

City of Parma Heights Council Meeting Minutes September 23, 2024

Council President Rounds called the Parma Heights City Council meeting for Monday, September 23, 2024, to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Rounds, Council members 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 President Rounds asked for a motion to excuse Councilman Haase. So moved by Councilwoman DeSouza; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak

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

Councilman Haase is excused

Council President turned the meeting over to Mayor Gallo for a special recognition.

Mayor Gallo called Mr. Robert Cecil, Brian Green and Sean Groom to the front of the room. Mr. Dave Conley from CEI is also with us this evening. We want to recognize the meter services and hazard responders for your act of bravery a couple of days after the storm hit. I would also like to call my Safety Director Scharschmidt and Fire Chief Bernard to say a few words and then I will present you with a certificate. Also, Chase Conklin from Congressman Max Millers office is here as well.

Director Scharschmidt began by introducing himself and continued. "In a world of such apathy and lack of compassion for our fellow citizens, it is refreshing to see the complete opposite shown by the three of you. It was a very courageous act; you should be very proud of yourselves. We are proud to recognize you here tonight. Thank you very much. Personally, the person you assisted; I have known for many years. I'm so grateful to see Rick here tonight, we worked out at the same gym for many years along with his cousins who are dear friends of mine. I would like to thank the three of you, I'll turn it over to Chief Bernard".

Chief Bernard added that on behalf of the Parma Heights Fire Department, "I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Rob, Sean and Brian for your extraordinary bravery and quick thinking. Your immediate response to the situation not only saved Mr. Price but insured the safety of his beloved dog Tank. Your actions exemplify the true spirit of heroism and community service. It's inspiring to see how you put yourselves in harms way to help someone in need. On behalf of the Parma Heights Fire Department thank you for your courageous dedication to our community".

Chase Conklin also came to the front of the room and explained that Congressman Max Miller was unable to attend this evening but wanted to make sure that a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition to each of you. It just shows that there are good people out there that are willing to help those in need no matter who they are, thank you guys for helping us and the community.

Mayor Gallo then began by stating "Ladies and Gentlemen, today, I stand before you to recognize an extraordinary act of bravery and selflessness by a group of individuals who went above and beyond the call of duty. In moments of crisis, true heroes emerge, and it is my honor to acknowledge such heroes in our community. Recently, we witnessed an incredible act of courage by linemen who not only performed their demanding jobs with excellence but also stepped into the role of lifesavers. When a house in our neighborhood was engulfed in flames, these gentlemen did not hesitate. They acted swiftly and decisively, calling 911 and then taking the immediate and daring step of pulling the victim out of a window, thereby saving his life. Their actions are a testament to the spirit of community and the dedication to the well-being of others that we hold dear in our town. It's easy to overlook the everyday heroes among us, but today, we pause to celebrate their bravery and compassion. To these employees who risked their own safety to rescue a fellow citizen, we extend our deepest gratitude. Your courage inspires us all, and your selfless act reminds us of the strength and unity that define our community. You have not only made your families and colleagues proud but have also set a shining example for all of us. Thank you for your heroic actions and for reaffirming our faith in the power of human kindness and bravery. Your deeds will not be forgotten, and we are forever grateful for your service. Please join me in giving a heartfelt round of applause to these remarkable individuals. Thank you. Mr. Price thank you so much for coming tonight".

Mr. Price thanked the three men and appreciated the time they have taken to come by and talk with me. They are good guys.

Mayor Gallo thanked everyone for coming this evening.

Council President took a brief break at 7:08 p.m. to allow for everyone to step out of the Council Chamber. Council President resumed the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Council President asked if he could have a motion to move the Reports from the Mayor and Directors to after our legislation this evening. So moved by Councilwoman DeSouza; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak.

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

Motion Carried

COUNCIL MINUTES

September 9, 2024 Parma Heights City Council Work Session Minutes
Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Work Session Minutes of September 9, 2024.

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

Minutes Approved

September 9, 2024 Parma Heights City Council Minutes
Councilwoman DeSouza motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Minutes of September 9, 2024.

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

Minutes Approved

COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds stated that we have no communications at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Rounds: If there is anyone who would like to make a comment, seeing none. We will continue to legislation.

