

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

May 9, 2016

- Call to Order:** Mrs. Pyke at 6:31 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, present.
- Invocation:** Mr. Iona
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. James
- Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the April 25, 2016 Council meeting were approved as written.
- Reports and Communications:** None.

New Legislation
(First Reading)

Temp. Ord. A-38 (Finance)

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.

Temp. Ord. A-39 (Public Affairs)

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.

Temp. Ord. A-40 (Community Development)

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.

Reports of Council's Standing Committees
(Third Reading)

Planning & Zoning

Temp. Ord. A-34 An ordinance authorizing and approving the Preserve at Salt Creek Final Subdivision Plat on Parcel 37-00484 and Parcel 37-00485, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Iona moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-34, second by Mr. Rubino. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Finance & Appropriations:

Temp. Ord. A-35

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Harris Systems USA, Inc., for the professional services necessary to install, maintain and operate an enterprise software system/cloud, including associated software licensing, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Klinger moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-35, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Temp. Ord. A-36

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract and/or contracts without competitive bidding with Best Commercial Energy Services, Inc., for the purchase of an air conditioning system retrofit, and accessories necessary for proper operation of the HVAC system in the City Municipal Building, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Klinger moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-36, second by Mr. Iona. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Public & Industrial Improvements:

None.

Public Affairs

None.

Community Development

Temp. Ord. A-37

An ordinance approving the Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan for fiscal year 2016, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Iona stated that, during last week's committee meeting, he had several questions regarding CDBG's 2016 Action Plan. NDS invited him to a two-hour meeting to review the portion he was questioning in reference to the homes and the amount of money spent on homes in redoing them, et cetera. When he went there, they went through the plan item by item. It isn't rehabbing a house; it is improving a neighborhood. He stated he was thinking they were going to do a whole bunch of houses, and they are thinking, no, they're doing one house and not making it perfect, but making it improve the community, which is an entirely different concept. He questioned that, and they

showed him some of the results. There is a full-time person doing it this year, so there will be a lot more homes done this year than before. There were no Cuyahoga Falls' contractors on their list. He asked them what had happened, and they basically said no one applied. NDS is going to do something to make it work. They are going to promote it through the Falls News. They are going to promote it through the Cuyahoga Falls Chamber of Commerce. So, instead of having contractors from Youngstown working on Cuyahoga Falls' properties, there will be some local people. Mr. Iona stated that he questioned what the \$6,000 goes for. NDS explained it in great detail. It is not just a walk-through inspection. It is far greater than that. He stated that, after spending two hours with them, the plan is a good plan and he supports it. All his questions were answered succinctly. They were very pleasant about it and didn't treat him as if he were in an adversarial role. He stated he feels better educated about what they do.

Mr. Colavecchio stated that he had some additional remarks. He stated that, last week, for clarity, he pointed out that Council was just voting on three pages of the binder. Part of his frustration, at times, is that questions are being asked that should have been asked before the committee meeting. It is understood that there are details that follow, but, a lot of times, questions are asked at committee meetings that should have been asked weeks, if not months, before. When there are a bunch of questions being asked, people have to try and think on the fly or they have to get back to Council with the information. Because people don't understand what the legislation is about, questions may not be germane or a vote gets taken and something might not come out of committee. Mr. Colavecchio stated that he knows that everyone does their due diligence. He would just ask that that culminates in asking these questions beforehand, so that everyone isn't sitting here for 25 minutes listening to questions that could have been asked before the meeting. In doing that, better answers are given, because there are people who will sit down and go over questions and concerns. Everything could be covered before the meeting. If it cannot, it's legitimate, but a lot of concerns could be addressed before the meeting.

Mrs. Pyke stated she appreciates Council's due diligence before the legislation comes before them. She, Mr. Miller and Ms. Nichols-Rhodes met with Community Development for over an hour. A lot of the questions asked last week were questions that were asked during that meeting because it was felt that all of Council could benefit from the answers. She stated she applauds someone who has a question and seeks the answer to it. She appreciates the work that goes into it in advance and hopes Council keeps up the good work. She thanked Mr. Iona for pursuing answers to the questions he had.

Mr. Miller moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-37, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Schedule of Committee Meetings

Planning & Zoning:	Subject to call.
Finance:	May 16, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Public Improvements:	Subject to call.
Public Affairs:	May 16, 2016, 6:35 p.m.
Community Development:	May 16, 2016, 6:40 p.m.

Miscellaneous Business

Mr. Miller announced that, after tonight’s meeting, the next Ad Hoc Committee on Council's Best Practices and Transparency will be May 23, 2016, at 7 p.m.

Mr. Rubino stated he had a question about the Ad Hoc Committee that might help to clarify some things. When the committee was originally set up, it was referred to as the Committee on Best Practices. Now, it is being called Best Practices and Transparency. He asked if the whole of the committee has changed, or what the purpose is for adding in “transparency” on the name. Mrs. Pyke stated it actually went out in a publication, so they just mimicked tonight what was said in the publication. Mr. Rubino stated that was helpful, because the other part dovetails into this. When you look at Council Rules, it talks about the formation of special committees to address specific items. He said, unless he missed it, he did not see the word "ad hoc" used anywhere. Because “ad hoc” can mean any number of things to people, he asked if, when structuring committees that aren't defined in Council Rules, it wouldn't be a better idea, possibly in terms of staying on track in terms of Council Rules, to use terms that are used in the vocabulary of Council Rules. He stated he understands the intention, but wonders if it wouldn't be better to call it a special committee.

Mrs. Pyke stated that the last committee that was formed that Mr. Pallotta was on was referred to as an ad hoc committee, so they were just sampling after that. Mr. Rubino stated he remembered that, and it was his thought at that time, also, but he thought that maybe this was some kind of anomaly. Also coming with that responsibility of a special committee is that the committee functions like a standing committee. In order to stay within the boundaries of functioning like a standing committee, the vocabulary should be used according to Council Rules. He stated he didn't want to speak, necessarily, to what was occurring during Mr. Pallotta's committee. He assumes that it was acting as a standing committee and using the same procedures, but he would just encourage Council to try to use the vocabulary of City Council Rules. Mrs. Pyke stated she appreciated Mr. Rubino’s opinion.

Mr. James moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Mary Ellen Pyke, Council President

Dana Capriulo, Council Clerk