



## City of Parma Heights Council Minutes March 27, 2023

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

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

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

*Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.*

### COUNCIL MINUTES

March 13, 2023 Parma Heights City Council Minutes

Councilwoman Walsh motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the Council Minutes

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

Abstain: Durichko

Nay: None

*Minutes Approved*

### REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

Council President Rounds began the reports with Recreation Director Bacci...

Recreation Director Bacci: Starting with our ongoing projects; the activity pool pump room is being demolished and they'll start on the new plug and filter as soon as the weather improves. We'll start painting the slide structure, it will go from blue to Parma Heights purple. The pool is now fully staffed, but we are still looking for lifeguards and swim instructors. Melissa, the Aquatics Director, has been able to have the ample staff two years in a row. Melissa represents Parma Heights very well and we even have surrounding cities looking for advice on this. She's also hosting CPR classes on April 22 and May 10<sup>th</sup> titled Adult/Pediatric First Aid CPR and ADD Course. To register go to the Parma Heights website. Sports sign-ups are going very well. I was just up at the Reservoir Soccer Fields; the staff are working hard to make it as great as Nathan Hale. We have 163 registered for baseball and 60 registered for Parma Heights Penguins and that's in addition to the team last year. Upcoming events include Easter Egg Dying, registration ends April 1<sup>st</sup>, and we have an iNaturalist event coming up on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00p.m. and Earth Day on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Council President Rounds: Thank you. Any questions or comments for Director Bacci? Seeing none. Safety Director Heffernan...

Safety Director Heffernan: The Fire Department is in the process of initiating a program similar to the Citizens Police Academy. They are putting together the basics now and maybe looking at this summer to get it started. The Fire Department has also made conditional offers to candidates. We are hoping at the next meeting there will a swearing in on April 10<sup>th</sup>. There is a program called Safe Kids and Safe Communities which will be honoring Patrolman Rossman as the top ticket writer and Patrolman Flynn as the top OVI enforcement writer. They will both attend a luncheon along with the Chief.

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

Service Director Sepik: Thank you Council President. I'd like to recognize the mayor before I get started for being asked, appointed and accepted to the Cuyahoga Planning Commission which represents the South-Central Region, which includes Parma Heights, Parma, Brooklyn and North Royalton. Mayor, thank you for all you do.

Council President added that that was a conditional appointment as long as the mayor stayed in this office as well.

Director Sepik continued his report with bulk collection will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup>, which is when the yard waste collection will begin as well. Community Shred Day will be April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at the Service Garage by the tennis courts, 2 boxes per household. Construction signs are going up on West Ridgewood. We are going to work into traffic beginning at York towards Parma Town. We are going to do the A/C rehab and repair and we will be going out to bid on that shortly for Cassidy Theatre. ODOT- Independence Bridge will begin right after school lets out end of May, early June. NEORC inspected the water flow along Stonington Drive by Reservoir Park. There are two significant obstructions that will be cleared by NEORC Storm Inspection and Maintenance Groups coming up soon, it's a high priority on their list to clean that out.

Council President Rounds: Thank you Director. Any questions or comments for Director Sepik? Councilwoman Walsh.....

Councilwoman Walsh asked with all the wind we had recently there's a lot of tree branches down. What's the best way to have them removed? Should residents just put them on the tree lawn or should we stick them in with the yard waste.

Director Sepik responded that since the crews are out driving the city, if they put them on the tree lawn, we'll pick it up and if they call with an address that would even be better so we can send someone directly there.

Council President Rounds: Any other questions or comments? Seeing none. Finance Director Iaconis.....

Finance Director Iaconis: Thank you. With the contract being awarded for Nathan Hale, I'm starting to get all the other funding money put into place, so I am sending in our Community Cost Share Application which is with NEORSD. They have in place a million-dollar grant, this is another million dollars that we're able to access towards the project. I'll be sending in that application and there will be legislation to approve it when I get it back. One other thing I just wanted to mention, since I've been on board, I've been trying to use the credit card for as many large item purchases, like paying the trash bill, as possible to get the rewards. We just got our rebate from last year, we got \$25,000 back.

