

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

May 29, 2018

- Call to Order:** Ms. Nichols-Rhodes at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call:** Mr. Brillhart, present; Mr. Colavecchio, present; Mr. Gorbach, present; Mr. Iona, present; Mr. Iula, present; Mr. James, absent; Mr. Miller, present; Ms. Nichols-Rhodes, present; Mr. Pallotta, present; Mrs. Pyke present; Mr. Reilly, present.
- Invocation:** Mr. Brillhart
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Mrs. Pyke
- Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the April 23, 2018 and May 14, 2018 Council meetings were approved as written.
- Reports and Communications:** None.

New Legislation

(First Reading)

Temp. Ord. A-47 (Public Affairs)

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement to allow Woodridge Local School District to access the City's rights of way and electric poles for the construction and maintenance of fiber optic cable, guy wires and other appurtenances, and declaring an emergency.

Reports of Council's Standing Committees

(Third Reading)

Planning & Zoning

Temp. Ord. A-39

An ordinance authorizing and approving the Woodland Villas final subdivision plat and improvement plans for Parcels 35-03246 and 35-03248, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Colavecchio stated that this has been a long process. To their credit, the Sourek Trail residents have been very involved. A lot of concessions were able to be gleaned from the developer, who has gone above and beyond in complying with ordinances, EPA water regulations and agreeing to make sure that Sourek Trail is in better condition when they leave it. It's also

going to enable the City, when that development comes in, to apply for a TIF. That is money that can be used to improve Sourek Trail. Council's hands were tied, because it was zoned this way. The developer purchased the property and spent the money that they spent based on that zoning classification. There was no turning back the zoning classification. What the residents of Sourek Trail have done is made the Development Department start to look and revisit the zoning for a lot of places in the city. In the future, people will be aware that there might be a hearing, and that it could affect something that happens in their backyard, because, once a developer purchases a property, they're entitled to build according to that zoning code. There is not much Council can do, other than to hold them to the standards that are in place. This developer has agreed to go above and beyond what the statutes and the laws provide. Mr. Colavecchio thanked the residents of Sourek Trail for their input. They have brought awareness so that Council is going to make sure that Sourek Trail and the surrounding region is as best as it can be.

Mr. Gorbach stated that it is important to note the intent for the removal of Item 10 from the Planning Committee stipulations at the last meeting regarding what Council is going to vote on tonight. Item 10 from the Planning Commission report read, "Request the City and all safety forces revisit the idea of a cul-de-sac that would be accessible from a safety response standpoint; that options be explored to allow it to have bypass entries for emergency response vehicles." As they heard from Mr. Guerra last week, these meetings were held internally with the safety forces. Both the Fire Chief and Police Chief stated, during the committee meeting, that they were not comfortable with any proposal that would either permanently or temporarily restrict on-demand access from Sourek Trail. Response times would be increased and, in this some cases, total access could be denied to a portion of the residents depending on the event. To vote in favor of any such plan against the testimony of the Fire Chief and Police Chief would be careless to say the least. It is in the best interest of the current and the future residents of Sourek Trail to concentrate on more meaningful improvements to this road, as Mr. Colavecchio alluded to, via the TIF money that would provide a long-lasting and safer experience for all involved.

Mr. Iona stated that when he sat through the variety of meetings with the Sourek Trail residents, it was implied that the cul-de-sac was a possibility. It was found that it was inconvenient for the Police Department, Fire Department, the Woodridge School District and City services. That is understood. Nobody wants to risk somebody's life. The developer, Mr. Karem, has gone above and beyond. He was even in favor of the cul-de-sac if need be. It was then decided they are not doing it because of these experts. His disappointment is for these folks that have sat through hours of meetings. They have probably been the most devoted group of people he has seen in reference to a new development coming in, and they don't have a separate plan for them.

Mr. Colavecchio moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-39, second by Mr. Brillhart. Roll Call: Mr. Brillhart, Yes; Mr. Colavecchio, Yes; Mr. Gorbach, Yes; Mr. Iona, No; Mr. Iula, Yes; Mr. Miller, Yes; Ms. Nichols-Rhodes, Yes; Mr. Pallotta, No; Mrs. Pyke, No; Mr. Reilly, Yes. Motion passed, voice vote (7-3).

