



City of Parma Heights Council Meeting Minutes May 28, 2024

The Parma Heights City Council meeting for Tuesday, May 28, 2024 was called to order by Council President Rounds at 7:10 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Rounds, Councilmembers Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, 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

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 13, 2024 Parma Heights City Council Minutes

Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Minutes of 5/13/2024.

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

Minutes Approved

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

Council President Rounds continued with Reports from Mayor and Directors

Recreation Director Bacci: Starting out with a thank you to the Garden Club who generously donated native plants from their plant sale to plant around Cassidy Theatre. It was very unexpected and we were happy that they reached out to us. The Memorial Day Parade was yesterday, we are very grateful to Mayor Gallo for bringing the parade back to Parma Heights. It was my first parade, it seemed to be a well-attended event with streets being lined with residents. Pitch-Hit and Run was held this past Saturday, we welcomed the Cleveland Guardians Charities. Three members of their Charity Board along with Mustard and Onion mascots were there to run around the field. The Parma Heights pool opened this past weekend for residents and members only. We have a couple weekends only before we will open up during the weekdays after school ends June 14th. We experienced a power outage on Saturday which made us close the pool early, systems are working fine. Youth Sports Night at the Guardians game is coming up on Tuesday July 23rd at 5:30 p.m. You can purchase tickets through the Recreation Department for \$23 per person, we currently have 120 people registered so we should fill an entire section.

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

Councilwoman Durichko commented about how amazing the Director performed on putting together the parade even with the challenges put before you. I want to thank the administration again for expanding the Yoga in the Park program with Jessica. This past Yoga in the Park event was well attended.

Council President Rounds: Any other questions for Director Bacci? Councilman Haase....

Councilman Haase asked about the Cassidy Theatre, this happens to be an Anniversary year, do we know when/if they are planning on having a Celebratory Event?

Director Bacci responded that she could reach out to Mr. Caraffi, I believe they did a gala off premises at the beginning of the year, but I will double check on that.

Mayor Gallo responded that the theater hasn't asked the city for any involvement, but if we get any information, we will certainly let council know.

Councilwoman Maruschak added that she had found a posting that stated September 20th at 6:00 at the Aviator.

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

Safety Director Scharschmidt: Continuing with information regarding this year's parade, Director Bacci did an outstanding job. The Police Department had two key-note speakers that are currently officers in the Parma Heights Police Department. They were honored to be speakers this year. The mayor has received positive feedback from the community on the presentation from them.

Council President Rounds: Any questions for Director Scharschmidt? Seeing none. Service Director Sepik....

Service Director Sepik: Thank you, Council President. Garbage pickup will be delayed one day this week. Computer Round Up will be held June 8 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Service Garage. Our 2024 Street Rehab with Specialized Construction will be starting on Kingsdale. The resurfacing on Denison Boulevard, project, sealed bids will be open Monday, June 3rd at 11:30 a.m. I'd like to add a comment to the mayor, bringing back the parade was phenomenal. Kudos to you for bringing it back. I think the community lining the streets was a testament of their appreciation as well.

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

Finance Director Iaconis: Thank you, Council President. I handed out general summary reports for the entire year. On the back is where you will see where we are with the balance from the beginning of the year. We are waiting for some revenue to come in. We have brought in \$12,593,000 so far this year and we've spent just over \$10 million. We will be pricing our debt on the 12th of June, so we will have an influx of money that has already been encumbered. The Mayor's Court, you will notice we brought in 87 citations. RITA completed the annual audit of their administration costs, based on our actual collections we will be getting a refund of \$207,000. Next month I would like to present our tax budget.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any further questions or comments for Director Iaconis? Councilwoman Palmisano asked if the funds in the Coronavirus account have to be spent on specific things, correct?

Director Iaconis stated that those funds have already been spent or allocated.

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

Mayor Gallo: Thank you, Council President. Thank you for the kind words regarding the Memorial Day parade. It was huge undertaking by the administrative staff, we are very fortunate that our Police, Fire and Service Departments have historical knowledge of putting this parade together. I want to thank all of you for attending and assisting as well. Regarding the Senior Center, they served and/or delivered 1,323 meals in the last two weeks. I mentioned previously that they have received \$130,000 Healthy Aging Grant Fund from the Ohio Department of Aging and the money has to be spent by the end of September. The applications for the distribution for the Seniors Farmers Market is found online, which could be a bit challenging for some of our seniors. Our staff is going to assist as much as possible. Please let us know if you get any phone calls or concerns from members of the community. We have been distributing produce, meats,

