

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE Meeting

July 6, 2004

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

Mary Ellen Pyke brought the Public Affairs Committee to order at 7:04 p.m. Mr. Mader was absent. The minutes from June 21, 2004 Public Affairs Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Scheduled legislation:

A-104	A resolution commending Philip Maloney upon his selection as a recipient of a Richard H. Gorsuch Scholarship Awarded by Amp-Ohio, and declaring an emergency.
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Mrs. Klinger indicates there are 90 communities in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia & Michigan and Phillip was the first from Cuyahoga Falls to receive this scholarship. Carol wanted to recognize him so he can be presented with the resolution & the scholarship next week. Mr. Flinn states he works with Phil and he balances his Gold Tones, Band, and other duties. I am hoping everyone will support us on this resolution. Mayor Robart took Phil to lunch a couple of weeks back to congratulate him and he is very mature and wise beyond his years. We are impressed with his abilities and he is an excellent resident of our community.

The committee recommended bringing out Temp. Res. A-104.

A-105	An Ordinance limiting the jurisdiction of the Cuyahoga Falls Civil Service Commission, and declaring an emergency.
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Hope Jones states that Mr. John Litzel is requesting to be removed from the jurisdiction of the City of Cuyahoga Falls Civil Service Commission. As a Chartered Municipality under home rule, the Revised Code allows us to limit our jurisdiction to only City Employees. This is the function of this Ordinance. If there were any outrage, we would of heard about this. Mr. Litzel states we have worked hard over the last couple years with our Labor Relations & the Union. There is a bureaucratic process that has slowed down our hiring processes and we feel this is very optimistic thing. We have negotiated things out with our union and the civil service and look forward to more efficiently filling our positions.

Mayor Robart commends Mr. Litzel on this act. It took a lot of cooperation & credibility with his administration to get to this point. Mrs. Klinger indicates this covers custodial, secretary, educational aides, Bus Drivers, and maintenance workers. Ms. Jones indicates that if this passes, we will no longer have any other employees under our Civil Service other than City Employees.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-105.

A-106	A Resolution objecting to the renewal of the liquor permit number 96100370005 of Wild West Entertainment, Inc., and declaring an emergency.
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Hope Jones indicates the City of Cuyahoga Falls, filed a nuisance action against the owners/operators with the Boot Scoot Saloon. We are scheduled for trial in September. After looking at the liquor permit process, all renewals come up on October 1st of every year. We have to put this resolution together and have attached some of the liquor violations in the Court of Common Pleas. This is an administrative remedy to assist us with keeping the facility closed. Mary Ellen reads the numerous violations alleged to have happen at the Boot Scoot. This facility has logged more calls than any other

liquor facility in the city of Cuyahoga Falls. Chief Conley states this facility has logged much overtime and manpower. If this Resolution passes, it gives me the tools to approach the Board of Liquor Control to revoke their renewal. Mrs. Hummel is glad this came forward and the formal resolution is the right thing to do. Mr. Walters asks if they deny the renewal can they still reopen for teen nights. If Hope loses at trial, they could reopen as a teen hangout. She is confident since most of the alcohol and arrests were happening in the parking lot, there is a nuisance factor. Chief indicates that most of these individuals arrested/involved were not residents of Cuyahoga Falls.

The Committee recommends bringing out Temp. Res. A-106.

A-107	A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application and enter into an agreement with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Children's Protection Section, for the purpose of acquiring funds through the DARE Grants Program pursuant to Senate Bill 62 of 1933, and declaring an emergency.
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Chief Conley states that last year the City received \$32,967 which was 50% of the salaries of our DARE officers, excluding fringe benefits. The money we received last year covers through May of 2005. Nationally, DARE has changed their curriculum. It used to be a 17 week program, but starting this fall our DARE Officers will teach a 9 week DARE Curriculum. We have reduced the number of DARE officers to two: Officer Greg Knepp and Officer Eric Prange.

The Committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-107.

