



City of Parma Heights Council Minutes September 12, 2022

PRESENT: Council President Rounds, Council Members Maruschak, Durichko, Haase, Stavole, Walsh and Clerk of Council Allen

Motion to excuse Councilwoman DeSouza by Councilman Stavole; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh

Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase and Rounds

Nay: None

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Gallo, Director of Finance Iaconis, Director of Law Schneider, Director of Service Robert Sepik, Director of Safety Heffernan, and Director of Recreation Allen.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Rounds at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 27, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes

Councilman Stavole motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the Council Minutes

Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds

Nay: None

Minutes Approved

July 25, 2022 Special Council Meeting Minutes

Councilman Stavole motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh to approve the Council Minutes

Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Rounds

Nay: None

Minutes Approved

August 15, 2022 Special Council Meeting minutes

Councilman Stavole motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the Council Minutes

Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Rounds

Nay: None

Minutes Approved

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

Mayor Gallo: Chief do you want to join me upfront please. When I first took office one of the discussions, I had with the departments was not only what they needed to do their job more efficiently and part of these discussions were the K-9 for the Police Department. Chief Scharschmidt brought an opportunity before us from the A. Ripepi Family which covered the costs of the K-9, training, and some of the outfitting of the vehicle and some of the equipment that came with it. I will hand this over to the Chief and he will fill you all in with a little bit of the history and introduce everybody. Officer Smith will take the oath on behalf of Gunny this evening as well.

Chief Scharschmidt: Thank you. While we are waiting for Gunny, I'd like to introduce you to my clerk staff, Dave Verbosky, Linda Heffern, John Gangloff, and Angie Love and Liz Dzurisin. They are the best and they are all so committed to the city. John is married to Angie and John is retired from Ridgewood, PA. Liz is in line to make Captain in Akron. Angie has been here 17 years and she's a full-time dispatcher at Southwest. While I had the opportunity again, it's a fantastic group.

Council President Rounds: Thank you, thank you for your work.

Round of applause from all in attendance.

Chief Scharschmidt then introduced Officer Smith and Gunny Bennett. Gunny's been on the road for 6 weeks. The Chief then administered the Oath to Officer Bradd Smith as the K-9 Officer in the Police Department for the City of Parma Heights. Chief then read the write up on Gunny introducing him to all on how the Police Department obtained the K-9 through the grant from the A. Ripepi Foundation pointing out that he is trained on narcotics, detect articles and detain fleeing suspects. Chief thanked many members of the administration for all the hard work for getting this project to fruition.

Council President Rounds: We will continue with the Reports from Mayor and Directors, Director Allen....

Recreation Director Allen: To begin the pool is now closed for the season, we had a very busy yet successful season. We have some individual programming coming up we have tie-dye, line dancing, ballroom dancing in the downstairs community rooms. We have canning, dehydrating and freezing that are free classes for the community. We also have a Yoga series coming up and Madi Baci is going to be teaching a series of nature classes for children throughout the winter months. Some of the larger ones will be the Caterpillar Crawl and Butterfly Run on the 24th of September, Creatures on the Commons will be held October 22nd which will be our trick or treat event. We will hold a tree lighting on Sunday, November 27th and a breakfast with Santa in December. Fall Soccer has started and we seem to be off to a great start from last year and things are picking up gradually. Madi Baci and Melissa Evers started their first Habitat for Restoration on a plot of land between the theatre and the wooded area behind it that they are filling with native species and things like that.

Council President Rounds: Director Allen are all these dates on the City Calendar website? Director Allen responded with yes, they are on the website and they were also mentioned in the Mayor's Newsletter. Council President then went on to thank Director Allen and the staff for all the summer, the activities an involvement and hard work. I think it's encouraging when I think of Parma Heights as being an older suburb not to just young families and kids who are participating and coming to the events that you're scheduling so that's really exciting and encouraging. Director Allen stated that they are seeing multiple generations participating in the events. Council President asked if there were any questions for Director Allen?

Councilman Haase: Said in one word "diddo".

Council President Rounds: Director Heffernan.....

