



## City of Parma Heights Council Meeting Minutes October 23, 2023

The Parma Heights City Council meeting for Monday, October 23, 2023 was called to order by Council President Rounds at 7:02 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Gallo, Director of Law Schneider, Service Director Sepik, Safety Director Heffernan, Recreation Director Bacci

*Pledge of Allegiance was spoken*

### COUNCIL MINUTES

October 10, 2023 Parma Heights City Council Minutes

Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Minutes

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Rounds  
Nay: None

*Minutes Approved*

### REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

Council President Rounds continued with the Directors Reports and began with Director Bacci....

Recreation Director Bacci: Beginning on November 1<sup>st</sup> as part of the Mayor's Monarch Challenge we've been collecting seeds and will pass them out here at City Hall. If anybody's interested in having some native Milkweed seeds to plant in their yard. They can come up to City Hall and we'll provide that for you. On December 2<sup>nd</sup> we'll be doing a Crafts with Parma Heights. This being Katelyn's, the Receptions Assistant, first program, we're very excited that she will be doing that partnership with Lisa Zarembo. They'll be making tree ornaments. It will cost \$5.00 and all the supplies and sweet treats are included in that cost. Registration is available online. Three upcoming events include Creatures in the Commons, this Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7:00 p.m. We have over 700 people registered for the event on our Facebook Page. We will be having our holiday Tree Lighting ceremony on November 27<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 6 p.m. at the gazebo. Joining us will be Mr. & Mrs. Claus, Valley Forge High School Choir, and Vineyard Church will be providing hot cocoa. Lastly, Breakfast with Santa is on December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have two sittings 1<sup>st</sup> – 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Last year we sold out very quickly so we added an additional sitting.

Council President Rounds: Thank you. Any questions or comments for Director Bacci? Councilman Haase...

Councilman Haase asked where the Breakfast with Santa will be held? And is there a fee?

Recreation Director Bacci responded that the Santa Breakfast will be downstairs at Cassidy Theatre. Registration will begin on November 13th. Adults and children over 13 years old are \$10.00, children 4 to 12 years of age are at \$8.00 and children 3 and under are free.

Council President Rounds asked the Director if the Creatures in the Commons rain or shine?

Recreation Director Bacci responded that it is rain or shine. If the weather is heavy, we will do our best to accommodate and move inside the Cassidy Theatre. We'll make that call that day. And if it's too much for the movie, it will be postponed to another date.

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

Safety Director Heffernan: A couple of notable incidents that happened over the weekend. One is still under investigation but I guess it is going to be part of the Flock camera success story we talked about previously. And the second, was a pro-Palestine, anti-Israel protest downtown which had about 500 people, about 100 of them came out here to the Arabica. The police monitored it and it went smoothly and it was handled well.

Council President Rounds: Thank you. Any questions or comments for Director Heffernan? Councilwoman DeSouza...

Councilwoman DeSouza asked Director Heffernan if we can know how the Flock cameras assisted with the other, are we allowed to mention that or no?

Safety Director Heffernan responded no, once everything is known then we can discuss it.

Councilwoman DeSouza responded okay, that's fine. It's just good to hear that there the success stories or something like that. Thank you.

Council President Rounds: Thank you. Any questions or comments for Director Heffernan? Councilman Haase...

Councilman Haase added that he wanted to congratulate the director and Chief Czack for the work they did on Saturday to make certain that the protest event did not turn into something unwayward. It had the potential to be catastrophic to the city but it was well handled.

Safety Director Heffernan gave all the credit to the Chief. Said she communicated with the Incident Commander in Cleveland, they were on the same page, she deserves all the credit, she did a good job.

Council President Rounds: Thank you. Director Sepik.....

Service Director Sepik: Thank you, Council President. Short report tonight beginning with October 28<sup>th</sup> will be our Household Hazards Waste Collection at the Service Garage from 9 to noon. Nathan Hale project is coming along and still on schedule. It is still a construction zone, it's not open to the public yet. Curbside leaf collection will start the first week in November.

Council President Rounds added to Director Sepik that I have not been in the park. That reminds me that in the Mayor's Newsletter there is a survey were residents can voice their opinion if they are interested in going to weekly bulk pick up.

Council President Rounds. Any questions or comments for Director Sepik? Councilwoman Maruschak....

Councilwoman Maruschak asked Director Sepik when the leaf collection schedule will be published?

Service Director Sepik responded that once we start it, it will be announced on the website, Facebook, and Ready Notify.

