



City of Parma Heights Council Meeting Minutes October 28 2024

Council President Rounds called the Parma Heights City Council meeting for Monday, October 28, 2024, to order at 7:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Rounds, Council members 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

October 15, 2024 Parma Heights City Council Minutes

Councilman Haase motioned; seconded by Councilwoman Maruschak to approve the City Council Minutes of October 15, 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, we will begin with Mayor Gallo...

Mayor Gallo stated that this evening was the last meeting of the Charter Review Commission to approve minutes. We have invited the members to the Council meeting, we have 5 members with us this evening. I'd like to thank them all once again, it is extremely hard to find people that want to volunteer and we are thankful for their attendance this evening. Let me introduce you to Jack Gilbride, he was the Chairman of the Charter Review Commission and an Account Manager, Kate McCall a Communications and Marketing Specialist, Chelsea McGoldrick-Lynn a Paralegal and Office Manager, Rick Silvaggio is the owner of RML Tool & Die, Jim Urbanek is a retired Local 120 Pipefitter and Joseph Eagle a Local 55 plumber.

Council President Rounds also thanked them for their help and giving up your Monday evenings during the summer to take a clear review of the Charter, to review amendments that needed updating as well as recommendations from this administration and council. We very much appreciate your time and your service. Of the seven of us sitting up here now as councilmembers, 10 years ago five of the seven of us were on the last Charter Review Commission and did the job that you just did. I hope you will look for further opportunities to volunteer again with the city.

Councilman Haase added that he wanted to echo that sentiment and thank you all for the work you put it into this. It is heartwarming when you see that people are willing and interested in public service. It's not an easy thing to do. I remember getting the call from our previous Mayor Byrne, there was some arm twisting involved but I am very glad that he did, it's rewarding work. I'm sure that each of you, in your own way made a difference for the City of Parma Heights and for our residents. Thank you so much.

Councilwoman DeSouza added that she was also a Charter Review person, I thank you so much. It's nice to see people that we haven't seen before coming in and helping us, we sincerely appreciate everything that you have done. Thank you.

Mayor Gallo added that there were three members that weren't able to make it this evening. Thomas Neff a Local 38 Electrician, Luke Ols works for the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, and Dottie Wenger is a community liaison for Yorktown Service Plaza and on the Board of Directors for the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce. I wanted to make sure that we acknowledged them as well.

Council President Rounds announced that we will continue with the agenda, Recreation Director Bacci....

Recreation Director Bacci: We have three upcoming holiday programs. November 2nd for Parma Heights Frights from 5 – 9 in Greenbrier Commons. We have about 1,500 people interested on Facebook at the moment so we are expecting quite a few people for this event. The Young Professionals of Parma have just published their complete vendor list, 65 in total. The Tree lighting will be held Sunday, December 1st from 5 – 6:00 in the Commons and then Stories with Santa will be Saturday, December 14th 10 – 12:30, there will be two sittings and registration will begin November 1st. This event is for residents or have a resident with you.

Council President Rounds asked if there were any questions or comments for Director Bacci? Director Scharschmidt....

Safety Director Scharschmidt: The City of Parma Heights has been awarded a grant for personal protective equipment, CSBA unites and face pieces associated with self-contained breathing apparatuses. The Nation Fire Department Protection Agency standards shows we just had a major overhaul in 2015, the equipment is estimated to last 5 to 15 years. Most manufacturers recommend replacing the personal protective equipment every 10 – 15 years. We are set for a little while. The Fire Department swore in Dominic Agresta this morning. His formal swearing in will be on November 12th at a council meeting. The Police Department will be promoting Eric Taylor to the rank of Sergeant also on November 12th. We are excited to roll out the Police Departments Awards Ceremony. The Police Department received a thank you from a resident who was experiencing a mental crisis, bear with me I would like to read it from my phone....To Officer Rossman and Officer Flynn and the department as a whole. I was undergoing a severe mental health crisis, I was keeping myself isolated while in a dangerous state, during this I was becoming wild and violent and my father came over to try to calm me down. After a short time, my wife and father contacted the police department for a welfare check. They entered and attempted to make contact with me to ensure my safety. While in my home, they began to call out for me at which time I began to become belligerent and hostile. They remained calm and continued to talk to me courteously and professionally. They did not escalate. They continued to keep my family calm and left us cards and resources that we may use in the future. I want to apologize to the officers and also send a very sincere thank you to the officers for helping me and my family. Remaining calm, taking the time to make sure we were safe, is exactly what we needed. I'm beyond grateful for their professionalism, and their crisis skills that probably saved my life. Thank you, Parma Heights Police Department. I just thought I would share that with you this evening. Thank you.

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

Service Director Sepik: The Campaign Sign Recycling event on Saturday, November 9th at the Service Garage from 9 – 12:00. Leaf pickup will begin Monday, November 4th.

Council President Rounds asked if it will be the same program as last year?

Director Sepik stated that we should know more after the first round, we will be updating and adding the routes through the city and using all the tools we had last year.

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

Finance Director Iaconis: Thank you, Council President. Our health care open enrollment will be starting for the employees. We have a new platform, a better resource for the employees. On the next agenda we will have the insurance renewals for council to review. We will also have the Police and Fire Departments present their budgets for 2025; I hope to have information out mid-next week to council.

