

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

May 23, 2016

Call to Order: Mr. Pallotta at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Mr. Rubino, present; Mr. Pallotta, present; Ms. Nichols-Rhodes, present; Mr. Brillhart, present; Mr. Miller, present; Mr. James, present; Mr. Iona, present; Mr. Colavecchio, present; Mrs. Klinger, present; Mr. Iula, present; Mrs. Pyke, absent.

Invocation: Mr. Iona

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Colavecchio

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the May 9, 2016 Council meeting were approved as written.

Reports and Communications: A letter dated April 28, 2016 received from the Advocates for the University of Akron, Students and Faculty addressing what they believe to be issues concerning the leadership and financial future of the University.

Council recessed into a Committee-of-the-Whole at 6:34 p.m. and reconvened at 6:36 p.m.

Reports of Council's Special Committees

Mr. James moved to approve the Mayor's appointments, second by Mr. Colavecchio. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

New Legislation
(First Reading)

Temp. Ord. A-41 (Planning & Zoning)

An ordinance accepting the Planning Commission one-year extension for the Menards site plan at 75 Graham Road, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. A-42 (Planning & Zoning)

An ordinance accepting the Planning Commission approval, findings and conditions of the major site plan for the Wallhouse Hotel on Parcel 02-18226, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Res. A-43 (Finance)

A resolution authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for and accept financial assistance in the form of a grant or loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission for replacement of a 6" water main in Highland Avenue, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. A-44 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to execute a Modification of Contract No. 7304 with Perrin Asphalt Company for the annual resurfacing and/or repair of various streets, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. A-45 (Community Development)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Community Development to amend the Community Reinvestment Area tax exemption agreement with Menard Incorporated, and declaring an emergency

Reports of Council's Standing Committees

(Third Reading)

Planning & Zoning

None.

Finance & Appropriations:

Temp. Ord. A-38

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract, without competitive bidding, with Smart Bill Ltd. for utility bill printing and mailing services, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Klinger moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-38, second by Mr. Iona. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Public & Industrial Improvements:

None.

Public Affairs

Temp. Ord. A-39

An ordinance authorizing the Parks and Recreation Board to apply for and accept a grant from the Department of Natural Resources, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Pallotta moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-39, second by Mr. James. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Community Development

Temp. Ord. A-40

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Community Development to enter into a Community Reinvestment Area tax exemption agreement with Decker Fasteners Limited, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Miller moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-40, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Schedule of Committee Meetings

Planning & Zoning:	June 6, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Finance:	June 6, 2016, 6:35 p.m.
Public Improvements:	June 6, 2016, 6:40 p.m.
Public Affairs:	Subject to Call
Community Development:	June 6, 2016, 6:45 p.m.

Miscellaneous Business

Police Chief Jack Davis passed out copies of the annual report to Council and the Administration and stated that he would like to take a couple minutes to go over the highlights of the report and speak about what they're doing in the Police Department. On the cover of the report, there is a picture of the Police Department's new canine, Dan-C, with Julius Heil, one of their retired officers. That picture was taken at the Crabtree Memorial Run last year, which will be held on June 11th this year.

Chief Davis stated there was over a 3-percent decrease in Category 1 reporting. People think crime is running rampant, but there has actually been a decrease over the last three years in Category 1 crimes. Those are major crimes such as robberies and homicides. The Police Department is doing a good job and crime has actually been decreasing. There has been a significant decrease of almost 25 percent in burglaries reported last year. That is probably going to be an anomaly, but it's great to see. The Police Department has a very active patrol unit and their detectives do an excellent job of follow-up.

Chief Davis stated that the Police Department brought back a couple programs last year. They brought the bike patrol back. There are two officers, Officer Alestock and Officer Palcisco. They're both young and have been with the Department almost three years. They are very personable and very good officers, and they will do a good job getting out in the community, as well as the festivals. The Police Department has also brought back the senior program. Some elderly people have nobody to turn to, so they are trying to get back in touch with them. The nice thing is the reinstatement of that program actually was presented by one of the officers. One of the Department's sergeants had been out on a scam of an elderly person and came to

Chief Davis to request that they reinstate the program. It takes a minimum amount of time, but some people really need it, so they are glad to see that program back.

Chief Davis stated that they have been doing a lot with drug education and enforcement. They go hand in hand. They have upped their enforcement. They added another detective to the Narcotics Unit that will investigate and run after dealers. The Department has done a lot in education. They are really pushing the "Not Me, Drug Free." program. They are in the schools and participating with the Opiate Task Force. They are attending the mandatory meetings that the schools are offering for parents, such as sports meetings and freshman orientation, where they can give them about 15 minutes of education about things to watch for and things to be aware of. The dump program is doing great. People can drop off drugs anytime. They participated in the National Take Back Day and had almost 80 pounds of pills, and that was taking them out of containers. That was in conjunction with Western Reserve Hospital, which helps tremendously with the drug education program.