Held Legislation:

A-79	An Ordinance amending sections 1309.26 and 1309.30 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.
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Miscellaneous Business:

Mayor indicates at 6:40 a.m. that Aidan Ing expired this morning. Aidan was rescued from Waterworks Aquatic Center last week. The Mayor indicates he does not see the City doing anything substantially different at Water Works, but this was a tragic accident. He was a beautiful blond haired boy and I visited the hospital on Saturday with the family. We are sad and sickened by this accident. Mary Ellen asks that everyone should hold his or her judgment against the mother during this time. It was just a minute that she lost track of her child and to hear the criticism on talk radio is sad.

ValerieWax-Carr shows the new small 48-gallon cart and indicates since the rollout on Route 4 there has been about a 5% residential concern. There will be a 48-gallon cart introduced to the limited service customers. The party packs have gone over tremendously. An additional cart will be \$5 per month for 96-gallon cart. Bob Leonard states in May, the Sanitation Department delivered over 2000 carts to residents with literature introducing the party pack. Party Packs are limited to two a year with no cost and we haven't put a price on additional party packs. The limited service program used to be the red bag service. This limited service is restricted and these new 48-gallon carts are a good alternative. We anticipate a 3-5 week delivery on the carts and we will be delivering them to about 200 customers. Mary Ellen is happy with the \$5 additional cart fee since she wasn't comfortable with the previous \$10.50 fee. Many of her residents are happy with the smaller cart. Mr. Flinn asks how houses that have three families are paying 3 x \$17.50 per month? If they are senior citizens, this seems too high and unfair. Valerie states it is on a graduated scale. On duplexes can they do the additional cart at \$5? Bob states we haven't come to a conclusion yet on this issue. Recycling will continue to cut down on the amount of trash. Jerry states that the area near River Estates has rodent problems and would like them to use their one trashcan until the new carts are delivered. Mr. Leonard states until that time, they can use their existing trashcans. Kathy feels a re-education on recycling needs to be done. It was discussed previously, but not much has been done since. Mr. Leonard and Mrs.

Hummel explained there is handicap service for an person who couldn't get his/her trash to the end of the driveway. Has there been any more talk about cardboard recycling at the curbs? Bob Leonard states it can't go into the truck that services the recycling (green bin). We haven't found a mechanism to accommodate this request. Corrugated cardboard is a problem and we may need drop off areas for this. Mayor Robart commends Bob and Valerie on this rollout. Aesthetically it looks so much better and this will eliminate the raccoons/rodents getting into the trash. The route leader on Route 4 has been wonderful in rolling this out. Kent Hall with Americart thanks us for the business.

Kristi Smith, 1757 Seventh Street, asks when the other customers will be limited to 96 gallons. The schedule will be quicker than the projected rollout according to Valerie. Valerie reiterates that any customer just can't put anything out at the curb. There are limitations. The \$5 is being assessed for the additional carts, but others who aren't on the route don't have this additional cost. There are other trash vendors that are less expensive than the city. Valerie indicates the other trash businesses don't include the services and extras that our City does.

Kathy Hummel questions if the additional tipping fee will cover the additional cost of the cart/tonnage fee. Mr. Leonard indicates the cart weight capacity is 300# and there is a small number of residents who are requesting additional carts. On average a customer puts out 42# per week. Valerie will calculate this amount prior to the legislation to make sure the fees are being covered.

Karen Nelsch, North Haven Blvd, asks why everything needs to be in a bag in the container. Mary Ellen states it can be any plastic bag (grocery), etc. Loose items are prohibited. You can't just throw trash right into the cart.

Mr. Leonard states that no one has a second cart as of yet but we will be distributing the second carts very soon. Someone who uses 2-96 gallon carts is equivalent to our one yard waste dumpster. This is a lot of trash. Mr. Walters asks if we have experienced any savings yet. Mr. Leonard states there have been no injuries with the process as of yet.

The Public Affairs Committee Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.