

**City of Parma Heights
Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2024**

The Parma Heights City Council meeting for Monday, May 13, 2024 was called to order by Council President Rounds at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Rounds, Councilmembers Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak and Council Clerk Allen.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken

Motion was made to excuse Councilwoman DeSouza by Councilman Haase; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Rounds

The Councilwoman is excused

COUNCIL MINUTES

April 22, 2024 Parma Heights City Council Minutes

Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Minutes of 4/22/2024.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Rounds

Minutes Approved

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

Council President Rounds continued with Reports from Mayor and Directors

Recreation Director Bacci: We held our 3rd Annual Earth Day in the Commons on April 27th. Mayor Gallo proclaimed April 26th as Earth Day and April 27th as Mayor's Monarch Day here in Parma Heights. The Parma Heights Garden Club held their plant sale, including native plants. Yoga in the Park began that same Saturday. We are using MyRec registration which allows us to notify you of a weather situation like we had last Saturday. This will let you know where we might move events to. When you register for our free programming, please make sure your mobile notifications are on. Parma Heights pool is opening May 25th, Memorial Day weekend. We are following the Parma City Schools Calendar. Since school is still in session until June 14th this year, and most of our staff is from the school district, the pool activities will not open until then other than on the weekends. Calendars have been updated as well as the website. Youth Sports Night, will be held July 23rd. The Cleveland Guardians have invited all of our youth baseball and youth soccer kids to participate in the pre-game parade and pre-game batting practice. Tickets are available, \$23.00 per person, seating is in Section 121 on the third base line. Memorial Day Parade will be held May 27th following the ceremony at Parma Heights Presbyterian Church. We are thankful that Mayor Gallo has brought this back this year and excited about all the collaboration we've had. Pitch Hit and Run event will be held Saturday, May 25th at 9:00 am. We will begin check in and

then directly after that the Cleveland Guardians Charity will be there to say a few words. If council would like to attend, I'm estimating between 9:30 – 10:00 am.

Council President Rounds: Any questions or comments for Director Bacci? Councilwoman Palmisano.....

Councilwoman Palmisano asked about registering for the Guardians tickets, is that available on the MyRec website?

Director Bacci responded yes. Once everyone has purchased tickets, we will group them together and get an electronic ticket back to you.

Council President Rounds: Any other questions for Director Bacci? Seeing none. Safety Director Scharschmidt...

Safety Director Scharschmidt: The 2023 Annual Reports for the Police and Fire Department were issued to Council a few weeks ago. If you have any questions, please let me know. I believe they were very detailed and informative. Both the Police and Fire Departments are preparing for the Memorial Day Parade. We have two police officers, that are Veterans, that are going to keynote speakers. Over the past couple of weeks, we have received a handful of notes from our residents thanking both the police and fire departments for their service. It's always nice to receive those. The Fire Department is at full strength and the Police Department continues to hold interviews. We are close to offering a candidate a conditional offer of employment. Hopefully that will happen soon. I also want to mention the tragedy that happened in the City of Euclid this past Saturday, Officer Jacob Derbin was shot and killed in the line of duty while responding to a disturbance call. Officer Derbin was 23 years old, on the job less than a year, was also a member of the Army National Guard.

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

Councilwoman Maruschak: Mr. Balough from Princeton Court called and said thank you very much for the attention to his concerns, he was very appreciative.

Council President Rounds: Any other questions for Director Scharschmidt? Director will the Parma Heights Police Department be assisting in Euclid at all?

Director Scharschmidt responded that yes, we will. The service will be held on Friday. We will be there representing the city.

Council President Rounds added thank you. Service Director Sepik....

Service Director Sepik: Thank you, Council President. Memorial Day is on May 27th so garbage pickup will be Thursday that week instead on Wednesday. Specialized Construction was awarded the contract for Kingsdale and North Church. We have a pre-construction meeting this Wednesday. We are receiving sealed bids electronically through Bid Express starting May 15th for the Denison Boulevard resurfacing. That concludes my report for this evening.

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

Councilwoman Maruschak: Mr. Balough would like to express his deep gratitude for the holes being filled on their street. He was very happy with all that, thank you.

