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**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD: MARCH 26, 2019  
8:00 PM**

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PRESENT: Mayor Brunello; Council Representatives D'Amico, DiLalla, Hargate, Lombardo, Mastrangelo, Murphy, Stickan; Clerk of Council Cahill; Asst. Chief Bernhard; Police Lt. Matejic; Service Director Evans; Building Commissioner Grabfelder; Finance Director Filippo; City Engineer Mader; Law Director Paluf

**ACTION ON MINUTES:**

The reading of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held March 11, 2019 was dispensed with. Mr. Mastrangelo moved to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mrs. Murphy. Ayes: D'Amico, Hargate, Lombardo, Mastrangelo, Murphy, Stickan; Abstain: DiLalla. Motion carried.

The reading of the Minutes of a Council Meeting held March 12, 2019 was dispensed with. Mrs. Murphy moved to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Ms. D'Amico. Ayes: D'Amico, Hargate, Lombardo, Mastrangelo, Murphy, Stickan; Abstain: DiLalla. Motion carried.

The reading of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held March 14, 2019 was dispensed with. Mrs. Murphy moved to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Lombardo. Ayes: D'Amico, Hargate, Lombardo, Mastrangelo, Murphy, Stickan; Abstain: DiLalla. Motion carried.

The reading of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held March 20, 2019 was dispensed with. Mrs. Murphy moved to accept the Minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Lombardo. Ayes: D'Amico, Hargate, Lombardo, Mastrangelo, Murphy, Stickan; Abstain: DiLalla. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Fire Chief's Report: No report.

Police Chief's Report: No report.

Service Director's Report: Director Evans stated Simple Recycling sent out a mailer and bag to all residents announcing the program will be starting April 1<sup>st</sup>. The information is also on the city's website.

Director Evans announced that April is Computer Round Up month. The Service Department will be collecting computers and peripherals to be recycled by the County Solid Waste District.

Director Evans announced Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, will be a Shred Day at the Service Department from 9 AM until 1 PM.

Director Evans stated item #2, street sweeping, is a motion that was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Item #3, the asphalt portion of the 2019 Road Program was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting and Director Evans is requesting suspension of the readings to adopt the legislation so that work can begin in the City Park and be completed before June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Item #9 is a third reading for the cab and chassis which has been previously discussed. Director Evans was available to answer any questions on Res. 7-2019.

Building Commissioner's Report: Mr. Grabfelder stated an occupancy permit was issued for Progressive's parking garage. The garage was opened on Monday. Phase One of the project is complete and the office building is on schedule.

Mr. Grabfelder responded to Mrs. Murphy's question that the Court date for the house on Highland Road has been rescheduled. The Hearing is for a violation due to the construction debris and general maintenance on the property.

City Engineer's Report: Mr. Mader stated the Asphalt Road program held a bid opening on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Two bids were received, and Specialized Construction was the low bidder and has been recommended award of the contract.

The 2019 Concrete Road program will be scheduled for a bid opening in late April. The annual Phase 2 Stormwater Report has been submitted to the EPA.

The contractor for Avion Park Sidewalk will begin completion of the project on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Mader received the Brainard Road Resurfacing Stage 1 and Stage 2 on March 19<sup>th</sup>. These are very preliminary plans. Mr. Mader will be reviewing the project and will have five weeks to submit comments.

Finance Director's Report: Director Filippo stated item #4 is First Reading of an Ordinance for the Recreation employees' compensation. The wages were adjusted to reflect an increase in the minimum wage rate.

The engagement letter from Ciuni & Panichi has been received. The Law Director has reviewed the engagement letter and the forensic audit should begin in early April.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Commission on Aging: Ms. D'Amico reported the Commission on Aging met on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The Commission has joined with the Garden Club for a planting event on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Seniors will learn how to plant a planter and Girl Scouts will be available to decorate the planters.

Ms. D'Amico reminded Seniors to reserve a seat to the Tea Room Bus Trip as this will be a popular event.

Safety and Service Committee: Ms. Stickan no report.

Drainage Committee: Mrs. Murphy requested a Resolution to adopt the Drainage Policy as was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mrs. Murphy requested a Resolution to enter into the Open Checkbook program. The liaisons from the State Auditor's Office provided a very informative overview of the program at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Legislative & Finance Committee: Mr. Hargate stated the L/F Committee met this evening and discussed the two items with Service Director Evans: 1) A requisition from Walker's Brothers Roofing for roof repairs at City Hall. The requisition was approved in the amount of \$7,950;

2) Director Evans discussed the status of hiring a consultant to review the condition of all four roofs in the municipal complex. Director Evans will provide information to Council regarding the selection of a consultant.

