward Pop. 6,203  
5% Below Mean 5,893  
5% Above Mean 6,513

Census Block Boundary  
Precinct Boundary



0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000  
Feet

County of Summit Department of Community and Economic Development. Map by Nick Lautzenheiser, July 2011.  
Sources: 2010 Census, Summit County Board of Elections



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