



City of Parma Heights Council Meeting Minutes June 24, 2024

Council President Pro Tem Haase called the Parma Heights City Council meeting for Monday, June 24, 2024, to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Pro Tem Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak and Council Clerk Allen.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken

Council President Pro Tem Haase asked for a motion to excuse Council President Rounds who is not with us this evening. Councilwoman Palmisano motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak

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

Member excused

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 10, 2024 Parma Heights City Council Minutes
Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Minutes of June 10, 2024.

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

Minutes Approved

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

Council President Pro Tem Haase continued with Reports from Mayor and Directors, we will begin with Recreation Director Bacci....

Recreation Director Bacci: We have some changes that are in effect at the pool as of July 1, 2024. We will be removing our non-resident day passes; we will be allowing our residents to escort a certain number of non-residents into the facility. Non-residents are still more than welcome to attend any other activities such as senior swim, doggy paddle, this policy would be in effect just for the open swim. Capacity at the pool is based on the number of lifeguards we have staffed. Sometimes some of our features are closed because we don't have enough lifeguards in ratio to the number of people that are there to make sure everyone is safe. If there are any comments or concerns about the policy or clarification on capacity, please have them contact me.

Councilwoman Maruschak stated that she commends you for making that decision, I know it is a tough decision but keeping the safety and security of our residents and our facilities in order is priority. I've had several residents already reach out to me and say thank you. I'll just pass that along...thank you very much.

Councilwoman Palmisano added that she was at the pool in line when they were at max on Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and I just want to let you know that all of the employees where so professional and handled it very well. They stayed cool and calm and handled it perfectly.

Councilwoman DeSouza added that with everything going on, congratulations for being at capacity at your pool. It's a big draw not only for Parma Heights residents but also non-residents. Good job.

Council President Pro Tem Haase asked if there were any other questions for Director Bacci? Seeing none. Service Director Sepik....

Service Director Sepik: Thank you to all of City Council. Specialized Construction, the contractor for Kingsdale and North Church is on schedule. They started the concrete removal and installation of the new concrete already. The Denison Boulevard resurfacing has a reconstruction meeting scheduled for this Wednesday. Our household hazardous waste collection will be July 24th from 9 am to 12 pm at the garage. The Cuyahoga County Board of Health will be treating 895 basins for mosquito control starting later next week. Waste Collection will not be delayed for the July 4th week. We will have a delay for the Labor Day week of September 5th. That concludes my report this evening.

Council President Pro Tem Haase asked if there were any other questions or comments for Director Sepik?

Councilwoman Maruschak asked about the Denison Boulevard repairs, I know the pre-construction hasn't happened, do they anticipate shutting down the whole road and detouring or having one lane open?

Service Director Sepik responded that I believe it will have local access only.

Council President Pro Tem Haase asked if there were any other questions or comments for Director Sepik? Seeing none. Finance Director Iaconis...

Finance Director Iaconis: Thank you. We are really starting to make a lot of progress with the administrative code amendments and updates. I'm hoping that we will have something to present to council in the fall. A lot of cleaning up, a lot of redundance. As discussed during the Mayor's Caucus, at one of the upcoming special meetings, I would ask to pass the property maintenance assessments. Tonight, you will see the tax budget. I didn't receive any additional questions. I would like to see this move forward and then the rubbish assessment is on this evening as well. We wanted a little more time to capture everything within that 12-month period for the maintenance assessments and that's why that is not before you tonight.

Council President Pro Tem Haase asked if there were any questions for Director Iaconis? Seeing none. Director Schneider, thank you so much for being with us this evening. Mayor Gallo.....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you. Regarding the Senior Center, they served and/or delivered 1,173 meals in the last two weeks. You may have seen on Facebook and there will be an article coming up about how successful their mystery trip was. They had 36 seniors, 3 drivers, 3 staff members that went to Amish Country. They have a walking trail group that has become a huge success. They are going to offer to walk along the parkway and this week they are planting kitchen herb gardens to promote healthier eating habits. The funds for this project are coming from the Healthy Aging grant to fund these trips and activities. They are also starting to transport seniors to the free swim in Parma Heights on Wednesdays. In May we had 23 additional people sign up. 5 more sign ups just since they posted the mystery trip.

Produce giveaways are going as well, this month they serviced an additional 49 new seniors, the previous month they had 157 seniors. Special thank you to Director Sepik and his staff for picking up after the drive-through distribution. Another kudos to Director Sepik and his staff for painting addresses on the curbs and the hydrants are getting done efficiently. Thank you to Councilmembers Palmisano, DeSouza and Maruschak for your kind words regarding the recreation department and the decision to eliminate the non-resident day passes. Our rubbish contract expires at the end of this year, our staff is looking into this to see whether we go out to bid or if there is an option for a two-year renewal. I want to thank Director Iaconis and her staff for this administrative code update. This is an entire overhaul of our code and even though we contracted with a labor attorney, which is extremely important to make sure our verbiage is correct; they are proof reading, and it is a huge project. That will bring everything up to date and should be before you before the end of the year.

Councilwoman Palmisano added that she is excited to hear about all the new seniors. Will we ever hit a capacity limit? Or will we be able to scale services based on how many participants we have?

