

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Affairs Committee**

November 15, 2021

Members: Russ Balthis, Chair
Rachel Loza
Jeff Iula

Mr. Balthis called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the October 18, 2021, and November 1, 2021, Public Affairs Committee meetings were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-104

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-104

An ordinance authorizing the Parks and Recreation Board to apply for and accept a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Watercraft, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Sara Kline, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, presented Temporary Ordinance B-104 to Council. The City of Cuyahoga Falls desires financial assistance to establish, develop, expand, maintain and promote boating safety programs. The Parks and Recreation Board is hereby authorized to execute and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Watercraft and to provide all information and documentation required in said application to obtain a grant for the purpose of establishing, developing, expanding, maintaining and promoting boating safety programs. The City does agree to accept the allocation funds to establish, develop, expand, maintain and promote boating safety programs and obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the project on a cost share basis with the City matching at least 25% of the total program cost.

Ms. Kline stated that they can obtain up to \$30,000 with this grant. They have plans to offer a watercraft and kayak safety course. One of the requirements of this grant is to serve disadvantaged or underserved members of the community. The staff in her department reached out to the Police Department to use the program as an incentive for participants in the youth diversion program. If they successfully complete the program, they would be eligible to take kayak lessons offered by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Balthis stated that it is not easy task and takes a lot of work to put these grants together. Hopefully, they will receive the funds and use the funds to better serve underserved members of the population.

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Ms. Loza moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-104 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.