

THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

PRESENT: Council President Gallo, Council Members Koch, Everett, Danczak, McCall, Stavole and Clerk of Council Bohdan.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Byrne, Law Director Pokorny, Director of Finance and Personnel Iaconis, Director of Public Service Patten, Engineer Neff, Director of Community and Economic Development Sebes and Assistant Law Director Schneider.

ABSENT: Councilman Verdile and Director of Recreation Tal.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Gallo at 8:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilwoman Koch motioned seconded by Councilwoman Everett to excuse the absence of Councilman Verdile.

Aye: Koch, Gallo, Danczak, McCall, Everett and Stavole

Nay: None

COUNCILMAN VERDILE IS EXCUSED FROM THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING.

The Mayor swore-in Patrolman Scott Jackson to the position of sergeant on the Parma Heights Police Department.

Chief Scharschmidt commented that Sergeant Jackson has common sense, works hard every day, has been in critical incidents with the SWAT Team and Parma Heights Police Department and has acted heroically. He currently is the Western Region Commander for the SWAT Team. The Chief congratulated Sergeant Jackson and the Chief stated he is excited to work with him.

Councilwoman Danczak motioned seconded by Councilwoman Everett to approve the June 24, 2019 Council meeting minutes.

Aye: Koch, Gallo, Danczak and Everett

Nay: None

Abstain: McCall, Stavole

JUNE 24, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES APPROVED.

Councilman Stavole motioned seconded by Councilwoman Koch to approve the August 26, 2019 Special Council meeting minutes.

Aye: Gallo, Danczak, McCall, Everett, Stavole and Koch

Nay: None

AUGUST 26, 2019 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES APPROVED.

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Joe Tal, Director of Recreation

- No report in the director's absence

Joe Sebes, Director of Community and Economic Development

- No report.

Dan Neff, Engineer

- NEORSD will be finishing up with the Columbo Park project.
- ODOT extended the bid for the Pearl Road project.
- Legislation this evening for an agreement with Euthenics for the Independence Bridge project as long as the City receives funding through a grant from ODOT for this project.

Councilman Stavole asked where is the City at with the Nathan Hale Retention Basin project. Engineer Neff explained that the City has been reaching out to the Federal Department of Parks trying to get follow up on what the City has presented. The Engineer stated at the next Mayor's Caucus he will present to Council the new design and where the City is at with the Department of Interior. In the near future, there will be public meetings for the residents so they can see how it is evolving.

Councilwoman Koch asked how long it would take to start and finish Nathan Hale Retention Basin project. Engineer Neff replied at this time he doesn't have an answer. They are working with the Department of Parks and we have not heard anything from them in a couple of weeks. The last time we spoke with the department they were excited about the change to the design. Engineer Neff stated the best-case scenario would be to start the project after the first of the year and it will take about six months to complete.

Councilman McCall asked what was the basis behind changing the design from dry to wet. Engineer Neff replied the input from the residents. They decided to make it a wet feature with walking paths, training paths, sitting areas as well as adding a pavilion. The City has met with Tri-C, NEORSD and Parma regarding this project. Parma will allow us to go through their park so the construction vehicles will not go on the residential streets.

Councilman McCall asked what is the depth of the basin. Engineer Neff replied it will be between 6' and 8' but will not be the entire basin. He said there would be shallow areas and deep-water areas. Engineer Neff stated that in the shallow area they want to create a marsh area for habitat.

Dennis Patten, Director of Public Service

- The Service Department continues to work on catch basins.
- The Service Department will be out crack sealing in the next couple of weeks.
- Leaf pick-up will begin around the third week of October.
- Equipment is being prepared for winter.

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Councilwoman Koch thanked the Service Department for the work they are doing in Ward 3. Director Patten replied there are a lot of water box repairs in the City, but there was a large number in Ward 3.

Councilman McCall thanked Director Patten for working with him on the property across the street. The neighbors are ecstatic that the debris has been removed and there is new landscaping.

Katie Iaconis, Director of Finance and Personnel

- The Director suggested passing a permanent budget by the end of the year. Finance Department will distribute in October.