Mayor Gallo responded so far, we are able to handle the seniors that are signing up and we operate on a lot of grants that help cover that cost based on our members. I'm not aware of any cut-offs or concerns. We are very excited about it, and there are seniors coming from other cities.

Council President Pro Tem Haase: Any other comments or questions for Mayor Gallo? Seeing none.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Pro Tem Haase stated that we have no communications at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Pro Tem Haase: You will have three minutes for those who would like to offer comment. Please direct those comments to me. Please state your name and address.

Brian Landa, 6619 Big Creek Parkway: My concern is about the power outages. It is consistently affecting me and the area I live in and needs to be addressed by the city. I've already reached out to the OCA Commission and the Ohio Utility Commission. I've put a complaint in with them. It is also the responsibility of the city to look into this and be an advocate because it does deal with safety among other things. We recently had an outage and I had to leave my house at 1:30 am and stood in front of W130th and Pearl and not one cop came by until 2 ½ hours later. The outage was over 5 hours long, the previous outage was about 2 hours. I think the reason why is because the previous outage was small and local, the other effected more people and was more widespread. The street I live on also services the Middleburg Heights Southland Shopping Center. They use a lot of energy. I would like someone to look at this and restructure the infrastructure about the power system and take us off of that grid, so that we are not affected by the big corporations. We are suffering at night with my mental health decreasing like crazy. The owners of the big corporations are at home all cozy in their homes in other locations. I'm going to lose my mental health resources in a week or so because of the county. I really do need it, but that's fine I'll just suffer. I tried to e-mail this letter to the city and it keeps bouncing back, the council clerk assisted with that and took care of that with me. I had a list of the city's responsibility for an outage, like protection that we didn't get and also other things. I called the Parma Heights Police four times and we had two more outages.....

Council President Pro Tem Haase thanked Mr. Landa, just so you are aware people are taking notes on your comments. These issues will be reviewed but your three minutes are up.

Mayor Gallo stated that the city is aware of his letter and the Illuminating Company is aware, they are responsible for the power lines and outages and due to the heat, there were significant outages in Fairview Park, Brooklyn, and at Kamm's Corner in Cleveland. The heat did cause a lot of issues. The city did have a cooling center at Valley Forge High School. This was something we were able to provide for our residents.

Fred Koch, 16687 Woodview Boulevard: Tonight, you are having the third reading on an ordinance change and I'd like to first thank Councilwoman Maruschak and the committee for their due diligence when it came to this ordinance. I think they may have overlooked one thing, item 1193.03 Obstruction of View, I don't know if they took into consideration the driveways that go into the street. Most garages face the street, if we look at corner homes, they have a garage that faces the opposite right angles to the homes. If you drive through the City of Parma Heights, you will see these corner houses, people have erected 6 ft. fences. If you're driving an 18 – 22' car out of the garage into the apron the car is going over the sidewalk before you have a view of the street. I would say look at these corner houses with fences, they are up there. Kids under 15 have to ride their bicycles on the sidewalk, that's the law, over 15 you can ride in the street. I have a family of 6 kids that live near me, 5 of the 6 kids have bikes. They come to a house with a corner fence and the person backing out of their driveway, they cannot see them. It's great when your garage faces the street, but when it's 90 degrees to your house, you can't see as you back out. You have to go over the sidewalk before you can see. What about Drug Mart? That huge sign over there, you pull up to Drug Mart at the light, you can't see who's on the sidewalk. That light changes to green, people shoot out of there, the sign is a huge obstruction. Are we going to take down the sign? How about the trees on Oakwood? Are we going to cut down the trees? The trees are huge. Try backing out of a driveway on Oakwood with those big Oaks sitting there. They are on the city tree lawn, are they going to be removed? I don't think so. Since your third reading is tonight, I would think about it. Thank you.

Council President Pro Tem Haase thanked Mr. Koch for his comments and asked if there were anyone else that would like to make a comment? Seeing none.

LEGISLATION

2024 - 45: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

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 AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED**

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

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

Ordinance Passes

2024 - 14: 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: Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 14**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 723 SECTION ~~723.01~~ ENTITLED "BOWLING ALLEYS LICENSE REQUIRED; FEE" OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED

Council President Pro Tem Haase stated that this is the second reading for this ordinance.

2024 - 46: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 46**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 719 ENTITLED "BILLIARDS AND POOL" OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Council President Pro Tem Haase stated that this is the second reading for this ordinance.

2024 - 47: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

Councilwoman DeSouza 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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 47**

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2025, DIRECTING THAT THE SAME BE SUBMITTED TO THE FISCAL OFFICE OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilwoman DeSouza moved; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to Suspend the Rules.

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

Council President Pro Tem Haase: Any questions? Seeing none.

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

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

Resolution Passes

2024 - 48: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 48**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 965.11 ENTITLED "SOLID WASTE COLLECTION FEE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Council President Pro Tem Haase: Any questions? Seeing none.

Councilwoman Durichko moved; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to Suspend the Rules.

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

Council President Pro Tem Haase: Any questions on this legislation? Seeing none.

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

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


Ordinance Passes

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Pro Tem Haase stated with no other business on the agenda, may I have a motion for adjourn? Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



Barbara Allen
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds
President of Council