

**CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting**

**July 22, 2024**

- Call to Order:** Mr. Balthis at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call:** Mr. Ashton, present; Mr. Balthis, present; Mr. Brillhart, present; Mr. DeRemer, present; Mr. James, present; Ms. Loza, present; Ms. Nichols-Rhodes, present; Mrs. Penta, absent; Mr. Siegfert, present; Mrs. Spinner, present; Mr. Stams, present.
- Invocation:** Mrs. Spinner
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. DeRemer
- Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the Council meetings held on June 24, 2024 and July 8, 2024 and the Special Council Meeting held on July 1, 2024 were approved as written.
- Reports and Communications:** A Letter dated July 16, 2024 from Mayor Walters regarding his appointment of Adam Prtenjak to the Board of Zoning Appeals to fill the unexpired term of Joseph Disantis expiring 12/31/2028.

**New Legislation**  
(First Reading)

**Temp. Ord. A-69 (Public Improvements)**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, with OHM Advisors to provide professional engineering services for the Mud Brook Trail Phase II, increasing appropriations, and declaring an emergency.

**Temp. Ord. A-70\* (Community Development)**

An ordinance approving a zoning map amendment for 2831 Bailey Road from R-4 urban density residential to MU-2 neighborhood center, and declaring an emergency.

**\* A Public Hearing will be held on Temp. Ord. A-70 on September 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.**

Mr. James moved to recess Council to conduct a meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0). Council recessed at 6:33 p.m. and reconvened at 6:35 p.m.

**Reports of Special Committees**

Mr. James moved to confirm Mayor Walter's appointment of Adam Prtenjak to the Board of Zoning Appeals, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Reports of Council's Standing Committees**  
(Third Reading)

**Planning & Zoning:**

No Report.

**Finance & Appropriations:**

**Temp. Ord. A-61**

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor or his designee to enter into a contract or contracts with Atlantic Emergency Solutions for the purchase of Hurst Tool extrication equipment used by the Fire Department, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-61, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Public Improvements:**

**Temp. Res. A-62**

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept financial assistance in the form of a grant or loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission for the improvement of Wyoga Lake Road, from East Steels Corners Road to Seasons Road, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Stams moved to adopt Temp. Res. A-62, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Public Affairs:**

**Temp. Res. A-63**

A resolution approving and adopting the Summit County Hazard Mitigation plan and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Loza moved to adopt Temp. Res. A-63, second by Mr. Ashton. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Temp. Ord. A-64**

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to exchange land with the Cuyahoga Falls City School District in connection with the new school campus at 13th Street and Portage Trail and accompanying right-of-way, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Loza moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-64, second by Mr. Ashton. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Temp. Ord. A-65**

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a License Agreement with the Preserves at Salt Creek Homeowners Association, Inc., for the purpose of permitting landscaping and constructing neighborhood recreational improvements on city-owned property, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Loza moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-65, second by Mr. Ashton. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Community Development:**

**Temp. Ord. A-66**

An ordinance amending ordinance 95-2004 to revise the Cuyahoga River Community Reinvestment Area boundaries, implementing sections 3735.65 through 3735.70 of the Ohio Revised Code, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Siegferth moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-66, second by Mrs. Spinner. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Temp. Ord. A-67**

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute the revised Summit County Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding for Job Creation and Retention and Tax Revenue Sharing, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Siegferth moved to adopt Temp. Ord. A-67, second by Mrs. Spinner. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Temp. Res. A-68**

A resolution accepting the recommendations of the Tax Incentive Review Council and the Community Reinvestment Area Housing Council concerning Enterprise Zone and Community Reinvestment Area Tax Exemption Agreements within the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Siegferth moved to adopt Temp. Res. A-68, second by Mrs. Spinner. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

**Schedule of Committee Meetings**

Planning & Zoning:	Subject to Call.
Finance:	Subject to Call.
Public Improvements:	September 3, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.
Public Affairs:	Subject to Call.
Community Development:	Subject to Call.

**Miscellaneous Business**

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, presented Council with the highlights of Report 21. In the General Fund, they received a property tax settlement in May. In June, they did not see any change in the numbers. They are anticipating the budget to come in as projected last year. In the Admissions Tax Line Item, the number there does not correspond with 2023. That is due primarily to the Blossom Music Center concerts. That discrepancy on those numbers will remain until all shows are completed and the taxes are given back to the City. They are rolling steady with the Local Government Funds as anticipated. In the Municipal Tax, they continue to see strong returns on the withholding, a good sign of the local economy. They are up about 5 percent from the Municipal Tax revenues. In Street Construction and Maintenance, the gasoline tax is coming in strong at 4.6 percent over 2023. The Hotel and Motel taxes are flat this year. Because of the mild winter, they continue to see a little less than budgeted for 2024 in the Street Department. They are seeing good growth in the revenues and keeping expenses in check.

In the Leisure Time Fund, for the Natatorium, they are seeing revenues up about 7.8 percent over 2023. Waterworks shows about a 20-percent increase, which is a timing issue from 2023 and 2024 in posting that revenue. Hopefully, that will smooth out in the July report. Brookledge has a 6.6-percent increase and under Downview, they are seeing a 6.8-percent increase. The nice weather has contributed to the strong revenue. In the Self-Insurance Fund there has been some larger claims on the Hospitalization and Dental Line Items this year. Under Prescription Drugs, they have had a couple of high-cost drug hit that this year. They do carry a \$250,000 maximum reimbursement insurance on that, so they can get reimbursed on anything over that amount. There is a nice fund balance in the Self-Insurance Fund used to stabilize these fluctuations.

Mr. Stams complimented Ms. Sara Kline, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, on the improvements made at Brookledge. He was at the golf course a couple weeks back and saw the improvements made to the concession area and the outdoor patio. It is easy not to see how much a facility needs to be updated until it happens. The 6-percent increase probably has a little bit to do with those renovations.

Ms. Loza thanked Habitat for Humanity and all the community members that came out and helped with the Neighborhood Reborn Project in Ward 1. They are working in Preston Park area at Preston School. She looks forward to working with them again.

Ms. Ciotola reminded Council of the need to complete the State Mandatory Fraud Prevention Training. She asked that Council notify her and the Clerk of Council once they complete the online training. The deadline for that training is September 28.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes moved to excuse the absence of Mrs. Penta, second by Mr. James. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Mr. Siegfert announced that there will be a Public Hearing held on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., for Temporary Ordinance A-70 through the Community Development Committee.

Mr. James moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Brillhart. Motion passed, voice vote (10-0).

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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Russ Balthis, Council President

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Dana M. Capriulo, Clerk of Council