Finance & Appropriations:

Temp. Ord. A-40

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County of Summit and Cities of Akron, Fairlawn, Green and Stow (“Parties”) for the acquisition, installation and operation of a consolidated computer aided dispatch system, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Gorbach stated that it was an extraordinary effort for all the cities involved. For all the administrations and all the entities to get together and for it to come to fruition is amazing. It's a model for other communities to look at. Kudos to everybody. It is a real big win for the City and the for the residents.

Mr. Gorbach moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-40, second by Mrs. Pyke. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Temp. Ord. A-41

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with OMEGA JV5 for the “as is” purchase of JV5 assets of three diesel generators and related equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Gorbach moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-41, second by Mrs. Pyke. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Public & Industrial Improvements:

Temp. Ord. A-42

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the repair and/or reconstruction of concrete pavement on Smokerise Drive and Pleasant Meadow Boulevard and other streets in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Colavecchio moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-42, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Public Affairs:

Temp. Ord. A-43

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a lease agreement with Riverside Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brillhart moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-43, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Temp. Ord. A-44

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Falls River Phase II, LLC for development of 1816 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; authorizing a loan in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the purpose of providing public parking and increase appropriations thereof, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brillhart moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-44 second by Mr. Reilly. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Temp. Ord. A-45

An ordinance amending Chapter 353 of the Codified Ordinances, relating to parking meters in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brillhart moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-45, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Temp. Res. A-46

A resolution declaring the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio to be an immigrant-friendly, Welcoming City, supporting the City's participation in the Welcoming Cities and Counties Project and WE Global Network and authorizing the Mayor to execute all necessary documents to participate in said project, for the City, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brillhart moved to adopt Temp. Res. A-46, second by Mr. Reilly. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Community Development:

No Report.

Schedule of Committee Meetings

Planning & Zoning:	Subject to Call.
Finance:	Subject to Call.
Public Improvements:	Subject to Call.
Public Affairs:	June 4, 2018, 6:30 p.m.
Community Development:	Subject to Call.
Special Committee:	June 4, 2018, 6:32 p.m.

Miscellaneous Business

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes stated that before they go forward with the two scheduled presentations tonight, there are two gentlemen in the audience that would like to speak. Normally, they would have to speak 24 hours ahead of time, but, because they are present, she certainly wants them to be heard.

Mr. Fred Conti, 2315 Sourek Trail, presented to Council his rendition of a Plan B for Sourek Trail, a nonlocking swing gate, and asked for Council's consideration. Mr. Clifton Grider, 2077 Sourek Trail, presented a packet to Council illustrating his rendition of a gateway for the cul-de-sac and asked Council to consider it as a Plan B for Sourek Trail.

Ms. Brenda Cameron Ryan, 907 Magnolia Avenue, stated that she was there to speak about her foundation called Keys to Serenity that helps families that have lost a loved one to an overdose. She lost her daughter almost two years ago to a drug overdose. She knew that there was not much out there helping families, and she felt that she wanted to help these families out with resources. She is also on the board of Akron Say No to Dope. They have an 855 number and a thrift store and help people get into detox and recovery. One of the things she has been working on is Senate Bill 1, sponsored by Senator LaRose. She gave testimony on her daughter's death due to fentanyl. Senate Bill 1 is to make fentanyl and carfentanil a higher-degree felony than it is right now, because, by weight, it is a lower-degree felony than heroin. Another thing that they do is Keys to a New Habit. That is a program that she does with her foundation, Keys to Serenity, and Akron Say No to Dope that gets people in recovery back into society and helps them be a citizen again. Judge McKinney is coming to their next meeting. He helps people with payment plans get their license back. That's a big problem with people in recovery. Children Services is coming. The Summit County Probation Department is coming down and helping people that have a minor misdemeanor parole violations.

Ms. Cameron Ryan stated that a program she is going to be doing here in Cuyahoga Falls is Keys to the Heart. Keys to the Heart is a program at the Cuyahoga Falls Moose Lodge on Sunday, August 5th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. That is going to be a fun-filled day for the kids affected by the opioid epidemic. People forget about the kids left behind. Kids are the silent victims in the epidemic. There's nearly 800 children involved with Children Services, and 80 percent of those kids in the system are due to drugs. She is asking for sponsorship for this. More importantly, she encourages every Council member to make themselves aware of the drug epidemic here in Cuyahoga Falls, because, in Cuyahoga Falls, 44221 is Number 5, in 2017, for drug overdoses. They have put a little dent into drug overdose deaths in 2017. In 2016, there were about 320 overdose deaths; in 2017, she believes it was 229. Narcan has helped and the Good Samaritan Law has helped. This is something very important here in the city and is hitting Cuyahoga Falls very heavily.