The Committee approved requisitions for the Recreation Department: Adler Team Sports in the amount of \$9,300 for baseball supplies; \$8,700 for softball supplies. The vendor, Miracle Midwest, was approved \$8506 for funbrellas and fabric tops.

The Committee approved a requisition for new bleachers at the Municipal Park of \$11,150 from BSN Sports.

The Committee reviewed the budget adjustments with the Finance Director as described in his March 19<sup>th</sup> memo.

The Committee reviewed the Ordinance on tonight's agenda for the Recreation Department. The wages were increased due to the increase in minimum wage.

Planning and Zoning Commission: Mr. Mastrangelo stated a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting was held on March 25<sup>th</sup> and held a Public Hearing for Progressive Casualty Insurance Co., 603 Alpha Drive. The Commission approved: the request for variances to the 5% minimum interior landscaping requirement for the proposed easterly and westerly parking areas; the request for variances to the landscaped island requirement for the proposed easterly and westerly parking areas; and request for variance to the restricted front yard parking requirement to allow employee parking in the proposed westerly parking area.

K. Hovnanian Homes, 217 North Legend Court, subplot 6, Aberdeen Area J, received final home approval. There are only two vacant lots available.

Home Depot, 6199 Wilson Mills, received a renewal of a conditional use permit to allow exterior display of plants.

The Planning & Zoning Commission is reviewing the Sign Code and will be submitting recommendations to Council to update the Code.

**Law Director's Report:** Director Paluf stated item #5 is a First Reading for the Asset Transfer Agreement; Municipal Utility District Agreement; and restatement of the Water Service Agreement with the City of Cleveland Water Department.

Director Paluf requested Council adjourn into Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations with Labor Attorney Budzik.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Brunello stated the Community Day met on March 21<sup>st</sup> and reviewed contracts with vendors. A grant was received which will cover the cost for the Dunk Tank. The next meeting will be on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at City Hall.

Mr. Brunello stated the Spring Newsletter should be delivered to all residences by the end of this week.

Mr. Brunello stated the construction on the new electronic message sign at the Municipal Complex has started. Mr. Evans has approved the final design plan of the sign and will send a color rendition to all Council.

Mr. Brunello stated he supports the Open Checkbook program as it allows for transparency. Director Filippo stated he supports the Open Checkbook program; however, there maybe questions from the public due to the vagueness of the general ledger.

**Council President's Report:** President Stickan stated this will be her last report as Park & Recreation Commission liaison. The Children's Easter Party is April 6<sup>th</sup> and volunteers are appreciated. The Commission met March 21<sup>st</sup> and discussed the funbrellas colors at the pool. The Summer Sizzler was distributed, and registrations can be made online; walk-ins; or mail in. The bleachers are being replaced.

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA:** No items were added.

**MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:**

Ms. Joan Gottschling, 606 SOM Center. Ms. Gottschling, from the Mayfield Township Historical Society, thanked Mayor Brunello and Council for the donation to the Society. Ms. Gottschling providing information on events and rentals at the Society and stated the Society is always looking for student or senior volunteers.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:** President Stickan announced the following appointments, with confirmation by Council:

Commission on Aging: Council Representative Ann M. D'Amico

Park and Recreation Commission: Council Representative Frank DiLalla

Planning & Zoning Commission: Council Representative Robert Mastrangelo

Volunteer Firefighters Dependency Fund Board: Council Representatives Ann D'Amico and Leo Lombardo

Hillcrest Council of Councils: Council Representative Ed Hargate

Mayfield Union Cemetery: Council Representative Frank DiLalla

Community Day Liaison: Frank DiLalla

**Council Standing Committees:**

Legislative & Finance Committee Members:

Hargate, Murphy, Stickan

Safety and Service Committee Members:

Hargate, Mastrangelo, Stickan

Drainage Committee Members:

D'Amico, Lombardo, Murphy

A motion was made by Mrs. Murphy to confirm the above appointments; seconded by Mr. Mastrangelo. Ayes all; motion carried.

