

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting of January 27, 2014

Call to Order Mrs. Pyke called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Mr. Colavecchio
 Mr. DeRemer
 Mr. Iula
 Mr. James
 Mrs. Klinger
 Mr. Mader
 Mr. Pallota
 Mr. Rubino
 Mrs. Snyder
 Mr. Weinhardt
 Mrs. Pyke
Absent: (none)

2. Invocation

The invocation was given by Mr. Mader.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Weinhardt led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Council Meeting.

Approval of the minutes was deferred.

5. Reading of petitions, claims, communications and reports of City officials.

The following items were received and reported by the Clerk:

1. Letter dated January 10, 2014 from Dominion East Ohio notifying the Council that the company's automated meter reading cost recovery charge will increase from \$0.37 per month per customer to \$0.57 per month per customer pending PUCO approval.
2. "Report 21" dated January 17, 2014 from the Finance Director.
3. Notice dated January 16, 2014 from the Dept. of Liquor Control of application to transfer D2, D2X, D3 and D3A liquor licenses from Harloto

Enterprises, LLC to JP 2771 Group, LLC dba Chelsea's on the River, 2771 Front Street.

4. Letter from Alpha Phi Alpha Homes, Inc. and the Neighborhood Development Corp. of Akron dated January 12, 2014 providing notice of their intent to undertake the rehabilitation of a 40-unit elderly, Section 8 rental housing development known as Friendship Terrace, 3350 Prange Drive, with the support of the Ohio Housing Finance Agency ("OHFA"), and further providing notice of the Council's right to provide comments on and/or objections to the project to OHFA within 45 days of receipt of the notice.

6. Introduction of new ordinances and resolutions.

The following ordinances were introduced and referred as noted:

To the Public Affairs Committee:

Temp. Ord. A-3: A resolution authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for and accept a grant from the Summit/Akron Solid Waste Management Authority, and declaring an emergency.

7. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

8. Reports of Special Council Committees.

There were no reports of special Council committees.

9. Reports of Council's Standing Committees

Planning & Zoning Committee:

No report.

Finance & Appropriations Committee:

No report.

Public & Industrial Improvements Committee:

No report.

Public Affairs Committee:

Sub. Temp. Ord. A-2 (1/21/14): An ordinance amending Chapter 129 of Part One, Title Five of the Codified Ordinances, relating to the Police Department, and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Pallota to adopt Sub. Temp. Ord. A-2 (1/21/14). Seconded by Mr. Weinhardt. Motion by Mr. Pallotta to amend Sub. Temp. Ord. A-2 (1/21/14) at the end of line 23 by addition of the following: "Members of the Parking Enforcement Unit shall be unpaid volunteers." Seconded by Mr. Weinhardt.

Remarks by the Committee Chair: The amendment clarifies the unpaid status of the volunteer Parking Enforcement Officers as discussed in committee.

Mr. DeRemer called the question.

Motion adopted by acclamation. The amendment was approved.

Motion by Mr. Pallota to adopt Sub. Temp. Ord. A-2 (1/21/14) as amended. Seconded by Mr. Weinhardt.

Remarks by the Committee Chair: The Police Department is to be commended for establishing the Reserve Officer program. This unit provides an extra measure of safety to citizens at virtually no additional cost. The Reserve Officer unit is to be commended for its much-appreciated assistance to the Police Department.

Mr. DeRemer called the question.

Motion adopted by acclamation. The ordinance was passed.

Community Development Committee:

No report.

10. Announcement of Schedule of Council Committee meetings.

Planning & Zoning:	Subject to call.
Finance:	Subject to call.
Public Improvements:	Subject to call.
Public Affairs:	Feb. 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
Community Development:	Subject to call.

11. Miscellaneous Business

The President asked the Mayor to report on flooding in the Municipal Building. The Mayor stated that a water leak in the Utility Billing Dept., apparently unrelated to the cold weather, shorted a fire alarm in the Information Services Dept. at about 7:30 a.m., and Dispatch was notified. There was heavy flooding and damage to Utility Billing and the IS Dept. Belfor was called and Wichert Insurance was notified. The City's \$5,000 deductible has been waived. Damage to IS Dept. required shut-down of the City's computer systems. Due to inability to work, City Hall was closed at noon and non-essential employees were given the option to take unpaid furlough time. Furniture, computers, carpet and drywall will require replacement. Computers should be up and running soon. Telephone and e-mail service was also interrupted. All services should be restored by the next day. The cost of repairs will approach six figures, all covered by insurance.

The President thanked those members of the cabinet who provided their cell phone numbers during the emergency, and noted that with the telephone service interrupted, having the cell phone numbers of the senior cabinet members was invaluable. The President asked that the cell phone numbers of the cabinet members be distributed to City Council members.

The President recognized Mr. Weinhardt, who asked the Mayor whether all City offices will be open the next day. The Mayor stated that all City offices should be open for business the next day.

The President recognized Mrs. Klinger, who asked the Finance Director to offer remarks on the recently submitted Report 21.

The Finance Director stated that final revenue and expenditure data for the General Fund in 2013 are reflected in the Report. It shows that the City's total General Fund expenditures in FY 2013 (\$31.4 million) were about \$200,000 greater than revenues (\$31.2 million). On the revenue side, the Local Government Fund receipts which were over \$2.4 million in FY 2011 were reduced to less than \$1.3 Million in FY 2013, a reduction of \$1.1 million or 46%. Further reductions in the rate of Local Government Fund receipts are not anticipated. The Estate Tax has been repealed, but the City realized residual revenue of \$1.2 million in Estate Tax receipts in FY 2013. Estate Tax receipts in FY 2014 are anticipated to be only \$150,000. Revenue from Mayor's Court operations was about \$60,000 higher than anticipated in FY 2013 due to aggressive ticket-writing in the second half of the year. The SAFR Grant, under which the City hired four firefighters, expired in September, 2013. Revenues from this grant were \$174,000 in FY 2013 and have averaged \$200,000 annually. The City will re-apply for the grant, but if it is not renewed, the City will need to find another source of revenue to support this expenditure. On the expenditure side, most items have been in line with estimates. However,

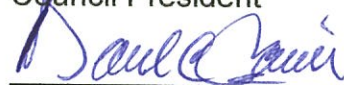
investment earnings (mostly funds in CDs) continue to decline year over year, which requires the General Fund to increase the subsidy to the General Bond Retirement Fund. This subsidy increased from \$250,000 in FY 2012 to \$315,000 in FY 2013.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Mader to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Iula. Motion adopted by acclamation. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.



Mary Ellen Pyke
Council President



Paul A. Janis
Clerk of Council