

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

October 25, 2021

- Call to Order:** Mr. Brillhart at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call:** Mr. Balthis, present; Mr. Brillhart, present; Mr. Gorbach, present; Mr. Iula, present; Mr. James, present; Ms. Loza, present; Mr. Miller, present; Ms. Nichols-Rhodes, present; Mrs. Penta, present; Mrs. Spinner, present; Mr. Stams, present.
- Invocation:** Mrs. Spinner
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Ms. Nichols-Rhodes
- Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the September 27, 2021, and October 11, 2021, Council meetings were approved as written.
- Reports and Communications:** A Notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding Stock Transfer Permit Number 42485260005 to JAS Art, Inc. dba Cashmere Cricket & Patios, 2235 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44221.

New Legislation

(First Reading)

Temp. Ord. B-91* (Finance)

An ordinance establishing annual appropriations of money for the current expenses, capital expenditures and other expenses of the City of Cuyahoga Falls for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2022, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-92 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the demolition of structures located at 2844 Audrena Court, and removal of demolition debris, and certifying the cost thereof to the County Fiscal Officer for collection in the manner provided by law, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-93 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with GVS Getac Video for the purchase or lease of body and cruiser video cameras and all necessary accessories for use by the Police Department, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-94 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Badger Meter for the purchase of meters to be installed at the Ledges at Pine Ridge and Princeton Place developments, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-95 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Core and Main for the purchase of water service line construction supplies, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-96 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds programmed by the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study, for the resurfacing of Hudson Drive, between Front Street and Graham Road, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-97 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds programmed by the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study, for the resurfacing of Bailey Road, between Front Street and Graham Road, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-98 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for Federal Surface Transportation Alternatives Program Funds programmed by the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study, for the Cuyahoga Falls Secondary Line Trail Project, between Broad Boulevard and Front Street, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-99 (Public Affairs)

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the purchase of certain property known as 57 Cochran Road, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-100 (Community Development)**

Creating the Pine Ridge Tax Increment Financing Incentive District; declaring improvements to the parcels within the Incentive District to be a public purpose and exempt from real property taxation; requiring the owners of those parcels to make service payments in lieu of taxes; establishing a Municipal Public Improvement Tax Increment Equivalent Fund for the deposit of those service payments; specifying the public infrastructure improvements that benefit or serve parcels in the incentive district; and declaring an emergency.

*** Will be held until department budget hearings are completed.**

**** Public Hearing scheduled for November 1, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.**

Reports of Council's Standing Committees
(Third Reading)

Planning & Zoning

Temp. Ord. B-88

An ordinance accepting the Planning Commission's recommendation for the approval of a conditional zoning certificate and major site plan for the construction of a 4,060 sq. ft. car wash facility for United Car Wash at 2720 Second Street, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Spinner moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-88, second by Mr. James. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Finance & Appropriations:

No Report.

Public Improvements:

No Report.

Public Affairs:

Temp. Ord. B-89

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

Mr. Balthis moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-89, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Temp. Res. B-90

A resolution authorizing the Director of Public Service to represent the City of Cuyahoga Falls as a member of the Board of Trustees of American Municipal Power, Inc., and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Balthis moved to adopt Temp. Res. B-90, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Community Development:

No Report.

Schedule of Committee Meetings

Planning & Zoning:	Subject to Call.
Finance:	November 1, 2021, at 6:35 p.m.
Public Improvements:	November 1, 2021, at 6:40 p.m.
Public Affairs:	November 1, 2021, at 6:45 p.m.
Community Development:	November 1, 2021, 16 6:50 p.m.

Miscellaneous Business

Mr. Brillhart commended everyone on the splendid job they did during the power outage.

Mayor Walters gave a recap of the power outage and spoke of steps that will be taken moving forward. He praised City Services and First Energy workers.

Mr. Miller asked if, moving forward, there would be an opportunity for the City's Electric Department taking on a bigger role with First Energy and to corroborate more. Mayor Walters stated that the Electric Department worked side by side with the First Energy supervisor, but the City is forbidden from touching First Energy property.

Mrs. Spinner stated that she is relieved to know that the City was in good hands. She can appreciate what a rough night it was for the Mayor and for everyone working on the problem, and she appreciates all the updates.

Ms. Diana Colavecchio, Community Development Director, presented her department's third quarter report. They are continuing to have new projects and renovations going on in the city, but there is no question that issues with obtaining construction supplies and materials and getting contractors have been a factor. They will see the final report in January, and, so far, they are on target for completion of projects.

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, presented Report 21 to Council. There has not been much change between the last month's report and this month's report. In the General Fund, they hopefully will start to see the Admissions Tax that was backloaded in the middle and end of summer. They do not anticipate hitting the budgeted number as the number of shows fluctuated throughout the summer, but that number should start to rise a little bit. On the Revenue side of the General Fund, they are seeing strong revenues. The City's property tax settlement in the last month came in \$1.5 million above what was anticipated, and the income taxes receipts are coming in stronger than anticipated, as well.

In the Leisure Time Fund, Waterworks, Brookledge and Downview are seeing a strong summer into Fall. They have had some of the best receipts they have seen at the golf course. Hopefully, that will continue in November and December weather permitting. The Natatorium is the one area that they hopefully, once the weather starts to get colder, will start to see revenues rising. The Natatorium has done an excellent job of keeping expenses in check with revenues, and they are keeping the lights on at the Natatorium. They are working hard to bring people in and maintain those memberships. On the Self-Insurance side, they are starting to see a great year. The Medical

and Dental plans are down for the year and the Prescription Drugs are at about last year's number, which has historically been down. They are seeing flat to better-than-anticipated medical plans.

Ms. Colavecchio stated that she neglected to call everyone's attention to the other spreadsheet she passed out this evening that has the green shading on it. That is for the TIF ordinance that the Community Development Committee has scheduled for next week, and she will go over it at that time.

Mr. James stated that the Trunk-Or-Treat Saturday was successful. He was at Kennedy Park, and the cars were nonstop. He gave kudos to the Parks and Recreation Department. Also in his ward, in River Estates, Owaisa Road has been improved. The area on Bailey Road at the railroad tracks and Harbor Castings has been paved, and on the other side of the tracks on Whitelaw Street.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes stated that Saturday's trick-or-treat was amazing. It was just as energized as last year. There were great costumes and people were very appreciative. She also mentioned that Kenny King had a birthday party on Thursday, and wished him a Happy Birthday.

Mr. Gorbach stated that his shoutout this week is to the residents. Issue 32, the school issue, is on the ballot. Residents in Ohio have the responsibility to fund the schools, because it is not happening on the State level, as it should be. This is a renewal levy. He does not have any qualms that it is going to pass, but residents came forward and passed the big amount that was needed for State matching, and now they are in the throes of the design of the new school for Cuyahoga Falls. Not too long ago, the Woodridge School District went through that, and they now have a beautiful building and campus-like setting for their schools. The first library levy had to be passed by the public 10 years ago, and then there was a renewal five years later when funding was decreased at the State level, and the residents stood up and did that. A lot of people thought, with the advance of the internet, all the libraries were going to close. Nothing is further from the truth. That would not have happened without residents going to the ballot box. Residents have budgets at home, and it is difficult for them to fund these levies. The residents, over the years, have done a wonderful job and service to them by making their jobs easier by providing services for the schools and library.

Mr. Brillhart stated that he would like to echo the comments made about the Halloween events. It makes this community a wonderful place to be.

Mr. James moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Michael Brillhart, Council President

Dana M. Capriulo, Clerk of Council