

**CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2011
8:00 P.M.
MINUTES
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The meeting was called to order by President Lesley DeSouza at 8:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Kolasinski, Koch, Verdile, DeSouza, Gallo, Dean, McCall, all present.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was suspended for the swearing in of Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Durante and Firefighter/Paramedic Steven Vachon.

Collins stated that he is happy to introduce the two new recruits who will be starting at the Fire Station tomorrow. Collins was personally involved with the Chiefs in the selection and both these individuals are hard working with integrity.

Sloan welcomed the recruits and their families, as this is a big day for the recruits and the Fire Department. Sloan is very impressed with the new recruits and looking forward to the fresh blood they will bring to the Department.

Mayor Byrne welcomed the new recruits to the Fire Department that he is very proud of and at this time they were sworn in.

Durante and Vachon introduced their family and friends and thanked everyone.

DeSouza stated that before the meeting is resumed she would like to congratulate her colleagues and the re-election campaigns and introduce the newest Council Member Anthony Stavole.

The meeting was resumed.

DeSouza motioned seconded by Verdile to approve the October 24, 2011 Council Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call: Koch, Verdile, DeSouza, Gallo, Dean, yes, McCall, abstain, Kolasinski, yes.

OCTOBER 24, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES APPROVED.

DeSouza motioned seconded by Koch to approve the October 27, 2011 Special Council Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call: Verdile, DeSouza, Gallo, Dean, yes, McCall, abstain, Kolasinski, Koch, yes.

OCTOBER 27, 2011 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES APPROVED.

DeSouza reported that the Finance Committee reviewed expenditures in the amount of \$ 637,872.02

A brief Summary:

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Miscellaneous City Hall	\$ 20, 821.00
Fuel Costs	\$ 9, 100.00
Payroll	\$ 334,393.00
Recreation	\$ 14, 561.00
Various Safety Forces	\$ 17,687.00
Service Department	\$ 12, 690.00

(These figures are a combination of 10-24-2011 & 11-14-2011 Finance expenditure report)

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS

Tom Moran, Recreation Director reported that Flag Football is done for the year; the Walking Club is still going weather permitting. The Soccer awards were last night and they were well attended. The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony is Sunday December 4th at 5:00 P.M. with entertainment including Santa Claus. Radlick Park Pavilion is finished and looks great. The last thing is the Fitness Classes begin January 9th and you must be signed up by December 16th.

DeSouza asked what the days the classes are.

Moran stated they are held Monday through Thursday in the evening.

McCall went to Radlick Saturday and wanted to thank Moran and Sebes for the Pavilion it is very nice. The Pavilion will be wonderful with some large picnic tables.

Sebes and Moran commented that the City has the tables they are at Lowe's and will be delivered in the near future.

Brent Collins, Safety Director reported that the residents complimented the Police Department for a job well done on Halloween. Collins read a residents letter from a resident commenting on how nice it was to see the Officers out on Halloween and handing out candy to the children.

Judy McLaughlin reported that Brad Sussman did come to the Senior Center on November 9th and gave an hour presentation and did a really great job. Please check out the newsletter there is a lot going on for the holidays.

Joe Sebes, Community and Economic Development Director reported that December 6th for the first time in the history of this City a Municipal Block Grant Forum will be held here.

DeSouza asked if the event is open to the public or just for Directors.

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Sebes stated the event is just for the Directors.

Dan Neff, City Engineer reported that Stumph Road is progressing and wrapping up the water relining in the next few days. The goal is to be wrapped up by Thanksgiving and continue with some utility work during the winter.

Michelle Teresi, Service Director reported that the second shred event was held this past Saturday and it was very well attended, much better than last time. Teresi asked Council to make a motion to approve and enter into a contract for the four bidders for our purchase of petroleum and fueled lubricants. The four bidders are Universal Oil, Petroleum Traders Corporation Oil, Ullman Oil, and Ports Petroleum.

DeSouza motioned seconded by McCall to approve:

Universal Oil

Gas Unleaded 89 Octane 2.995

Commercial Fuel-Oil Diesel 3.463

Petroleum Traders Corporation

Gas Unleaded 89 Octane 3.19

Commercial Fuel-Oil Diesel 3.36

Ullman Oil

Gas Unleaded 89 Octane 3.28

Commercial Fuel-Oil Diesel 3.56

Ports Petroleum

Gas Unleaded 89 Octane 2.9840

Commercial Fuel-Oil Diesel 3.3605

**UNIVERSAL OIL, PETROLEUM TRADERS CORPORATION,
ULLMAN OIL, AND PORTS PETROLEUM APPROVED FOR
CONTRACT FOR FUELS & LUBES.**

Terry Hickey, Director of Finance and Personnel reported The State Auditor's Office for the State of Ohio will be putting our Cities audit out for bid. The State is overwhelmed and cannot handle all the audits so for the next years we will be audited by a private firm instead of the State of Ohio.