dairy, canned and boxed foods the first Thursdays of every month from January of this year to May, we have served nearly 2,000 seniors, 65,000 lbs. of food. The program has been growing and nearly doubled in size. Seniors are going to a Lake Erie Crushers game tomorrow. Next week they are going to Lindy's Lighthouse in the Flats for lunch. The seniors were at the Memorial Day Ceremony, the parade and then went out to lunch afterwards. We have two more regular meetings before City Council goes out on Summer Recess. We will have to hold at least one special meeting for the Special Assessments that have to be filed with the County by September 9th, and depending on how the library is moving along, we are still waiting for information from the library. They were hoping to break ground by summer, it is still moving along and we have a lot of things in place already. Thank you.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds added a Liquor Permit request from Ross Family Transport & Logistics LLC, dba Mondos Drive Thru Beverage, 7177 W. 130th Street, Parma Heights, Oh 44130. Chief Czack has no objection to this liquor permit being granted. I motion to approve the Liquor Permit transfer; seconded by Councilman Haase.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, 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. You will have three minutes to speak. This is not a conversation or a debate, but an opportunity for you to be heard in a public forum. Council Clerk Allen will be timing us. Any in the audience which to speak? Sir...

Charlie Smialek, 6800 Commonwealth Blvd. I just want to thank the City of Parma Heights, specifically Safety Director Scharschmidt, Mayor and City Council. I am very grateful for the work that our Liaison Officer has done this year at Valley Forge. He is outstanding. I didn't personally have any role in selecting him. He is a true asset, everything you could possibly want in a Liaison Officer. Very grateful for the partnership and hopeful that we can continue because Valley Forge is a better place with him. Also thank you to the folks that operate the Senior Center, they have most recently opened their doors to our Valley Forge Choir, who sang there last Thursday. We have several sessions scheduled over the next couple of weeks with different groups to go there. We're always grateful for the opportunity to interact with the senior community and it's been another great partnership event. Thank you all.

Director Scharschmidt responded that we felt Matt Czech was a good fit. He's engaged and has done a great job there. Thank you, thank you for sharing your thoughts this evening.

Mark Podany, 6514 Alexandria Drive. My comment is about the so-called anonymous letter about the library. I've been in Parma Heights since I was two years old, I grew up using this library throughout High School and Junior High School and yes, I would love to be able to repurpose and save the building but sometimes you have to cut your losses. A friend of mine is a Master Mason who did repair work on the library's brick facade which was an add on after the library was originally built. He told me that the facade is shot, and they used the wrong type of bricks, the white glazing will be popping off from now forward. The a/c system is going to need to be replaced. It's going to be a waste of money. If you look at the restaurants in the area, Bob Evans, Arby's, Burger King's, when their buildings hit their end of life, they bulldoze them and start over again. Although my opinion might not be welcomed by all the residents, but you have to look at it in a reasonable manner of what it's going to cost the city. We can repurpose some buildings, but the library is not so much. Thank you for your time.

Council President Rounds stated that he was not aware of the letter. Maybe a colleague could share it. Then 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 DeSouza to read the following resolution by title only.

Clerk Allen called Roll Call: Aye: DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, 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 third and final reading for this resolution. Any questions or comments? Seeing none.

Councilman Kolezynski motioned; seconded by Councilwoman DeSouza to move for passage.

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

Resolution Passes

2024 – 37: 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: Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, 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 third and final reading for this ordinance. Are there any questions or comments? I would like to thank Councilwoman DeSouza and the members of the Finance Committee and the Law Department for their work on this to prepare this ordinance to be ready for us this evening. Seeing none.

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

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

Ordinance Passes

2024 – 42: 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, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 42**

A RESOLUTION GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, WITH CONDITIONS, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 1135 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS TO PERMIT THE

BUSINESS KNOWN AS THE HERTZ CORPORATION TO ALLOW AN AUTOMOBILE RENTAL FACILITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

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

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

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

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

Resolution Passes

2024 – 43: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 -43**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTHY URBAN TREE CANOPY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilwoman Palmisano motioned; seconded by Councilwoman DeSouza to Suspend the Rules

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

Resolution Passes

2024 – 44: 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: Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 -44**

A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ENACTED BY RESOLUTION 2023 – 87 FOR AN ADDITIONAL SIX (6) MONTHS, ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA (STATE ISSUE 2), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilwoman Maruschak motioned; seconded by Councilwoman DeSouza to Suspend the Rules

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

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

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

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

Resolution Passes

2024 – 45: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 -45**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1193 ENTITLED “YARD STRUCTURES AND LANDSCAPE FEATURES” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AND EMERGENCY

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

Mayor Gallo added that the Charter Review Commission has met to consider changing the need to suspend the rules to read by title only. I would like the record to reflect that Mr. Podany who commented during Public Session, serves on the Board of Zoning Appeals and I would like to acknowledge him for the work and consideration for the Hertz business that’s coming into the city. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



Barbara Allen
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds
President of Council