Chief Davis stated that the Police Department's canines are very important to them. The Department's dogs did great at the Canine Competition at Lock 3 and took home four out of ten trophies. Captain Tabak and Officer Holzapfel each took trophies with their canines. The dog that won Top Gun was actually trained by Captain Tabak for Tallmadge, so he had a little hand in that, too. He stated that they are very proud of all their officers. They work very hard for the City and its residents. There have been 10 people hired within the last year, which is a lot of new people at one time. He stated that they can teach them to be really good cops, but they are good people that are treating citizens very well, and that's what's really important. They are receiving a lot of thank yous and a lot of nice complements about them. Chief Davis thanked Council and the Administration and stated that if anyone has any questions, please call.

Mrs. Klinger thanked Chief Davis and stated that he has done a remarkable job as leadership of the police department. It really shows in the officers and the quality of the new recruits that he is attracting into the community. Chief Davis thanked Mrs. Klinger and stated that all the officers work very hard. They want that to have the reputation of being the police department and city people want to work for, and they're getting there. It's a good environment and they are happy with it.

Mr. Pallotta stated that Council members may be interested in hearing about the new, improved speed tubes and the reporting and asked Chief Davis to speak a little bit about it. Chief Davis stated that Tech Service has purchased new software. He stated he had a citizen complaint about speeders on 10th Street, between Roosevelt and Portage, at that light. By doing a speed study, they can actually show how many cars and what the average speed is. It gives you a graph and a dashboard and it's much easier to read. It actually suggests a level of enforcement. With that particular complaint, it suggested a low level of enforcement, which is good and means there is not a speeding problem there. It also shows a traffic count per hour and when the higher speeds are, so they know if there are maybe a few hours where the traffic is heavier and they may need to do some enforcement there. If there are complaints about speeders in a neighborhood, it helps the Department do a study, so they can show that it's more perception than reality, or else, if there is a problem, when the problem is occurring and when to go out and do the enforcement. Mr. Pallotta thanked Chief Davis and stated that every neighborhood

has speeders, and it's a good tool to use. Chief Davis stated that they appreciate the support they get from Council and the Administration and the citizens of Cuyahoga Falls.

Mr. Brian Hoffman, Director of Finance, in giving an update on the Report 21, stated that there were a couple of things that occurred in April that he wanted to keep Council up to date on. The first one is the real estate tax. The settlement for the first half of tax payments came in. These collections are on pace to meet the budget. Last year, they were down just a little bit, but, this year, they have noticed some increases and are most likely going to meet the budget.

Last month, interest revenue was up about \$28,000 over budget estimate. This month, interest revenue is up \$34,000.

Mr. Hoffman stated that, as he mentioned last month, the loan to BEI was a payback of \$58,578. That's in the Other Financing Sources line item. In other funds, because April is tax month, municipal income tax revenue was up 7.2 percent over 2015 through April. Mr. Hoffman stated that he wanted to reiterate that the largest portion of the increase is in the current collections and withholding tax. That is a welcome sight, because that is a sustainable line. In S.C.M.R., there is still that upward trend in the fees, license and permits. That was a long-time downward trend through 2014, and then an upward trend in 2015. They are continuing to see that. There are a couple timing issues in the S.C.M.R. Fund in both the motor vehicle license and hotel/motel tax. Last year, the payments came in and were posted the first day of May. This year, they were posted in April.

Mr. Hoffman stated that in the Leisure Time Fund, the charges for services at the Natatorium were up 3.3% over 2015. Last month, Brookledge reported a pretty-high number, percentage-wise, because the weather was good this year compared to 2015. It is anticipated that will start to normalize at 7.9 percent up and then Downview again normalizing at 6.9 up. Last month, it was in the high double digits. The pool is scheduled to open this coming weekend, so those numbers will start coming in and they expect to get some trends over the summer on that. He stated he wanted to caution everybody on those numbers. Last year, it was a really slow start and then there was a big jump in July last year at the pool when it got really hot.

Mr. Hoffman stated in the Expenses line items, there aren't many things out of the ordinary. He said he will leave the notation there that there were three pay dates in January of 2015 until July of this year, when there will be three pay dates. That is why, in looking at the salary line items, personal services line items in every category, they look like they're down in 2016. In the Self-Insurance Fund, there is one claimant that has reached the stop loss and there is another claimant who is also very large that has sprung up over the last month. So, the numbers in the Self-Insurance Fund are not very good at this point in the year. The good news is these things are planned for, so things should be okay in the revenue side of things. Mr. Hoffman stated he was open to any questions Council may have.

Mr. Miller moved to excuse Mrs. Pyke from tonight's meeting, second by Mr. Iona. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Mr. James moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Victor Pallotta, Council President

Dana Capriulo, Council Clerk