

# Cuyahoga Falls City Council

## Minutes of the PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE Meeting

### October 17, 2005

Chair: Mary Ellen Pyke; Vice Chair: Terry Mader; Member: Jerry James.

Mary Ellen Pyke brought the Public Affairs Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. All members of the Committee were present. The minutes from October 3, 2005 were approved as submitted.

#### **Scheduled legislation (second reading):**

B-138	An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to grant a license to T-Mobile for the use of a portion of city property for the installation of telecommunications equipment, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Arrington indicates T-Mobile asked the city to place towers at Oak Park. Hope Jones negotiated the contract and we will allow them to place cylinder antennas that do not exceed the height of the water tower. We will receive \$1800 per month for five years and the monthly rent will increase 2% each year. The antennas will not be visible. T-Mobile wanted this location, it was their request.

The Public Affairs Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-138

B-139	An Ordinance amending Section 1371.02 of the codified ordinances, and declaring an emergency.
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Virgil indicates this is a housing code proposed amendment. The code prohibits the owner or any other person from violating the codes. "Any other persons" were too broad of a term based on a recently Judges' ruling. To enforce our housing violations, we will look to the titled owners or occupants. We will go after the owners at every opportunity that we can. Mr. Gorbach asks if this wording is throughout the housing code? Is this something we want to look further at? Mr. Arrington will look further into it after this Ordinance is addressed. Mr. Flinn asks if we could go after renters vs. the owners? Mr. Arrington indicates we could go after the renters. If the owner is out of state, we end up dealing with the person responsible for maintaining that property. This will still be a matter of proof. Could the city do the work and charge it to them through their property tax bill? If this is a nuisance there are certain things we can do and charge it back. Mr. Potts asks if the renter can be garnished? Virgil will look into that. Mrs. Pyke indicates she wants to give some definition to the law. The Judge has thrown this out. She is worried about this home and if the tarp will make it through the winter.

Tom Kemett, Falls Avenue, feels this is a health and safety issue. This is cut and dry. I have progressively seen this house go through deteriorating states. The roof has slowly but surely deteriorated. The city has worked with this individual to repair the home. The court system has been manipulated to believe there is no money, but these residents are buying new shiny cars.

Mr. Arrington indicates that if the building is bad enough, we can demolish it. If it does not rise to that bad of a level, our problem is to pursue legal responsibility on who the person is that we need to take into court. Virgil will come up with other ideas as well.

The Public Affairs Committee recommended holding Temp. Ord. B-139

B-140	Expressing Support for and urging passage of the Cuyahoga Falls City School District Tax Levy (Issue 79), and declaring an emergency.
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This is a renewal of a levy. It is sponsored by the Administration and all of City Council. Mrs. Pyke is in full support of this levy. Mr. Gorbach acknowledges Mrs. Karen Sines (School Treasurer) who reiterates that we do need this levy and it is no new taxes. Mr. Gorbach is the levy chairperson again, and hopefully it is a positive thing and we will be successful.

Mr. Flinn indicates he liked the citizen input for a renewal vs. a replacement. He supports this wholeheartedly. The performance index was increased and different categories of the Ohio Report Card were improved which is showing the community the progress of our public education.

The Public Affairs Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-140

**Held Legislation:**

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mrs. Hummel indicates First Merit Fraudulent Emails are being sent. According to First Merit they have alerted the FBI. Local police should also be notified. They are asking you to log onto your First Merit Account and provide your logon/password. She wants to warn residents and the local press that this fraudulent activity is going on.

The Public Affairs Committee Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.