

**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING  
AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
HELD: OCTOBER 4, 2011**

President of Council Mills presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Coleman; Councilmen Hargate, Legan, Lombardo, Mastrangelo, Mills, Murphy, Stickan; Clerk of Council Buchak; Law Director Paluf.

ACTION ON THE MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING: The reading of the Minutes of a Committee of the Whole Meeting held July 12, 2011 was dispensed with. A motion was made by Mr. Lombardo to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Mastrangelo. Ayes all; motion carried.

The reading of the Minutes of a Committee of the Whole Meeting held September 6, 2011 was dispensed with. A motion was made by Mr. Legan to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Lombardo. Ayes all; abstain Murphy; motion carried.

The reading of the Minutes of a Committee of the Whole Meeting held September 13, 2011 was dispensed with. A motion was made by Mr. Legan to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Lombardo. Ayes all; abstain Stickan; motion carried.

***Community Gardens***

A preliminary discussion was held regarding Community Gardens proposed for the Municipal Green Space. Suggestion was made that the Highland Heights Garden Club should be involved inasmuch as creation of the community gardens was their idea and that planning should start now so the gardens can be ready for spring.

Mayor Coleman reported a business has offered help with the construction of the gardens; however, before that, standards and regulations have to be set up. The garden club initiated the thought of collecting revenue from the gardens which would require city approval. He suggested a partnership with the garden club and that legislation may be required. Mayor Coleman also asked Council to consider what is going to be expected of the City if a garden plot is abandoned, who will maintain it.

Law Director Paluf agreed there should be some sort of approval process, whether by motion or legislation.

Council President Mills will contact the garden club regarding lot size, rules, fees, legislation, city involvement, abandoned plots, location of the gardens, etc.

Mrs. Murphy noted that the community gardens are proposed to be constructed in the rear northeast corner of the lot by the parking lot. She suggested they should be aware that a gazebo is going to be constructed and the contractor will be moving machinery into the area.

CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
HELD: OCTOBER 4, 2011 - PAGE 2 OF 3

Mayor Coleman suggested Council have a concept of what will go in the other areas so they can do grading that will accommodate all that. Mayor Coleman noted that they are handing this off to the garden club which he thought was a good idea as they were the drivers of the project and asked if Council was comfortable with this arrangement. He stated he was. Everyone agreed; there were no objections stated.

Mr. Mastrangelo questioned the location of the gardens, by a tree line and suggested the area may be shaded.

This subject will be continued after contact is made with the garden club.

***Cuyahoga County Business Attraction and Anti-Poaching Protocol***

On September 19, 2011, Mayor Coleman distributed to Council copies of an email, subject: "Revised Anti-Poaching Protocol / Request to Adopt", received from Edward Jerse, Cuyahoga County Director of Regional Collaboration.

Mayor Coleman reported this protocol is proposed by County Executive Fitzgerald who is asking cities to engage in this anti-poaching agreement with the county. For member communities who enter into this agreement, there is going to be a committee at the county to facilitate economic development for the member communities. It is an agreement to not solicit businesses from other cities within Cuyahoga County. Mayor Coleman stated his opinion is that Highland Heights doesn't do that now. He advised Highland Heights does promote the City and they do contact businesses that they know are leaving so he really didn't know what the City of Highland Heights gains by entering into this anti-poaching agreement. Mayor Coleman asked for Council's thoughts, noting that they don't have to enter into this agreement. He stated his objection is that this agreement is not broad enough, it is limited to Cuyahoga County and would not prevent a city in a different county such as Mentor from soliciting business from Highland Heights. He thought it would be more effective if some of the neighboring counties were part of this also. Another thing is that this was received in mid September and it was asked that it be passed by the end of September. Mayor Coleman stated he thought this is a good notion, trying to get communities in northeast Ohio together so they don't compete against each other but he thought it needed to be defined more. Mayor Coleman advised they don't have to say they are not going to do it. He suggested the agreement may develop into something that would be attractive to the city and more favorable.

Mrs. Murphy stated she agreed with the Mayor that it should be up to the city to promote and market our city and our vacant land. She noted that they talked about a million dollar economic development fund but there is not a million dollar fund -- they are talking about establishing one.

Mr. Lombardo objected to Item No. 7, Effect of Non-Participation, provides that "The County reserves the right to consider participation in this Agreement in evaluating applications under the proposed County Economic Development Fund and other programs." He suggested if this was a good agreement that would not be necessary.

Mr. Mills asked how they are going to fund the economic development fund. He suggested the City stay the way they are.

Mayor Coleman asked if everyone was OK with that. Everyone agreed.

CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
HELD: OCTOBER 4, 2011 - PAGE 3 OF 3

***Community Day Report***

Mayor Coleman commended Chuck Brunello for doing a fantastic job as Chairman of the Community Day.

Mr. Chuck Brunello reported that Community Day was a huge success and well attended. The weather kind of held people back at first and then it grew pretty good. There were more people this year than last year. He thanked everyone for their assistance,

Members of the Community Day Committee were: Councilwoman Lisa Stickan, Sue Meola, Lucy Stickan, Mark Casey, Maureen Diemert, Ken Grano, Frank Scibana, Marisa Pollutro and Sara Tobin.

Mr. Brunello reported they had a lot of the same activities as last year and added some. The committee wanted to keep it a community event. They collected about \$5900 in donations this year. They had a budget of \$20,000 and spent \$20,785 knowing what they had in sponsorship, bringing what they actually spent down to \$14,884. They saved roughly \$5100 this year. That money was donated back to the general fund. Mr. Brunello thanked everyone here for helping in one way or another. He stated it was a good day and he was willing to do it again next year if need be.

Mayor Coleman asked if there are any suggestions for next year. Mr. Brunello advised he would add more food. He also advised that the electrical power that was added to the park was a huge necessity and it worked out well. He thought that everyone did a great job. He has heard nothing negative about the day and has received a lot of phone calls saying how great it was. One thing they need to work on is games for kids.

Miss Stickan commented that the committee and their chairman did a great job. They had a meeting after the fact to go over what worked and what didn't work, and what they think they can do. A lot of new attractions were even more popular than anticipated. So they are looking to offering them for longer periods of time or bring some more acts in. Miss Stickan stated the committee did an amazing job; they had great leadership and it was a good Community Day. She also thanked the Mayor and Council members for their assistance.

Committee Meetings:

10/11/11, 7:00 PM. Drainage Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mrs. Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Ayes all; motion carried.