Mayor Michael Byrne

- The Mayor gave a summer update of the following:
- Finance Director Terry Hickey retired after 51 years of service. He will be attending the September 23rd Council meeting for a special recognition.
- The 4th Annual Kids in the Commons and first ever Big Creek Handmade Fest on Saturday, August 10th was a resounding success with a large attendance. We are grateful to the following event sponsors who contributed financially to the event: NOPEC (\$3500), WalMart (\$1500), University Hospitals Parma Medical Center (\$1,000), MyCom (\$1,000), Kwik Car Wash (\$500), Akron-Cleveland Association of Realtors (\$250) and the Parma Heights Historical Society who received a community grant from Tri-C West. We received a very generous donation of over \$1,000 from Baseball Commissioner Mark Davis, which covered the cost of tables, chairs and tent rental for the event.
- The Senior Center held their first ever Summer Picnic, which was sponsored all by donations. Approximately 130 seniors attended.
- The Senior Center received 10 new kitchen tables to replace the ones that were broken and warped.
- To date, the Senior Center has served 17,400 meals, 9,400 at the Center and the remaining 8,000 meals through our homebound program. Donations from our Seniors for transportation and meals is approximately \$18,500 for this year.
- Anyone interested in donating to the Senior Center's Christmas party, please contact the Mayor's Office.
- The July 26th fire at Camelot Apartment building on Stumph Road resulted in one death and over 100 residents displaced. The American Red Cross was onsite for days to assist the displaced residents with emergency services. Our residents generously donated clothing, personal hygiene items, pet food and diapers at Best Furniture on Pearl Road. They made sure those who were in need received the donations.
- The Parma Heights Police Department's P.A.C.T. unit has been very active in the community providing face painting and "mug shots" at the Kids in the Common and St. John Bosco's International Festival. They will be hosting a "Coffee with a Cop" at the Senior Center in October. They received a \$3,000 grant from William's Wishes, a foundation for the promotion of health ministry and are planning their second annual Halloween fundraiser.
- The Parma City School District is hosting a number of community meetings throughout the three cities to discuss a strategic school consolidation plan. The meetings closest to City Hall are

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Saturday, October 5th, 10-11:30 a.m. at Parma Heights Library, Monday, October 14th, 6:30-8 p.m. at Greenbriar Middle School and Monday, November 18th, 6:30-8 p.m. at Valley Forge High School Media Center.

- Wednesday, September 11th is Patriot Day. Anyone interested in observing is welcome to join the Parma Heights Fire Department at the City's 9/11 monument from 9:55-10:10 a.m. or the Tri-C West Key Bank Public Safety Training Center from 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Councilwoman Koch asked if the City was going to repair or replace the electronic board in front of City Hall. Mayor replied we are getting a new sign. The Councilwoman asked when, the Mayor replied he did not know, the sign has been ordered and they are replacing the plate with the City of Parma Heights to reflect the new logo.

Councilwoman Koch asked if the City could place entering school zone signs on Beresford, Greenleaf and Oakwood to warn of the nearby school, Incarnate Word. Engineer Neff would have to research if this would be allowed.

LEGISLATION

Councilman Stavole motioned seconded by Councilwoman Everett to read the following ordinance by title only.

Aye: Danczak, McCall, Everett, Stavole, Koch and Gallo
Nay: None

ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY.

Clerk Bohdan read AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH EUTHENICS INC. TO PREPARE CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND RIGHT OF WAY PLANS (IF REQUIRED) FOR THE REPAIR AND/OR REPLACEMENT OF THE INDEPENDENCE ROAD BRIDGE OVER BRANDYWINE CREEK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. ONE READING ONLY.

Councilman Stavole motioned seconded by Councilwoman Everett to suspend the rules.

Aye: McCall, Everett, Stavole, Koch, Gallo and Danczak
Nay: None

RULES SUSPENDED.

Councilman Stavole motioned seconded by Councilwoman Everett to adopt this ordinance.

Aye: Everett, Stavole, Koch, Gallo, Danczak and McCall
Nay: None

ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED. ORDINANCE NO. 2019-32.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Gallo reminded the audience if they have a comment to stand, state their name, address and city if they live outside of Parma Heights and there is a three-minute limit to speak. All comments and questions will be directed to the Council President.

The Mayor commented on the Nathan Hale Retention Basin project stating that it is sensitive topic because the City is waiting to hear back from the Federal Government, but the preliminary drawings that Engineer Neff has of the project are quite different from the original plans. The Mayor feels the majority of residents will be happy with the revised plan. The Mayor stated the Administration is very anxious to hear from the Federal Government, he feels we have addressed every one of their concerns.

Councilman McCall stated that he has a request to have the Streets Committee review when the previous Administration removed the street assessments, what that was and why and how many streets have been completed since the street assessments have been removed. The Councilman stated that the streets in his area have not been done the whole time he has lived in Parma Heights.

Councilwoman Koch motioned seconded by Councilman McCall to adjourn.

Aye: Stavole, Koch, Gallo, Danczak, McCall and Everett
Nay: None

Meeting Adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Florence A. Bohdan
Clerk of Council



Marie Gallo
Council President