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

Finance Director Iaconis: Thank you, Council President. Next week we are getting closer to having some updates to our Administrative Code to present to council for review. The debt issuance is going to happen this week. As soon as I have some rates and buyers, I will be sure let everyone know. Appropriation Amendments on this evening's agenda, is on for a

second reading. I would ask for a one reading for the Wichert legislation, our Commercial Liability Insurance, so that I can get those applications submitted. At the next meeting I will have very detailed reports for everyone to review, updates for Mayor's Court through April.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any further questions or comments for Director Iaconis? Seeing none. Nice to see you, Director Schneider. Mayor Gallo.....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you, Council President. Regarding the Senior Center, they served and/or delivered 1,327 meals in the last two weeks. The new vehicle that they received is now on the road and all the necessary paperwork has been submitted to NOACA. We expect to be reimbursed the \$104,000 in the upcoming weeks. There was an article in the Sun News about Senior Prom. There was 184 attendees and 84 Parma Heights Seniors helped out. The seniors were very excited to be a part of the Earth Day event. The Senior Center is starting a deposit collection on May 22nd. The Cuyahoga County Public Library through the Parma Heights branch shall provide 200 pieces of different media every 90 days that the seniors can take out and return. We were informed that the Healthy Aging Grant Funds from the Ohio Department of Aging was awarding us \$130,000, this is not a grant that we applied for. We were selected and we've already received the funds. \$80,000 will go to home delivered meals; \$30,000 to congregate meals and \$20,000 to transportation. The reimbursement has been submitted for the 2023 Tree Grant which is approximately \$56,000. Mr. Sebes is working on the ODNR application for Greenbrier Commons playground and we are working on letters of support. The bathroom upgrades have begun at Cassidy Theatre that we were able to make possible because of the 2024 Supplemental Grants. The city is going out for bid for the Denison Boulevard project. That is a cost of \$300,000 which will be partially funded by the Community Development Block Grant which will cover approximately half. The 157th Annual Memorial Day ceremony will be taking place two weeks from today. We are bringing the parade back and the directors know how much I am looking forward to that. We are still working with the Cuyahoga County Public Library. We are hoping they bring their plans and specifications before the Planning Commission next month. The engineer and Chief Building Official are working on that as well as the Law Department for working on the land agreement. A lot of work has been going into this and it is all moving very smoothly. We have launched our new accessibility tool on our city website, it is very detailed. There are a lot of different features, this accessibility tool accommodates people that are color blind, dyslexia, English is their second language, the ability to make font bigger, the ability to black out everything around a paragraph, there is a ruler you can use to read line by line, it talks to you as well. It happens to be Accessibility Awareness month although it wasn't planned to launch because of that. Finally, the upgrade to the Administrative Code which is decades overdue, but we are on top of that as well as a Personnel and Policy and Procedure manual that will be updated and looking to launch all of that this year.

Council President Rounds asked what time will the Memorial Day ceremony begin?

Mayor Gallo responded that the ceremony will begin at 9:30 am and the parade will begin right after. The two key-note speakers are two of our current police officers. One is a Sargent; one is a Patrolman who have both served. I thought we would bring in two of our own, who are not only Veterans but also continue to serve the public in their capacities as police officers. I'm very grateful that these two gentlemen are willing to speak.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds asked Councilwoman Maruschak provide her update on the last Recreation Commission meeting.

Councilwoman Maruschak stated that she wanted to thank Director Bacci for the wonderfully informative presentation that she provided to us. As a recap of some of the items we covered; past events included Creatures in the Commons we had 800 people in attendance; Santa Breakfast is a resident only event we had 2 sold out seatings for that; Leprechaun Hunt we had 120 people attending in 1 hour. Director Bacci went over the NOPEC Grant that was received and the

funding was divided into 2 events – Earth Day and increase the Yoga event from once a month to twice a month. We’ve also received the Cleveland Guardians Diamond Improvement Grant which you will see in place at our ballfields. Summer updates included the MyRec webpage to assist in moving lines along at the pool this summer and it shows availability for registering for all of our events and shows availability for rental facilities. There will be resident and member only days at the pool – Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day weekend. Munchkins are in full force, there are 80 of them. All Summer concerts will be held at Nathan Hale Park this year. Tennis lessons are a possibility for adults and young adults and a possible no cost Pickleball and Volleyball tournaments for residents.

