

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

Council President Jane Goodman called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call.

Present: Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icovie, Councilman Jason Russell, Council President Jane Goodman.

Absent: Councilman Moe Romeo.

Special Presentation

Sacred Heart of Jesus Knights of Columbus Council 2016 Blue Coat of the Year Award was presented to South Euclid Assistant Police Chief Jim Franey.

Opening Meeting of Council:

President Goodman called the Open Meeting of Council to order and invited the audience to address Council:

- Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that former Council President Miller called him delusional and questioned Law Director Lograsso's ever increasing salary. According to his analysis of this year's budget, the Law Director will be making over a quarter of a million dollars and asked who's delusional and those are his tax dollars being used.
- John Savani, 1900 South Belvoir Blvd, spoke about an ongoing issue with business Dogtropolis at 480 South Green Road and the nuisance it is creating with barking dogs for tenants that reside at the apartment building he owns behind the business. Mr. Savani stated that he has gone through steps recommended by Councilman Fiorelli, including trying mediation, but there has not been any resolution because the owner of the business refused to meet or enter into a mediation process. Mr. Savani stated that he and tenants have both audio and video of the barking dogs and have made calls to the police department. Mr. Savani stated that Chief Nietert and Councilman Fiorelli both came to the premises to see if the barking was over the nuisance limit. Mrs. Peggy Savani, played a video of dogs barking at the business and stated that something must be done about the issue and that a dispatcher she spoke with said that City Council allowed the business to locate where it is. Councilwoman Ruth Gray stated that residents in her ward should not have to live like this.
- Robert Schonewald, 4426 Bayard, discussed safety issues regarding overgrown tree limbs that are growing on phone lines. Mr. Schonewald stated that First Energy takes care of their lines which are higher than the phone lines and other lines and those utilities should have to remedy the situation, or the city should do it and bill the utility company.

Report of Council Committees:Committee of the Whole

Council President Goodman reported that a public hearing was held prior to the council meeting to hear from residents about the proposed Lowden School property rezoning.

Mayor's Report:

President Goodman reported that Mayor Welo could not be at the meeting due to a family matter.

Legislation Requested by the Mayor and Administration

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 09-16

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING FUND: "COMMUNITY RELATIONS/OTHER/MISCELLANEOUS" IN ORDER TO CONTINUE FUNDING A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT ADVOCATE FOR THE SOUTH EUCLID MUNICIPAL COURT. FIRST READING.

The legislation was placed on first reading and referred to the finance committee.

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 10-16

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GREAT LAKES RECYCLING, INC. FOR THE COLLECTION OF SOFT RECYCLABLES WITHIN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

The legislation was placed on first reading and referred to the Service Committee.

Introduced by Goodman

Ordinance 04-16

ORDINANCE

AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT CREATING A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, PURSUANT TO OHIO LAW, WHICH SHALL ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A JOINT POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR THE DISPATCH OF POLICE, FIRE AND EMS SERVICES IN AND FOR THE CITIES OF SHAKER HEIGHTS, CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, SOUTH EUCLID AND UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, AND SUCH OTHER COMMUNITIES AS SHALL JOIN SAID CENTER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

The legislation was placed on first reading and referred to the Safety Committee. A meeting was scheduled for April 25, 2016 at 5:30 pm.

Law Director's Report

Law Director Lograsso reported on oral hearings regarding the Newberry Road litigation and reported that a case regarding a lawsuit from building owner Lou Zipkin has been dismissed. Mr. Zipkin is dismissing both federal and state lawsuits he filed against the city and is absorbing all legal costs, including costs associated with South Euclid's defense of the suit. Because Mr. Zipkin has completed the required work on his building, the City agreed to dismiss associated cases.

Letters & Communications

- Councilwoman Gray discussed the Good Neighbor Guide and handed out copies to those in attendance. Ms. Gray stated that it is important for residents to know about the city's ordinances and to ensure civility. Ms. Gray stated that Director Benjamin will be revising the guide. Councilwoman Gray scheduled a Recreation Committee meeting for May 9 to begin discussions of the recreation survey and to analyze the data to prepare for the strategic planning process.
- Councilman Russell reported on the public hearing held for the Lowden School property rezoning request and scheduled a Zoning and Planning Committee Meeting for April 25, 2016 at 6 pm.
- Councilman Ilove stated that he followed the Zipkin case reported by Law Director Lograsso and read the motion and stated that he thought it was excellently done and commended the law department. Mr. Ilove reported that he held a very successful Ward Three Meeting on March 30th also attended by Councilpersons Russell and Gray. Councilman Ilove requested more information on the Dogtropolis issue and requested all police reports and telephone logs from January 15, 2015 to the present. Mr. Ilove also requested that legislation be presented requesting that city department heads attend Council Meetings and that many questions could have been answered at the meeting. Councilman Russell stated that he understands that department heads attend committee meetings regarding legislation, but that he would like to see the directors at the council meetings as well. Councilwoman Gray stated that she works for a city and that the issue speaks to transparency and accountability. Councilman Fiorelli also said he supports the idea, but also said that if he has questions, he doesn't wait for the council meeting, he calls the director directly to get information and answer any questions. Council President Goodman concurred and also is supportive of the legislation.
- Council President Goodman discussed rescheduling the Utility Committee Meeting regarding a presentation from the Sewer District. And a Service Committee was scheduled for May 23, 2016 at 7 pm to discuss Resolution 10-16 regarding soft recyclables.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

Yes: Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Ilove, Councilman Jason Russell, Council President Jane Goodman.

Absent: Councilman Moe Romeo

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Attest:

Council President

Clerk of Council