**MOTION ENTER INTO AGREEMENT:** A motion was made by Mr. Hargate to enter into an agreement with Sweeping Corporation of America, dba Reilly Sweeping Inc., for street sweeping services for 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000; seconded by Ms. D'Amico. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 11-2019:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of proposed Resolution 11-2019 which description is: "A Resolution declaring Specialized Construction Inc. as the lowest and best bidder for the 2019 Asphalt Road Repair Program, authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with said bidder in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$352,470.00) for Base Bid Part A and Part B and Bid Alternates to Part B for the 2019 Asphalt Road Repair Program, rejecting all other bids received, and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Council was asked to suspend the Second and Third reading to allow for paving in the Park before June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hargate moved to suspend the Second and Third reading; seconded by Mr. Lombardo. Ayes all; motion carried.

Mr. Hargate moved to adopt; seconded by Mr. Lombardo. Ayes all; motion carried.

**FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE 5-2019:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of proposed Ordinance 5-2019 which description is: "An Ordinance establishing compensation for employees of the Recreation Department of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio for 2019, repealing all ordinances inconsistent herewith and declaring an emergency." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr.)

**FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE 6-2019:** Council listened to the First Reading in title only of proposed Ordinance 6-2019 which description is: "An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor to execute: (1) An Asset Transfer Agreement, (2) A Municipal Utility District Agreement and, (3) A restatement of the Water Service Agreement for Direct Service with the City of Cleveland, Ohio; and declaring this to be an urgent measure." (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 9-2019:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 9-2019 which description is: "A Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to make a payment to Progressive Casualty Insurance Company from nontax revenues in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) pursuant to the Economic Development Grant Agreement dated December 28, 2017 and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**SECOND READING PROPOSED RESOLUTION 10-2019:** Council listened to the Second Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 10-2019 which description is: “A Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to make a payment to Swagelok Company from nontax revenues in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) pursuant to the Economic Development Grant Agreement dated July 28, 2015 and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 4-2019:** Council listened to the Third Reading in title only of Proposed Ordinance 4-2019 which description is: “An ordinance appropriating for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Highland Heights, Ohio, for the period commencing January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019, and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Mr. Mastrangelo moved to amend Ordinance 4-2019 to read “Exhibit A” dated March 26, 2019; seconded by Ms. D’Amico.

Mr. DiLalla commented that he has reviewed the budget with Director Filippo and has context to vote on the ordinance.

Ayes all; motion carried.

Mr. Mastrangelo moved to enact; seconded by Mr. DiLalla. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 7-2019:** Council listened to the Third Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 7-2019 which description is: “A Resolution authorizing the purchase of one International Model 2019 HV 507 SFA 4x2 cab and chassis from Rush Truck Centers in an amount not to exceed Eighty One Thousand Dollars (\$81,000.00), pursuant to the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program, and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Mr. Hargate moved to adopt; seconded by Mr. DiLalla. Ayes all; motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 8-2019:** Council listened to the Third Reading in title only of Proposed Resolution 8-2019 which description is: “A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Sutphen Corporation for the purchase of a 2019 Sutphen fire engine, pursuant to the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Act in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Eighty-One Thousand, Four Hundred Forty-Four Dollars and Zero Cents (\$581,444.00), excluding any trade-in or pre-payment allowance and declaring an emergency. (Mayor Chuck Brunello, Jr. and Council as a Whole)

Ms. D’Amico moved to adopt; seconded by Mr. Hargate.

Mr. Hargate indicated that the Legislative and Finance committee has reviewed the request for the purchase of the 2019 Sutphen fire engine and it is included in this year’s budget. Mr. Hargate noted that the Fire Chief sent a memo dated March 22<sup>nd</sup> detailing some additional arguments in the request. Mr. Hargate stated he will support the Resolution.

Mr. Mastrangelo questioned if the Finance Director would be taking advantage of discounts that were listed in the March 22<sup>nd</sup> memo. Finance Director stated he will review the payment procedure with the Fire Chief.

Ayes all; motion carried.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Moved by Mr. Hargate to adjourn into Executive Session by roll call vote pursuant to Section 121.22(G)(4) of the Ohio Revised Code and Highland Heights Charter 4.05 to discuss labor negotiations; seconded by Mr. DiLalla. Roll Call: Ayes: unanimous.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened in public session at 9:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Mastrangelo to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; motion carried. Said meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Clerk of Council

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President of Council