

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

April 3, 2023

Members: Rachel Loza, Chair
Michael Brillhart
Adam Miller

Ms. Loza called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m. Mr. Miller was absent.

The minutes of the March 6, 2023 Public Affairs Committee meeting were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-32

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-32

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute the participation forms for settlement with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart pursuant to the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding and consistent with the material terms of the proposed settlement agreements, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Janet Ciotola, Law Director, presented Temporary Ordinance B-32 to Council. The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio is a municipal corporation formed and organized pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The people of the State of Ohio and its communities have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities within the Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain. The state and its local governments drafted and the City has adopted, and hereby reaffirms its adoption of, the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) relating to the allocation and the use of the proceeds of any potential settlements. Settlement proposals are being presented to the State of Ohio and local governments concerning claims against Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart to resolve governmental entity claims in the State of Ohio using the structure of the OneOhio MOU.

The Mayor will be authorized to execute the Participation Forms on behalf of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, pursuant to the terms of the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding and consistent with the material terms of the Proposed Settlements with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart. The Mayor, Director of Law, Director of Finance, and any other necessary City official will be authorized to provide such 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, together with such revisions, additions or amendments as will be approved by the Director of Law as being consistent with the objectives and requirements of this ordinance.

Ms. Ciotola stated that there was nothing further to add to what was discussed in the Executive Session.

Public Affairs Committee
March 6 , 2023 – Page2

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-32 with a favorable recommendation, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed (2-0).

Temp. Res. B-33

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant to construct Phase II of the Mud Brook Greenway, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Rob Kurtz, Planning Director, presented Temporary Ordinance B-33 to Council. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes through the Clean Ohio Trails Fund (COTF). A grant is available from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in an amount of up to \$500,000. The grant requires an estimated local cost share match of 25% of the total project cost. The City of Cuyahoga Falls desires financial assistance through the COTF Program to construct Phase II of the Mud Brook Greenway. This phase will design and construct a trail from Bath Road, through the Mill Pond area, to Graham Road and State Road.

The Mayor will be authorized to apply for a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Clean Ohio Trails Fund (COTF) to construct a trail and trailhead in the Mud Brook Greenway. The Mayor, Director of Community Development Department, Director of Law, and other city officials, as appropriate, will be authorized and directed to execute and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and to provide all information and to execute, certify or furnish such other documents and do all other things, as are necessary for and incidental to carrying out the grant application and this ordinance. The City of Cuyahoga Falls will agree to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the COTF Program, including the local cost share match of 25% of the total project cost.

Mr. Kurtz stated that the total committed cost is \$1.2 million and the required match would be \$707,921. The maximum grant for this program is \$500,000, so that is the most that can be applied for. This is due April 17th. It may not be until April of 2024 until they know whether or not they have received these grant funds. Phase II of this trail is just less than a mile long. It would be the same type of trail as Phase I, the eight-foot-wide chip-and-seal paths with boardwalks and/or bridges.

Ms. Loza stated that any chance to receive and apply for those types of grants is appreciated.

Mr. Brillhart stated that he is strongly in favor of this ordinance. He uses Phase I of the trail at least three or four times a week, and people are so happy with that trail. Several people have asked him about Phase II, and it is very much anticipated. It is a great asset for the City.

Mr. Ashton stated that his family uses Phase I of the trail all the time. It is gorgeous and very accessible, and he is excited for this expansion and in favor of it.

Public Affairs Committee
March 6 , 2023 – Page3

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, stated that the match dollars coming in for this trail have been provided through a TIF, Tax Incremental Financing, which was done several years ago in that area. It is not regular tax dollars going towards that match, but payments in lieu of taxes that are being generated from that district and need to have rules applied to be able to be put back into the same district.

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-33 with a favorable recommendation, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed (2-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.