

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting

July 9, 2007

- Call to Order:** Mr. Walters at 6:35 p.m.
- Mr. Walters appointed Mr. James to act as Council Clerk.
- Roll Call:** Mrs. Hummel, present; Mr. Gorbach, present; Mrs. Colavecchio, present; Mr. James, present; Mrs. Ritzinger, present; Mrs. Klinger, absent; Mrs. Pyke, present; Mr. Barnhart, present; Mr. Flinn, present; Mr. Mader, present; Mr. Walters, present.
- Invocation:** Mrs. Colavecchio
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. James
- Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the June 25, 2007 Regular Council Meeting were approved as submitted.
- Reports and Communications:** None.

New Legislation
(First Reading)

Temp. Ord. B-95 (Finance)

An ordinance increasing appropriations in the general fund, mall operations, line item other operations, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-96 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing an amendment to Ordinance No. 81-2004 to allow for a transfer in CDBG funds and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-97 (Finance)

An ordinance amending Section 181.02 and enacting Section 181.021 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cuyahoga Falls and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-98 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts for 23kV system improvements construction, which consists of reconductoring two existing circuits (Valley to Substation #6 and Valley to Substation #4) and one additional circuit for future express (Valley to Substation #5), and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-99 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for construction and installation of gateway signage for the City, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-100 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into a contract or contracts for the purchase of hardware to support dispatching services at Fire Station #5, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-101 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the demolition and removal of demolition debris from dangerous buildings located at 3104 Oak Hill Road and certifying the cost thereof to the County Fiscal Officer for collection in the manner provided by law and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-102 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to execute a modification of the contract for repairs to the red, green and blue parking decks, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-103 (Public Affairs)

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, to allow Branded Realty Company, LLC access to the City's rights of way, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-104 (Public Affairs)

An ordinance amending the traffic control file by providing for installation of various traffic control devices, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Res. B-105 (Public Affairs)

A resolution authorizing the City of Cuyahoga Falls to file an application to the United States Department of Justice, to participate in the Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant Fund and declaring an emergency.

Reports of Council's Standing Committees
(Third Reading)

Planning & Zoning

Temp. Ord. B-93 (Planning & Zoning)

An ordinance authorizing the dedication/vacation plat for main street and declaring an emergency

Mrs. Hummel moved to adopt B-93, second by Mr. Barnhart. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Temp. Ord. B-94 (Planning & Zoning)

An ordinance authorizing and approving the site plan for development of a 82,987 SF warehouse/storage facility at 200 Industrial Drive in an E-1 employment district and M-1 manufacturing district and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Hummel moved to adopt B-94, second by Mr. Gorbach. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Finance

No report.

Public Improvements

No report.

Public Affairs

No to report.

Community Development

No report.

Schedule of Committee meetings

Planning & Zoning	Subject to call
Finance	July 16, 2007, 6:15 p.m.
Public Improvements	July 16, 2007, 6:20 p.m.
Public Affairs	July 16, 2007, 6:25 p.m.
Community Development	Subject to call

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Gorbach moved to allow the Administration's presentation on rain gardens, second by Mr. James. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0). Mrs. Carr introduced Kari Mackenbach from URS Corporation who gave the presentation to Council.

Mrs. Hummel moved to excuse the absence of Mrs. Klinger, second by Mrs. Pyke. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Mr. Flinn moved to adjourn, second by Mr. James. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Don Walters, Council President

Jerry James, Acting Clerk of Council

Rain Garden Presentation to Council

July 9, 2007

Mrs. Carr stated that Kari Mackenbach from URS Corporation was present to give a presentation to Council on rain gardens and their success. Cuyahoga Falls would be the first in the area to do a large rain garden project, which is being planned for the 6th and 7th Street site. When property is purchased with FEMA money, FEMA requires the property to be demolished and reseeded. Administration is working with the government to create a rain garden instead of filling the area with grass. Tonight's presentation will not be talking about the 6th and 7th street site because that site has not yet been planned. She just wanted to educate Council on what creating a rain garden entails.

Kari Mackenbach stated that a rain garden is a garden placed in a low-lying area to collect storm water runoff. The area is planted with deep-rooted plants which will loosen the soil and increase infiltration. Minnesota has been planting rain gardens for 10 to 15 years. Rain gardens mimic natural conditions and protect waterways by managing where the runoff occurs. She referred Council to the 10,000 rain gardens website (www.rainkc.com) which talks about the success Kansas City has had.

Mrs. Carr added they are also looking at ideas to use rain gardens in parking lots, commercial structures and residential areas. She said in the future, the City could possibly offer an incentive to residents to reduce their storm water fees if they make a rain garden.

Mr. Gorbach asked about the approximate cost to build a rain garden. Ms. Mackenbach stated it would be anywhere between \$5 - \$12 per s.f. The most expensive cost would be if you amend the soil requirements, and the deepest you go down into the soil is 18". The major cost of the garden is the plants.

Mrs. Hummel felt that this will be very well received in the community and asked if the rain garden information would be available through the Planning Department to developers informing them that the City would like to see them do this in place of storm water issues. She thought packets could be made available so they do not do their own engineering. Mrs. Carr stated that when people come into the Building Department to pull permits, there are brochures available, but they will eventually have something more formal.

Mrs. Pyke asked if the rain gardens were supplemented with drywells. Mrs. Mackenbach stated a rain garden is just one application and that they have a toolbox of things. Rain gardens are a successful tool because gardening is the #1 hobby in America. Mrs. Pyke asked if they contain only plants or can you bring in rocks. Mrs. Mackenbach indicated as long as you are not impeding the water coming in, you can do anything you want. They can be as wild as you want or very formal but whatever you choose, she recommends using native plants.

A resident representing the 6th, 7th and 8th Street residents asked who will choose the plan to be used in that area. Mrs. Carr stated that tonight was an education session and that there has not been a formal design chosen. She stated once they get to that point, there will be public meetings so that the residents can attend and understand what has been planned. The resident asked about the underground stream that is under the area. Mrs. Carr stated that will be one of the challenges and certainly something that will be taken into account when planning begins for that area.

Mr. Walters asked if there needed to be any weed-block fabric put down. Mrs. Mackenbach stated there was no need for that. Minimal weed maintenance is needed only for the first year or two

when you use native species. You also lay down two to three inches of mulch which helps control weeds. Mrs. Carr stated they are experimenting on an area in the City and will share the results once they complete the experiment.

Mrs. Nelsch, N. Haven Blvd., asked what happened during a drought when the plants are trained to want a lot of water. Mrs. Mackenbach stated you would have to water them.

Mr. Nelsch asked about the possibility of a resident allowing his yard to become overgrown and then call it a rain garden. Mrs. Carr stated a resident would have to notify the City that they are creating a rain garden and then the City will monitor it.