DeSouza asked if Hickey knew the percentage of cities audited by a private firm as opposed to the State.

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Hickey does not have an exact figure, but feels the amount is probably pretty high.

DeSouza asked that essentially they are privatizing it out to get all the audits done.

Hickey stated that the State is the contractor and the private auditor is a sub-contractor of the State.

DeSouza asked if that is at the State's expense.

Hickey stated no.

DeSouza stated that we pay the State when the audit anyway.

Kolasinski asked if it is a yearly audit.

Hickey stated it is.

Mayor Byrne, no report.

PUBLIC SESSION

Rich Rob, 9676 Greenbriar congratulated the winners of last week's election. The reason for him being here this evening is the reason he has been here for the last five months. He has not received a response to a question he asked back in June. Rob stated he is very upset and as Safety Director and a Councilman he has never seen something take so long. He wants Council's response as to how they feel about someone waiting so long for a response.

DeSouza asked Rob to repeat the question.

Rob stated this is part of the problem you should know the question. The question is why are there no thru traffic signs on City property and who put them there.

Pokorny stated the signs is question are now gone.

Rob still wants to know why is took five months for an answer.

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Mayor Byrne stated that the reason Council has not responded is because he has not gotten back to Council. We went back checked the files including your old files and have found nothing in regard to the signs.

Rob stated he had nothing to do with those signs.

Mayor asked him if he just noticed those signs after he left the City. The City went back and reviewed the files and found nothing in regard to the signs we spoke to the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor spoke to the Mayor, Safety Director, and Service Director as said the signs were not enforceable and the signs were taken down.

DeSouza asked how long the signs have been there.

Mayor stated as long as anyone can remember.

Rob again would like to know why it took so long for someone to get back with him.

DeSouza stated you asked for something to be looked into and you asked for it to be taken care of, and it is done.

Rob expected an answer and just got one just now.

Mayor Byrne responded that you had a two phase question the other half was in regard to renting City Hall. You know have a public response in regard to the signs and there is a draft Ordinance that is being reviewed for the rental of City Hall. We apologize if we do not meet your time frame.

Rob stated he has been waiting for five months.

Mayor stated he said he would get back to him personally when he had the answers to both of Rob's questions. We did the best we could going through the files and getting a written response back. There was nothing done in your ten year and now all the sudden it is a rush which is fine. When we had an answer that we were comfortable with we removed the signs. Mayor apologized for not contacting him directly about the removal of the signs.

Rob stated it took 5 ½ months to get an answer about the signs and does not believe it could take that long to get a response.

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DeSouza stated that question has been asked and answered.

Rob stated it has not been answered because the question was to Council and no one wants to answer it. The next question is something that was asked two months ago in regard to the ward meetings that were held at City Hall. Rob wanted to rent out City Hall for a meeting and no one responded to him. Rob spoke with Service and they had no idea how to rent out City Hall. Rob wanted this done before the election so he had the same opportunity to have a ward meeting and now it is too late. Rob handed the Council President a public records request.

Ashley Dottore, 9276 Stonington asked why the garbage fee is now on the taxes and when did that get passed.

McCall stated that it was brought to our attention that a bid was going out to make it even for everyone to bid the City took out the billing aspect and put it on the tax duplicate. It will reduce the costs of the collection and when we go to bid it will be for refuse and recycling.

Dottore feels that the residents should have had a say in this, the taxes are high enough.

McCall stated that this does not raise the fee.

Dottore stated that it is going on the taxes and she was mailing the fee in, why couldn't that system have been left alone.

McCall explained it is less money than having an outside company

DeSouza stated it stays the exact same amount of money we are just eliminating the service fee.

Hickey stated clarified that not all the vendors of recycling and refuse collection are set up to bill directly to the homeowner. In order not to exclude these companies from the billing process and therefore limit the possibility of the best bid we took the collection out of the bidding requirement. We put it in on the tax duplicate as a means of collecting and that provides the City the opportunity to get the most competitive bidding. The City will open up the bids to any vendors whether they have a collection dept or not.

Gallo motioned seconded by DeSouza to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Gallo, Dean, McCall, Kolasinski, Koch, Verdile, DeSouza, all yes.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.


Jennifer Krepina
Clerk of Council


Lesley A. DeSouza
Council President