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

Director Schneider stated that he wanted to speak to commend and thank the members of the Charter Review Commission. Mr. Silvaggio is still here with us this evening and is about to see some of the reforms that he helped enact which is to read by title only amongst other measures. I can assure not only the 5 members of this council that were also members of the commission, but that this commission served with distinction with the finest traditions of the Charter Review Commission. It's telling what kind of experience and valuable times as residents they brought to this table in addition to their careful consideration to what was introduced to them as well. I sincerely hope that within the next 8 days the voters within this community put their stamp of approval on the work that was done. It's not easy to volunteer your time. These members served with distinction. I would extend my appreciation as well.

Council President Rounds added that he had wished he had called on you earlier while they were all still present. That was beautiful. Thank you. Mayor Gallo.....

Mayor Gallo: Thank you. Regarding the Senior Center, they served and/or delivered 1,291 meals in the last two weeks and distributed 19,483 lbs. of fresh produce and dairy in October. Twenty-seven seniors were able to go to see Beauty and the Beast at the Cassidy Theatre and went to Cracker Barrel for breakfast earlier that day. They played volleyball at the Donna Smallwood Center last Thursday. They won the match 2 – 1. The trophy is in our house for the next six months. We will be continuing our fall and Halloween celebrations with activities thru Saturday at the Senior Center, participating at the Trunk of Treat on November 2nd. The library groundbreaking so you know the project is underway in the Commons. The area is fenced off and they have started working. As Director Iaconis mentioned we will start the budget discussions at the next council meeting. This is a conservative budget and we going back to negotiations next year. If council has any questions prior to the next meeting, please let Clerk Allen know so we can get those questions answered and back to you as soon as possible. We will begin with Police and Fire. We are in the final stages of the Administrative Code updates. Hope to have these updates before you before the end of the year. We did have the help of outside legal council so it has been reviewed.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Rounds continued on to the Planning Commission update with Councilman Haase.

Councilman Haase responded that there were three items for consideration at the October 7th meeting, all three have been tabled and will be revisited at a meeting and public hearing scheduled for November 4th. Two items address foster homes and home daycare providers and how they are licensed and permitted. The third item is a conditional use permit application for Hollywood Star Nails at 6869 W. 130th Street, which is a mixed-use district. They are requesting to expand their services to include microblading which is a process similar to tattooing.

Council President Rounds continued on to the Recreation Commission update with Councilwoman Maruschak. Councilwoman Maruschak began by providing the soccer update. There were two goals donated from the Parma Heights Football Club and are at Nathan Hale. Plans in 2025 are to replace the other 4 goals. Josh got a t-ball program together for 3- and 4-year-olds, he had over 90 kids. Kurtz Park dugouts have been completely torn out and replaced by our wonderful Service Department, new concrete pads, new fencing, new benches, with new sun covers to be installed on the dugouts in 2025. Summer concerts have continued to be a hit with approximate attendance of 120 each. Pool figures are still being calculated, they are finalizing concession sales and labors. Going with these final totals with season pass purchases will help determine next years costs and staffing outlook. New lane lines that are purple and white are in. They look fantastic. Once the budget is finalized, administration is looking for sand filters in the lap pool and heaters for the dive and main pool. Parma Heights Frights, the 5K steps off at 4:00 followed by the event at Greenbrier Commons from 5 – 9:00 p.m. There are 7 food trucks, their version of touch a truck, parking will be available at Parma South Presbyterian Church, Pearl Road School, City Hall will open their parking lots for this event. They are continuing to prep for the rest of the season with the tree lighting, Stories with Santa and winter crafts. 2025 highlights are basketball camps and flag football teams. Grant funding is currently being looked at to make repairs to the tennis and pickleball courts. Next month we should hear about the Commons Playground grant funding. If we get this grant, this will feature a playground that will be 90% wheelchair accessible for our residents and others.

PUBLIC SESSION

Council President Rounds: Please state your name and address clearly for the Council Clerk to hear. This is not a time for discussion but gives an opportunity to be heard during this public forum. Please address me as the Council President. You will have 3 minutes to speak. If there is anyone who would like to make a comment, this evening.

Mr. Rosario, I reside at 10239 Chesterfield, I am here to represent Denise Isidore. I'm concerned about the garbage ordinance. I made a complaint to the inspector and I haven't gotten to the point where the guy next door has been notified how to follow the garbage ordinance. The guy next door is an unkept person. I've been waiting for yard work to be done, upkeep of the property. Over the past 3 years nothing has happened. He keeps his garbage cans between our houses, he has young kids, trash is out all over. I made a complaint stating that the cans need to be 20 feet from the dwelling, and not in front of the homes. I understand that there are elderly people that can't get their trash cans out. I'm just concerned, I don't have time to keep calling this inspector out each week.

Council President Rounds thanked him for the comments and seeing none further, we will continue on to our Legislative portion of the agenda.

LEGISLATION

2024 - 77: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

Council President Rounds motioned; seconded by Councilwoman DeSouza to read the following ordinance by title only.

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 77**

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF NEW MATTER IN THE UPDATED AND REVISED CODIFIED ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF SUCH NEW MATTER; TO REPEAL

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

2024 - 79: ORDINANCE TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

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

Clerk Allen read: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 79**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 909.01 ENTITLED "ADOPTION BY REFERENCE" WITHIN THE MASTER STREET TREE PLAN CHAPTER OF THE PARMA HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, UPDATING THE CITY'S MASTER STREET TREE PLAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

2024 - 80: 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: Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Rounds

Clerk Allen read: **RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 80**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ACCEPT A FISCAL YEAR 2023 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

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

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

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

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

Resolution Passes

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: Durichko, Palmisano, DeSouza, Kolezynski, Maruschak, Haase, Rounds

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



Barbara Allen
Clerk of Council



Tom Rounds
President of Council