Council President Rounds asked if negotiations are still ongoing?

Director Iaconis replied yes due to vacation schedules, we've been pushed off another week or so with the FOP but we hope to then have both the Service Contract and the FOP to present in April.

Council President Rounds: Any questions or comments for Director Iaconis? Seeing none. Mayor Gallo....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you Mr. President. The Senior Center delivered and served 1,324 meals in the last two weeks. March 14<sup>th</sup> was National Learn About Butterflies Day and in celebration, our Recreation Director Madi Bacci, visited the Senior Center and gave a presentation before lunch about butterflies. I think the seniors enjoyed this presentation much better than the reptile one she gave previously. Very positive feedback. Senior Center celebrated St. Patrick's Day at lunch on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March. No green beer was served but lots of shenanigans were had. Trish James is meeting with Bridget Lavelle, the Parma Heights Branch Services Manager in April to get our seniors back into the library for programs. The seniors will be getting a sweet treat at the Lake County Captains game donated to them. The event will cost \$35.00 which will include the ticket, hot dog or hamburger, macaroni and cheese, things like that. The senior center will have a table at Earth Day this year. There is a group of women in Parma Heights that have a sewing club; they contacted the senior center because they made 150 washable placemats for congregant and homebound participants. Trish is working on putting that together and it will be in the May Newsletter. We should be hearing soon about our County Supplemental Grant for the Cassidy Theatre lobby renovations and the County Block Grant Application regarding the new ambulance. Solid Waste District Newsletter for recycling should be mailed within the next week and usually get that around this time and we had a grant cover the cost of that. As Director Bacci had mentioned Recreation may surpass the 160 participants they had last year for T-ball, softball and baseball and this program doesn't start until May so there is still time to sign up. The pre-construction meeting for Nathan Hale Basin is this Wednesday and the park is closed due to construction as of now, work will begin as soon as possible. The NEO rink is almost down, and then as you know the library is looking to put a new facility back there. Proposals have gone out to design architects and we should have a building design by the end of the year. Director Iaconis mentioned that there is an amended appropriation ordinance before council this evening and there will be another before the summer begins just to make adjustments to the budget. Thank you.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any further questions for the mayor? Councilwoman Walsh.....

Councilwoman Walsh added that she just wanted to congratulate you on your appointment mayor, that's a prestigious appointment and thank you for representing the city, kudo's to you.

Mayor Gallo responded thank you, I'm very happy to be put in that position and as Council President gave some very kind words to the media so I'm proud to be a voice for our city on the commission. I'm looking forward to it and it's once a month, not too time consuming, so the timing worked out well. Thank you.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any further questions? Seeing none.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds asked Councilman Haase to provide an update from the Planning Commission meeting.

Councilman Haase: Two key takeaways from the last meeting were 1) The Planning Commission Chairman James McCall was re-appointed to lead the commission for another term; congratulations to him. 2) the approval of a conversion of an existing building to a Mini-Mart at 12215 Huffman Road, PPN 473-12-019 that also includes a 700 ft. building addition. There will not be a gas station. They are planning some really nice landscaping and things to really beautify that corner of that intersection

including the driveway cuts, it's going to be much easier to get in and out. We think it will have a positive effect on the community. It will be a great addition for that area.

Council President Rounds: Continuing on through our Communications, we have a liquor license request from Little Italia, 3 LLC dba Little Italia at 6863 West 130<sup>th</sup>, Parma Heights, OH 44130. I have a letter here from Chief Scharschmidt stating no objection to the request of this liquor license and if there are no objections from City Council? Seeing none, we will go ahead and approve that application. And we have another Liquor License request from RRC Express Way, LLC dba Stop N Go Brew Thru, 6505 Pearl Road, Parma Heights, Ohio 44130. I also have a letter from Chief Scharschmidt showing no objection for that Liquor License request. If there is no objection from council? Seeing none, we will go ahead and approve both of those applications this evening. Thank you.