Council President Rounds added a Liquor Permit request from House Kitchen Social LLC, 6863 W 130th, Parma Heights, Oh 44130. Chief Czack has no objection to this liquor permit being granted. I motion to approve the Liquor Permit; seconded by Councilman Haase.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Rounds

Motion Carried

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Rounds: This is an opportunity for those in the audience to make a comment. Please state your name and your address clearly for the Council Clerk to hear. Public Comment is not a discussion, but it is an opportunity for you to be heard in a public forum. Notes are being taken by council and the administration. You will address your comments to me as the Council President and you have up to 3 minutes to speak with Clerk Allen keeping the time.

Riaz Shirazi, 6568 Kingsdale Boulevard. As a member of this community for about 10 years now. I was most impressed by the Earth Day event. I think it was a beautiful event, my grandson was with me and he was very excited to see all the activities. There is a large water facility being built in front of Walmart, I don’t know if that’s Parma Heights.

Council President Rounds let me Shirazi know that, that location is Parma, Ohio.

Mr. Shirazi continued that it’s a beautiful location now, not at all what it looked like years ago. Flooding is a big problem in the city, whoever has been working on this issue is making life better for many people in the community. Whoever is enforcing the laws in the city, recently I received a notice that my grass was too long so I got my lawnmower out and I did it, got some exercise and some fresh air. I wonder if when you take a walk on the sidewalk, if we could provide letters to those folks to explain how to park so they aren’t in the way of the sidewalk.

Mayor Gallo responded that we do have that in our ordinances. I will pass along your comments to Mayor DeGeeter about their basin off of Ridgewood.

Fred Koch, 11687 Commonwealth. We have a lot of contractors in our city that are not registered. These grass contractors that are coming around and leaving it all over the streets. It’s flowing down the streets after the rain. I think it’s about time we clamp down on this. I would say less than 1% have a name on their truck and now with the new license plate law, you can’t tell who they are. Years ago, I used to send license plate numbers into the Service Department and they would try to track them down, it’s very difficult to do that now. In regards to the mayors’ comments about the website, what happened to the business listings? You can’t look up a business anymore. If you’re new or looking to become a member of the city you look to see what the city has to offer.

Mayor Gallo responded that list on the old website was completely outdated. We are in the process of creating a new inventory of the currently businesses. We will bring that back. I agree it is a great resource.

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

LEGISLATION

2024 - 33: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 33**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO DISPOSE OF OBSOLETE CITY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT AT A PUBLIC SALE THROUGH GOVPLANET/IRONPLANET

Council President Rounds stated that this is the second reading for this resolution.

2024 – 35: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 35**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2024 TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2023-75, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to Suspend the Rules

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Rounds

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

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Rounds

Ordinance Passes

2024 – 37: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 37**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION PAID TO VARIOUS EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2024-8.

Council President Rounds stated that this is the second reading for this ordinance.

2024 – 40: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 40**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS TO FILE AN APPLICATION THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NATUREWORKS GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE GREENBRIER COMMONS PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilwoman Maruschak motioned; seconded by Councilman Haase to Suspend the Rules

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Rounds

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

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Rounds

Resolution Passes

2024 – 41: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 -41**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING WICHERT INSURANCE TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR VARIOUS INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilwoman Palmisano motioned; seconded by Councilman Haase to Suspend the Rules

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Rounds

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

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

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Rounds

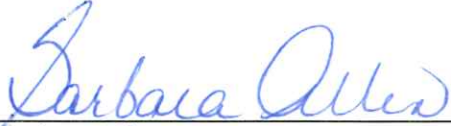
Resolution Passes

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Rounds asked for a motion for adjournment? Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to adjourn the meeting.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Rounds

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Barbara Allen
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds
President of Council