LEGISLATION

2024 - 49: 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: Maruschak, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 49**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 752 PREVIOUSLY ENTITLED “MEDICAL MARIJUANA OPERATIONS” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

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

2024 - 50: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 50**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1190 PREVIOUSLY ENTITLED “MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

Council President asked for a motion to accept and reflect the amended language that we have in front of us this evening. Moved by Councilwoman DeSouza; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak.

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

2024 - 51: 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: DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Durichko, Palmisano, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 51**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1185.02 ENTITLED “PERMITTED USES” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

Council President asked for a motion to accept and reflect the amended language that we have in front of us this evening. Moved by Councilwoman DeSouza; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak.

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

2024 - 57: 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, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 57**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO PROCEED WITH A LOT SPLIT OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6188 PEARL ROAD IN THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

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

2024 - 58: 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: Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 58**

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THAT THE REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS AND KNOWN AS PORTIONS OF PPNS 471-17-023, 471-17-025, 471-17-027, AND 471-17-028, TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 2.8713 ACRES, BE SOLD TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO EFFECTUATE SAID SALE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

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

2024 - 60: 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: Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Durichko, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 60**

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 CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY TO ALLOW FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

Council President asked for a motion to accept and reflect the amended language that we have in front of us this evening. Moved by Councilwoman DeSouza; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak.

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

2024 - 63: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 63**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO EXECUTE A MUTUAL AGREEMENT FOR OPTION YEARS 1 & 2 OF THE CONTRACT WITH BROWNING – FERRIS INDUSTRIES OF OHIO, INC., FOR RESIDENTIAL WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

2024 - 64: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 64**

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

Councilwoman Palmisano motioned; Seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to Suspend the Rules

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

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

Councilwoman Palmisano motioned; Sectioned by Councilwoman Maruschak to move for passage.

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

Resolution Passes

2024 - 70: 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: DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Durichko, Palmisano, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 70**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 961.01 ENTITLED “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PROHIBITED” OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

2024 - 73: RESOLUTION TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 73**

A RESOLUTION REVOKING THE TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA [STATE ISSUE 2], AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

2024 - 75: 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: Maruschak, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 75**

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM, NOT TO EXCEED SIX (6) MONTHS, PROHIBITING THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS FOR, AND THE GRANTING OF, ZONING APPROVALS, BUILDING PERMITS, AND CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY FOR ANY BUILDING, STRUCTURE, USE, OR CHANGE OF USE THAT WOULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OR SALE OF VAPING/E-CIGARETTE PRODUCTS AND PROHIBITING THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF SUCH PRODUCTS WITHIN THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilman Kolezynski motioned; Seconded by Councilwoman DeSouza to Suspend the Rules

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

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

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

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

Resolution Passes

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND DIRECTORS

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

Recreation Director Bacci: Our last day will be this Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 10:00 for Yoga in the Park. We would love to hear back any feedback you may have for us. We again thank NOPEC for the grant in order to keep the program running longer than it had in the past. Pickleball started, seniors are in the morning and adult league in the evenings at Greenbrier. We have crafts with the Parma Heights team that is working on a Halloween craft on Saturday, October 12th at Cassidy Theatre. We have pre-saved the dates November 2nd for Trunk or Treating in the Commons, Tree lighting will be Sunday, December 1st from 5 – 6 in the Commons and

then stories with Santa will be Saturday, December 14th 10 – 12:30. Two of our Recreation staff members are helping out the Service Department doing some much-needed work at Kurtz Park. They are laying new concrete for the benches, fencing which will allow us to add a shade structure and there are two new dug outs. After talking with Director Sepik this could be up to a \$50,000 project, we're just paying for the material because the staff is doing the rest. They are the best. We want to thank them all for that. We are working on our Emergency Action Plan for Parma Heights because we are expecting a lot of people in the Commons. A huge thank you to the Fire Chief Bernard and Assistant Chief Clark for taking that off my shoulders and creating that plan in what seemed second nature to them. That's all I have for this evening.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any questions or comments for Director Bacci? Seeing none. Director Scharschmidt.....