Council President Rounds. Any questions or comments? Seeing none. Welcome Director Schneider. Mayor Gallo....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you, Mr. President. The Senior Center delivered and served 1,149 meals over the past two weeks. The Senior Center Newsletter is out and they will be providing transportation to the poles on November 7<sup>th</sup>, Election Day. The Seniors went to see Cinderella at the Cassidy Theatre over the weekend and then went to Little Italia for dinner, they had a great time of course. The Senior Centers collaboration with the Donna Smallwood Center on crafts was a huge hit. Fun for both Parma Heights and Parma Seniors. They have a trip scheduled to Normandy High School for Cosmetology in November and they expect 8 – 14 seniors for haircuts, manicures, and facials. Seniors are looking forward to that trip. During Caucus and on the agenda this evening there is a resolution regarding a Community Development Supplemental Grant. Going back to earlier this year, phase 1 of the updates for Cassidy Theatre will begin next month, the carpet has been ordered, curtains have been purchased, the deck will be replaced, theatre will be painted and the ceiling fans will be replaced in the lobby. The Healthy Urban Tree Canopy project is well under way, we intend to plant 42 trees as soon as our request to plant is approved. As Director Sepik mentioned the Nathan Hale project has gone very well and most of the construction should be cleared by the end of the year. We are still undergoing conversations with the library and hopefully next spring/summer it will be coming before the Planning Commission. As mentioned, there is a survey that is in the newsletter and on the website and we are asking residents if they would be interested in weekly or monthly bulk pick up. As long as we are under our current contract it will not incur an increase for the residents to pay for. It will remain the same until we go out for bidding and looking for a new contract. The number of bulk items will probably be limited but if we go weekly, the number of bulk items should decrease as time goes on. I encourage the residents to complete the survey. Lastly, as the Director mentioned leaf collection will begin in the beginning of November.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any further comments or questions for the mayor? Councilman Haase.....

Councilman Haase asked the mayor when the current waste collection contract expire, please?

Mayor Gallo responded the we are in the second year of a three-year contract with Republic, with a two-year optional renewal.

Council President Rounds added that his concern with the bulk pick up is that I remember when we were looking at contracts, and they wanted a significant amount of more money to provide that weekly bulk. Even though many of us favored weekly bulk pick up, we couldn't justify the cost. My concern is it's now an advantage for Republic at no additional, and what happens when we go into a new contract and the residents are now used to weekly bulk?

Mayor Gallo responded that we've already been in contact with Republic Waste. They are aware that a survey has been offered to the residents and as soon as I get the results from the survey, I will invite them to come speak to City Council. The decision can be made by the administration but I think that Council will have a better feeling if they are here to address any questions for them.

Council President Rounds: Councilwoman Walsh.....

Councilwoman Walsh asked how are they going to regulate the number of items that go out?

Mayor Gallo responded that that's the beauty of our current contract that we have, there is no limit. I spoke to Republic about this as well, this is just another reason for them to come in and address questions publicly, so that everyone has a comfort level if we move to this. I'll probably shut down the survey the beginning of December. This way we will have time to discuss the residents' responses, and have Republic in shortly thereafter with their representatives.

Council President Rounds: Councilman Haase.....

Councilman Haase added that North Olmsted has Republic Waste and they have a limit of 6 items per week.

Mayor Gallo responded right. We are one of the few cities that do not do weekly bulk. Republic came to us because of staffing issues and things like that. At the current rate, it's an improvement in service. I think the city has to have a comfort level going forward that we don't get in a jam where you said all of a sudden, the rates go up and we have to go back to monthly. We have people that move out and they put a bunch of stuff out on the tree lawn. We try to mitigate it. We also have people that bring stuff in from other areas. We know this, and it's going to happen. I will certainly have Republic come in and address any questions or issues.

Council President Rounds asked if at the time this happens if we could also get a copy of the negotiations, what the weekly bulk rate was, what the monthly bulk rate was and then the current contract.

Mayor Gallo responded that she would ask Katie get that information to you.

Council President Rounds thanked the mayor and asked if there were any other questions or comments for the mayor? Seeing none.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds asked his colleagues if they would feel comfortable will reading all three of the upcoming liquor permit applications into the record at one time, or if they would prefer three separate votes?

Councilman Stavole spoke up and said he would prefer to have three separate readings, three separate votes. He believes it to be cleaner.

Law Director Schneider spoke about the three liquor considerations. The Chief of Police has recommended all three of them. In the event that there is any question in approving, there really wouldn't be a way to keep track of which vote is for which of these permits. If there is a councilmember which is considering or has decided to vote in the negative on any of these, they should be done separately. In the even that nobody anticipates an issue it would not be a procedural issue with voting with only one motion. That's up to the council.

Council President Rounds proceeded with reading one liquor permit into the record at a time. If I can have a motion to accept Chief Czacks recommendation to allow the Liquor permit for House Kitchen Social LLC, 6863 W 130th, Parma Heights, OH 44130. Motioned by Stavole; seconded by Walsh. Are there any questions or comments at this time. For anyone interested this is the current Little Italia in the plaza, new owners are acquiring the business.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call:   Aye: DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds  
Nay: None

Council President read the second item. If I can have a motion to accept the Chief's recommendation to permit a liquor permit for Ichiban Parma Heights Inc DBA Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi, 6405 Pearl Road, Parma Heights, OH 44130. Motioned by Councilwoman DeSouza; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak. Are there any questions or comments on this request.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call:   Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Rounds  
Nay: None

Council President read the third item. If I can have a motion to accept Chief Czacks recommendation to permit a liquor permit for 6370 York Road LLC, 6370 York Rd, Parma Heights, Ohio 44130. This is the current location of Pounders; it has been sold and they're going to have a name change. That's all we know as of right now. Motioned by Councilman Stavole; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh. Are there any questions or comments on this item. Seeing none.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call:   Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Rounds  
Nay: None

## PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Rounds: If you would like to make a public comment, please stand, state your name and address and please direct all questions or comments to me. We are taking notes while you are here. Directors are taking notes as well if it applies to them so we can get back to you. You are given 3 minutes to speak.