Safety Director Heffernan: Yes, thank you. Chief Scharschmidt alluded to this earlier, but we had a Firefighter lateral hire last week from Canton. And two weeks ago, I attended the Southwest Safety Council meeting in which a speaker addressed active shooters and his portion was Run, Hide and Fight. I have learned from Chief Scharschmidt that four (4) of our officers are trained for Run, Hide and Fight so I believe we are in pretty good shape with this training for active shooters.

Council President Rounds: Questions/Comments for Director Heffernan? I would like to know the trainings for the Active Shooters, where are they offering those trainings, schools? Director Heffernan stated that it's training for our officers to be certified in the training. Council President asked if the director would pass along to Chief Scharschmidt and Chief Bernard a thanks for their annual report from the Police and Fire Departments, I found that information to be very newsworthy and factual and our thanks for that information. Thank you. Director Sepik.....

Service Director Sepik: Yes, I do, thank you. Our next bulk collection will be September 21st. the City of Parma Heights & Fair Housing Center for Rights and Research will be hosting an overview of fair housing law for landlords, it's a virtual seminar, registration is free and required. Our Service Department is finishing up on Ridgewood this week, the southside of the street with a full depth in repair and the striping of the white hash tags and the yellow marks on York Road onto Ridgewood as it was prior to the construction. Queens and Laylor were just finished there are a couple of aprons that we still have to look at there. Terrace Construction is currently fixing the trough that they made for the one lane replacement on Notabene.

Council President Rounds: Any questions or comments for Director Sepik? Seeing none. Thank you. Director Iaconis....

Finance Director Iaconis: We will be beginning budget talks soon. My plan is to have the budget available in October to review. Negotiations are ongoing. I don't have any other interesting things to report at this time.

Council President Rounds: Questions or comments for Director Iaconis? Thank you very much for your work, that is still important. Mayor Gallo.....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you as Director Iaconis stated we have started internal discussions regarding the 2022 city project which we would like to implement still this year. Our target date for the production would be the first meeting in October and we would have the Council Work Sessions and Mayor's Caucus discussions with each department and the Chief's as we have done in the past so that they can talk about their capital and staffing. The Senior Center's staff served and delivered 1,120 meals in the past two weeks. They have been extremely busy with activities since they opened, they have offered nine (9) off sight special trips, seven (7) different exercise classes to choose from weekly, eleven (11) different games/crafts/social activities and five (5) different medical programs in September. They submitted seven (7) senior homes to St. John Bosco for the Community Clean-Up event on September 17th, and they do smaller projects like yard clean up, leaf collection, trimming of bushes, and other small jobs. We will be submitting our engineers work on the OPWC application to complete North Church and Kingsdale and as Director Heffernan stated I swore in a new Firefighter on Tuesday and he will be brought in during a Council meeting to meet all of council. That's all I have for you Mr. President.

Council President Rounds Thank you and if I may comment on the Senior Center again, as encouraging as I am to see the Recreation really reaching out to our young families with a lot of young families, I very much appreciate that the history of our city is also being taken care of and that our senior residents have many programs to choose from and opportunities. I thought it was really nice, we all had a little gift in our mailboxes this evening when we came in and on mine it says "Council President Tom Rounds, your one in a melon" it looks like a watermelon. So adorable, this will have a place on my desk at home because I just very much appreciate that. Any questions or comments for the mayor this evening?

Mayor Gallo: One last point there will be a presentation at the next meeting regarding the Independence Bridge Project.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds: Councilman Haase would you please provide your Planning Commission update.

Councilman Haase: The Commission met at 5:30 p.m. on the first of August due to consideration of a lot split at Maplewood and Pearl Road, PPN# 473-25-029 that was based on a request brought forward by builder and developer Greg Modic, it's a commercial and residential lot. This item was tabled until the October Planning Commission meeting which will be held the first Monday in October. That concludes my report.

LEGISLATION

2022 – 34: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY.

Councilwoman Walsh motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to read the following resolution by title only.

Aye: Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Rounds

Nay: None

Clerk Allen read: **A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councilwoman Walsh motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to suspend the rules.

Aye: Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Rounds

Nay: None

Council President Rounds: Just for clarification, this is the item we discussed during the Mayor's Caucus and this is more of a housekeeping item as far as our tax mil for the year. Any questions or comments? Seeing none.

Councilwoman Walsh motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole for passage.

Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds

Nay: None

Resolution Passes

2022 – 35: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY.

Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to read the following resolution by title only.

Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Rounds

Nay: None

Clerk Allen read: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CASSIDY THEATRE WITH CASSIDY THEATRE, INC. AN OHIO NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION**

Council President Rounds: This is the first of three readings so we will move onto the next item please.

2022 – 32: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY.

Councilwoman Durichko motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh to read the following ordinance by title only.

Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Rounds
Nay: None

Clerk Allen read: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 933 ENTITLED “WATER” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES**

Council President Rounds: This is the first of three readings for this item.

2022 – 33 ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

Aye: Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Rounds
Nay: None

Clerk Allen read: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION FOR BRIDGE INSPECTION SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Councilwoman Maruschak motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to suspend the rules.

Aye: Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Rounds
Nay: None

Council President Rounds: And this item is also was mentioned during the Mayor’s Caucus earlier, it’s a once every three years we look at. Any questions? Seeing none.

Councilwoman Maruschak motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole for passage.

Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds
Nay: None

Ordinance Passes

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION OF AN APPLICANT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

Councilman Stavole motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to move into Executive Session.

Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Rounds
Nay: None

Adjourned to Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

Council reconvened from Executive Session back to full council at 7:42 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Rounds: Moving right into our public comment portion of the meeting, if you have a comment, please stand, state your name and address and please direct all comments to me and you have 3 minutes to speak.

Ms. Rose Marie Fulcher, I reside at 6838 Maplewood Road. I believe the exit is still going through from the Maplewood Gardens thru Maplewood Road, whereabouts is it on Maplewood?

Council President Rounds offered to show her the map on his phone and asked administration if there is a map anywhere else that we could pull that together? Councilman Rounds said he would get that for Ms. Fulcher.

Ms. Rose Marie Fulcher: Could you also tell me what is happening with the second retention basin that's suppose to go behind the homes on Maplewood?

Mayor Gallo stated that that's the basin that the Northeast Ohio Sewer District will be putting in and Mr. Bender is here, he had checked with NEORSD a little while ago but there are a couple of things that have to be done over there before they can move forward. Mr. Bender would you please speak to this a little more?

Dan Bender: A few months ago, I asked for a status update on that basin, right now there is no set timeframe for that project. It's not a dead project, it just doesn't have a time schedule for that project and it's not the City of Parma Heights, it's the NEORSD who will be working on this project.

Ms. Rose Marie Fulcher: Lastly, at the Old Time Pottery location will that be an indoor or outdoor storage facility? Recreation vehicles in particular?

Council President Rounds responded that there is an intent for outdoor garages but I don't believe there is anything that will be parked outside of garages.

Mayor Gallo stated that it's mostly indoor storage. Both sides of the building will have outdoor garages. Councilman Stavole, can you elaborate on this?

Councilman Stavole: My recollection was that there will be outdoor garages and there is no allowance for people working on vehicles in those spaces, it's storage only. Everything was covered there would be no vehicles parked outside. They may not be closed in the front but covered on four sides so that vehicles weren't just parked in parking spaces, they have to be covered.

Council President Rounds: Anyone else have a public comment?

Mr. Stan Marecki, 6320 Big Creek Parkway, I'm the deer guy. I was told yesterday that it passed on the third reading. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, and I was told that it would be moving forward do you have any dates in mind or what's next on the agenda? Has a survey been done? I can't wait.

Mayor Gallo stated that she's been in meetings with the Police Department to go over our plans moving forward with the United States Department of Agriculture will be out this fall and that we will be reaching out to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to obtain nuisance permits. We don't have a number right now, but are in the process of working towards that. It's our program and we can set the number but we do work in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to come up with the number. This program will only be effective if we do it each year, over time you will see the numbers start to drop. I hope to have permits pulled and begin the program in January of next year, hopefully.

Mr. Stan Marecki: So, this will continue each year? Thank you so much and God bless you.

Mayor Gallo: Yes, this is the only way for it to be effective.

Council President Rounds: Any further comments? Seeing none.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Walsh motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to adjourn the meeting.

Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Durichko, Walsh, Rounds

Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Barbara Allen
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds
President of Council