Safety Director Scharschmidt: We held a meeting at the Parma Region Dispatch Center. The new Manager there is T.J. Martin. T.J. is a retired Parma Fireman. He's looking at making some significant upgrades and making the center run more efficient. It was a very productive meeting. Dispatch is a huge part of both the police and fire operations. This past week our local police and fire assisted our local McDonalds with donations and products to residents and those less fortunate. Our Animal Control Officer Miranda Braude along with the Animal Protective League assisted with the removal of 47 cats from a condominium within the city. Miranda continues to do a great job here in Parma Heights and we are very fortunate to have her here on staff. Our Police Awards is tentatively set for the first City Council session in November. This has been many years in the making and will acknowledge several officers for their critical thinking and brave actions in very difficult situations. Yesterday, was the fourth annual Police vs Fire Softball game, we raised quite a bit for charity and the Police won 18 -9, which is wonderful. They've won 4 years in a row now.

Council President Rounds asked what charity was going to receive the donation from yesterday's game?

Director Scharschmidt responded that it will go to Children's Cancer Center which was chosen by the Fire Department.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any questions or comments for Director Scharschmidt? Seeing none. Director Sepik.....

Service Director Sepik: Our last Community Shed event will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at the Service Garage from 9 – 12:00. We ask that residents bring their ID's and no more than 2 standard banker boxes filled for shredding.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any questions or comments for Director Sepik? Seeing none. Director Iaconis.....

Finance Director Iaconis: Thank you. Just wrapping up our 2023 audit and we are making a lot of progress with the administrative code amendments and updates. Hoping to have something to present to you in either October or November. Looking at the insurance right now and gathering the information for the next year.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any questions for Director Iaconis? Seeing none. Director Schneider, nice to see you again. Thank you again for your guidance and help with all that you do. Mayor Gallo.....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you. Regarding the Senior Center, they served and/or delivered 1,208 meals in the last two weeks and distributed 19,581 lbs. of fresh produce, dairy, meat, bakery and other non-perishable this September. They will be returning to the Invader Salon for their manicures, pedicures, facials. The first Friday in August they went to the High School where they got 20% off of all services with a coupon that they get from the Parma City

Schools. They will be going to Jim Alesci's Italian Deli this Thursday in Solon. The seniors participated in our Walk with the Mayor in the Metroparks. June, who is our 94-year-old senior was dressed as a sunflower at Earth Day, enjoyed the summer walk and completed the whole thing by herself. We had a blind gentleman who joined us as well for this event. It was very inspiring. There are 20 additional activities being offered next month in addition to the regular schedule. Membership is still growing, it's a testament to Trish James and her staff and how well they are providing the services at the Senior Center. The Walk with the Mayor runs from September 1st thru the 30th. Director Iaconis mentioned that the budget discussions will be coming up. We'd like to start those discussions next month if it's Councils preference. We'd like to get the budget in place for 2025 before the end of this year. October 17th is the ground breaking for the new library in Greenbrier Commons and we did receive, thanks to Joe Sebes and several of the departments who worked on a grant to receive demolition funding for the old library. We will not be displacing the current library until the new one is up and running. We are looking at dates to make that a smooth transition. That's all I have tonight. Thank you, Mr. President.

Council President Rounds: Any other comments or questions for Mayor Gallo?

Councilwoman Maruschak asked about the budget and if it will be coming before us in small chunks like it was last year? Police and Fire in one night, Service in another and so on. So that it's not all at one time.

Mayor Gallo responded yes; we will be doing that so that you can focus on certain parts of the budget. Mr. President, if you could check availability on Mondays in October and November so that we can put it a larger block of time to review the budget. I know it's a lot of information, if there are any questions, please send them through Clerk Allen and we'll get those questions answered by the next meeting.

Council President Rounds asked Clerk Allen to survey the members about meeting dates. Because we went a little out of order this evening, I'd like to circle back to the Public Portion of our meeting just to make sure if anyone has anything they'd like to mention they have an opportunity to do so. Is there any Public Comment at this time. Seeing none. Thank you. I'd also like to mention to my fellow council members that now that we are back from our summer recess, there were some potential legislative updates that were given to your committees, I'd very much appreciate you taking another look at those to see if we can wrap them up before the end of 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.



Barbara Allen
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds
President of Council