Gina Banyasz 7039 Tobik Trail. My concerns for tonight are Brandywine. I've lived on Tobik Trail for over 15 years. I've seen the good side and the bad side of Brandywine. Over time it's getting worse. As homeowners our property values are starting to go down because of Brandywine. There's a lot of concerns for the people, the biggest concern is the people that own the duplexes or the homes and they are renting. The homeowners really don't know what's going on. We are asking that if we call when there is a problem that the city contact the homeowners to let them know what the renters are doing so, they are aware of what's going on in their homes. They are not keeping the properties up; it looks like a trash can and over the years it's just getting worse. If we ever decide to sell our homes, we won't be able to. You know in the summer people drive around to see what the neighborhood looks like and it's bad. If you can send some of you guys around to see what's going on, it would be great. Thank you.

Council President Rounds thanked Ms. Banyasz and asked if there were any other public comments?

Lisa Manzetti, 6997 Tobik Trail. I'm going to piggy back on her comments. I would kind of like the building people to view the back yards. The house behind me, has three cars parked in the back yard, are you kidding me? They have a two-car garage and a driveway and a street to park on. I have a six-foot fence so I don't have to look at it unless I'm upstairs, then I can see it. But what about the people who don't have a six-foot fence? There's no reason to be parking in your back yard, this is not W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street in Cleveland and that's what I feel like and I've been here for 33 years and it's just getting worse. If we could have safety or somebody go up Brandywine and look at what's going on. It's deplorable, I'm sorry. To be located in Parma Heights, it's only that section. When you go on the other side of Tobik Trail and it's all owned homes, it's fine. The renter situation, why can't we push more on these landlords to get people in there, they're absentee landlords. The house behind me, I've seen the landlord twice in 5 years even come there. We really need this to be taken seriously.

Council President Rounds thanked Lisa.

Mayor Gallo added that her Service Director oversees the Building Department. If we get permission from people to enter onto their properties we can view these back yards. That way we can help, of course this would all be anonymous for the complainants. We can definitely see what we can do as far as communicating with the Police Department when citations are given to make sure the homeowners get those. Because of Fair Housing Laws the city cannot tell a landlord who to rent to. There are Federal, State laws that play into that. Certainly, we can go out there and inspect and if we have permission from residents to enter into their back yards to look at these backyards, we can certainly do something about it.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any other public comments this evening? Seeing none, moved on into legislation.

## LEGISLATION

### **2023 – 58: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Rounds

**Clerk Allen read: ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 58**

### **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO, TO PROVIDE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS**

Council President Rounds asked if there any questions or comments? Seeing none.

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Rounds

*Ordinance Passes*

### **2023 – 62: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Rounds

**Clerk Allen read: ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 62**

### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 153.01 ENTITLED “PERSONNEL” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED**

Council President Rounds stated that this is the third reading for this item. Are there any questions or comments? Seeing none.

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds

*Ordinance Passes*

### **2023 – 63: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Rounds

**Clerk Allen read: ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 63**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 153.02 ENTITLED “FIRE CHIEF; ASSISTANT CHIEF” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Council President Rounds stated that this is the third reading for this item. Are there any questions or comments? Seeing none.

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Rounds

*Ordinance Passes*

**2023 – 67: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 67**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 194 ENTITLED “EARNED INCOME TAX REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2016” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Council President Rounds stated that this is the first reading for this item.

**2023 – 68: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 68**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councilwoman Maruschak motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to Suspend the Rules.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Rounds

Council President Rounds asked if are there any questions or comments on this item? Seeing none.

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds



*Resolution Passes*

**2023 – 69: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 69**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councilwoman Maruschak motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to Suspend the Rules.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Rounds

Council President Rounds asked if are there any questions or comments on this resolution? Seeing none.

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Rounds

*Resolution Passes*

**2023 – 70: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 70**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING AN EXPENDITURE FOR THE DENISON BOULEVARD RESURFACING PROJECT, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A WRITTEN CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER THEREFORE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councilwoman Durichko motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to Suspend the Rules.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Rounds

Council President Rounds asked if are there any questions or comments on this ordinance? Seeing none.

Councilwoman Durichko motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Walsh to move for passage.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, Rounds

*Ordinance Passes*

**2023 – 71: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 71**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOWEN + ASSOCIATES, INC., MUNICIPAL ENGINEER, TO PREPARE THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND COST ESTIMATES FOR THE DENISON BOULEVARD RESURFACING PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilman Stavole to Suspend the Rules.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Walsh, Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Rounds

Council President Rounds asked if are there any questions or comments on this resolution? Seeing none.

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Stavole, Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Rounds

*Resolution Passes*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council President Rounds: Can I have a motion for adjournment?

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Maruschak, DeSouza, Durichko, Walsh, Stavole, Rounds

**Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.**



Barbara Allen  
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds  
President of Council