

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

April 18, 2022

Members: Rachel Loza, Chair
Michael Brillhart
Adam Miller

Ms. Loza called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the March 7, 2022, Public Affairs Committee were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Res. A-42

Temp. Ord. A-43

Temp. Ord. A-44

Temp. Ord. A-45

Discussion:

Temp. Res. A-42

A resolution authorizing the Director of Finance to represent the City of Cuyahoga Falls as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Summit Area Regional Council of Governments, and declaring an emergency.

Mayor Walters presented Temporary Resolution A-42 to Council. The City of Cuyahoga Falls is a member of the Summit Area Regional Council of Governments (COG), an organization of Summit County subdivisions to plan for and implement a regional dispatch system for emergency services, including the creation of a regional dispatch center. Each City participating in the COG has one member of the Board of Trustees. The Mayor and his administration desire to appoint a designee who will act on behalf of the City. Council is asked that the Director of Finance, as an incident of his or her official capacity be designated for the period of his or her service, the representative of the City of Cuyahoga Falls on the Board of Trustees of the Summit Area Regional Council of Governments (COG) to act on behalf of the City in the discharge of its duties as a Trustee. The Director of Finance will be authorized and empowered, acting for, in the name of and on behalf of the City, and as the City's agent, to exercise all the functions, powers, rights and privileges, and to fulfill the obligations and without limitation to attend and take part in meetings of the Board and of Committees of the Board, and to vote on and otherwise act with respect to all matters that may properly come before the Board or any Committee of the Board, and to do or cause to be done all acts, and to take all steps as may in each case be, in the opinion of such representative, necessary or desirable in order to represent the City and exercise its functions, powers, rights and privileges, and fulfill its obligations, as a Trustee of the COG and to carry out the full intent and purpose of this Resolution and the purposes and powers of the COG. The representative shall receive no compensation from the COG for services as a Trustee but shall be entitled to have the COG and its related entities provide meals, lodging or

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transportation related to service as Trustee or, alternatively, to receive reimbursement from the COG for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses associated with their services as representative for the City as Trustee, all in accordance with the COG's policies and procedures.

Mayor Walters stated that this resolution will give the Director of Finance the seat if the Mayor is unavailable on the Board. It officially designates someone other than the Mayor. Mr. Hoffman has been involved in this process as much as anyone else. The first real order of business for the COG is to appoint director and then they can start with the cross-training.

Mr. Gorbach stated that this COG and the reason for it is exciting. He looks forward to a lot of updates on this project.

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Res. A-42 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-43

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a NOPEC Energized Community Grant Agreement with Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council, Inc. for energy efficiency or energy infrastructure projects, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Anthony Zumbo, Service Director, presented Temporary Ordinance A-43 to Council. The City of Cuyahoga Falls is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council ("NOPEC") and is eligible for the NOPEC Energized Community Grant for 2022 as provided for in the NOPEC grant program guidelines. This grant will facilitate energy efficiency or energy infrastructure projects within the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The Mayor will be authorized to enter into a NOPEC Energized Community Grant Agreement with NOPEC, Inc. for energy efficiency or energy infrastructure projects. The Mayor, Director of Public Service, Director of Law and other necessary City officials will be authorized to provide such other information and to execute such other documents and do all other actions as are necessary for and incidental to carrying out the requirements of this ordinance and the terms of the Grant Agreement.

Mr. Zumbo stated that NOPEC administers the gas aggregation program for the City's residents. NOPEC requires that this ordinance be passed annually to allow the City to accept their Energized Community Grant.

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-43 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-44

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

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Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance A-44 to Council. Upon the recommendation of the Traffic Committee, the Traffic Control File will be amended as follows:

1. To prohibit parking on Roosevelt, between 9th and 10th Street on the north side (odd numbers) of the street facing westbound traffic, 50' from 10th Street.

The Chief of Police will be authorized and directed to note in the Traffic Control File the proper legends. The Mayor will be authorized and directed to cause the installation or removal of the proper signage reflecting the above amendments.

Mr. Demasi stated that this request was made of the Traffic Committee because of sight issues with parked cars within this area and some utility equipment there.

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-43 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-45

An ordinance establishing pay ranges for part-time, per diem, and special classification workers, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, presented Temporary Ordinance A-45 to Council. Mr. Hoffman stated that this is an ordinance brought to Council from time to time to update Exhibit A. In the one now before Council, Exhibit A is the part-time schedule and the only thing changing today. The per diem rates have not been changed. One of the reasons for this ordinance is to update exhibit to comply with State and Federal minimum wage laws. In January 2022, that minimum wage is set at \$9.30, and that has been updated on the schedule.

Ms. Janet Ciotola, Law Director, requested that Council consider an amendment to this ordinance. From drafting the 2020 version to the one currently before Council, there should be a sentence added that states that Council further authorizes pay range adjustments as necessary to remain in compliance with State and Federal minimum wage law, so that there would be no time that they would not be in compliance with State and Federal minimum wage law should they be raised.

Ms. Loza entertained a motion to amend Temporary Ordinance A-45 by adding the following language at the end of Section 1: "Council further authorizes pay range adjustments as necessary to remain in compliance with State and Federal minimum wage law." Mr. Miller moved to amend Temporary Ordinance A-45, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed (3-0).

Mr. Gorbach stated that there is a need to work part-time or work in different fashions. Years ago, things would happen in the private sector with employees, but government always was immune and really did not have to worry about it or react to it. When any type of help wanted for a government office was posted, there were always people looking to fill those positions regardless of what department. That is not the case now. The City has to be flexible, or it will not get the

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talent that is needed to keep it running. The members of the Administration are a bunch of smart folks and work a lot of hours a week, but they are only one person, and the employees keep things moving. He stated that Council should be made aware that the schedule is changed even though it is not coming before it for approval. It is good policy to do that.

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-45 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.