Mr. Reilly stated that he would like to thank Ms. Cameron Ryan for coming tonight to present on this. She has been a wonderful resource for him to learn about the epidemic that is facing everyone. Because of her, he became certified on Narcan and carries it around in his briefcase. Mrs. Pyke asked if the statistics Ms. Cameron Ryan gave for the 44221 zip code were for overdoses or deaths. Ms. Cameron Ryan stated that the number of 327, in 2016, were deaths in Summit County. Mrs.

Pyke stated that one thing they have to be very careful of when they look at those numbers is that those are the victims that are taken to the emergency room, and that's how they get the statistics. If the Fire Department or the Police Department responders bring them back with Narcan, a lot of times, they don't take them to the hospital. Ms. Cameron Ryan stated that, when someone overdoses, Narcan only lasts for about 15 minutes to an hour. Normally, they are encouraged to go to the Emergency Room. Mrs. Pyke stated that, with the other opioids, they may not be taking them to the Emergency Room. They are not counted in the statistics unless they go to the emergency room, so those numbers are actually a lot higher than what's being reported. Ms. Cameron Ryan asked Mayor Walters if he knew the percentage that actually go to the emergency room. Mr. Walters responded that it is a very high majority; almost all. Ms. Cameron Ryan stated that they can refuse, but they still get those numbers for the Quick Response Team if they don't go. The Quick Response Team still goes and gives them a visit. Mayor Walters stated that the Quick Response Teams goes every Tuesday.

Mayor Walters stated that the Parks and Recreation Department is a separate arm of the City; however, they do work very closely with the Superintendent in cabinet meetings and all the things that they do. Tonight, he would like to introduce the new Superintendent, Sarah Kline. Obviously, Council knows her as the former Mayor of Stow. They have retained her talents in the Parks and Recreation Department by the Park Board unanimously.

Ms. Sara Kline stated that everyone does know her as a former neighbor and friend from Stow. She stated that she wanted to talk a little bit about the transition here to Cuyahoga Falls, and let them know that she and her family have pretty deep ties to Cuyahoga Falls. Her husband, Rob, is here, and most of her in-laws are from or currently live in the City of Cuyahoga Falls. Her daughter Lindsey is here. She works at Crown Granite in Cuyahoga Falls. Her stepdaughter, Molly, chose, at age 18, to move out on her own and got her first apartment where else but Cuyahoga Falls. So, she and her family actually have a lot of ties to the city. She has always felt that municipal governments are a lot like an extended family, and, truly, the employees and everyone here in Cuyahoga Falls have welcomed her like a family member. She feels very fortunate to have gone from a friend and neighbor to a family member. Ms. Kline stated that she wanted to thank everyone in the City for being so gracious and so kind and so welcoming.

Ms. Kline stated that they have started the summer season with a big splash. Waterworks yesterday was so full, a few times, they had to wait for people to leave before letting people in. Brookledge is doing very well. They have a lot of plans coming up over this season for some capital improvements, which Council has seen and talked about and approved as part of the budget. The department is busy executing those. It's really been easy going around and seeing the facilities, getting to know the staff members and hearing their ideas, because they have fabulous ideas for the Parks Department. She is looking forward, over the next few years, to implementing these really fantastic ideas. She stated that Council should all feel free to contact her if they have a project or an interest they would like to chat about. Ms. Kline thanked Council and the Administration.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes welcomed Ms. Kline and stated that her success is their success, so they wish her much success. Ms. Kline stated that with the fantastic staff employed in the Parks Department,

she has no doubt they will continue to have success and some new initiatives that she thinks will make all the residents very proud of the Cuyahoga Falls Park System.

Mr. Reilly moved to excuse the absence of Mr. James from tonight's meeting, second by Mr. Gorbach. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Mr. Brillhart moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0). Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Mary Nichols-Rhodes, Council President

Dana M. Capriulo, Clerk of Council