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

Council President Rounds: If there is any public comment, please stand, state your name and address and please direct all comments to me, it's not a discussion it's just an opportunity for you to share or speak, you are given 3 minutes to speak. Just a reminder, it's not a discussion it's just an opportunity for you to share your comments, concern or opinion.

Susan Alexander, 6612 Rochelle Boulevard. Per your recommendation, I signed up for the police class and it is excellent. I share my words to encourage people to go to it. It's very good.

Leonard Rock, 9181 Ackley Boulevard. I live on the corner of Brookmere and Ackley. I would like to thank you for taking care of the deer culling. Three maybe four weeks ago I counted 14 deer in the park, I haven't seen one in two days. My flowers thank you and all of council. Thank you.

Michael Prall, 6198 Denison Boulevard. I have a landscape trailer and it's a commercial vehicle. I heard we aren't going to be able to have trailers in the city for commercial vehicles. What's going on with that?

Council President Rounds responded that we have a couple ordinances in front of us, one this evening speaks specifically to recreational equipment. The commercial equipment that you are referring to we will probably most likely before the next meeting have a work session where we will discuss that.

Council President Rounds: Any other questions or comments this evening?

Mayor Gallo mentioned that Councilwoman Maruschak is also in the Citizens Police Academy, Council President took it last year, now she's in it this year. On a sad note, Marilyn Snyder, who used to work with the city, passed away last weekend and one of our service employee's Ricky Maggard passed away as well. Sad news just happened over this past weekend.

Thank you, mayor. We will continue on with the agenda and move into legislation.

### **LEGISLATION**

#### **2023 - 12: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Nay: None

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE 2023 – 12 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 779.04**

**ENTITLED “GENERAL REQUIREMENTS” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES.**

Council President Rounds: And this is the second reading for this item.

**2023 – 13: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 13 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 351.15 ENTITLED “RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES.**

Council President Rounds: And this is the second reading for this item.

**2023 – 15: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 15 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND ENACTING SECTION 648.17 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, ENTITLED, “DOMESTIC POWER TOOLS” TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW SECTION OF THE “PEACE DISTURBANCES” CHAPTER OF THE GENERAL OFFENSES CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED.**

Council President Rounds: This is the second reading for this item.

**2023 – 16: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 16 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 179.03 ENTITLED “EMPLOYEE BENEFITS” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.**

Council President Rounds: And this is the second reading for this item.

**2023 – 17: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 17 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL SECTION 141.03 ENTITLED “TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEES WHO ATTAIN SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES**

Council President Rounds: And this is the second reading for this item.

**2023 – 18: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 18 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2023 TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2023, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2022-34, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

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

Council President Rounds: Are there any questions or comments on this ordinance? Seeing none.

Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to move for passage.

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

*Ordinance Passes*

**2023 – 19: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 19 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE CITY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT AT A PUBLIC SALE THROUGH GOVPLANET/IRONPLANET.**

**2023- 20: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT (NEORS) TO PROCURE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES TO PREPARE THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND COST ESTIMATES FOR THE BLOSSOM AND SUTHERLAND AVENUES SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND FUNDING FROM A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS LOAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

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

Council President Rounds: Are there any questions or comments on this resolution? Seeing none.

Councilman Stavole motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh to move for passage.

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

*Resolution Passes*

**2023 – 21: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION 2023 – 21 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS FOR THE DESIGN SERVICES OF THE BLOSSOM AND SUTHERLAND AVENUES SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE SIGNING OF THE CONTRACTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

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

Council President Rounds: Are there any questions or comments on this resolution? Seeing none.

Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh to move for passage.

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

Nay: None

*Resolution Passes*

### ADJOURNMENT

Council President Rounds: I wanted to thank Council Clerk Allen for joining us for her one year anniversary and being a part of the city and this council. Thank you. Can I have a motion to adjournment.

Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nay: None

**Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.**



Barbara Allen  
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds  
President of Council