

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 Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icove, Councilman Jason Russell, Council President Jane Goodman.

Report of the Mayor

- Mayor Welo reported that all directors were in attendance except Police Chief Nietert and Fire Chief Stefko and that Asst. Fire Chief Csire was in attendance.
- Housing Manger Martin reported on legislation on the agenda regarding the emergency tree fund and that the Housing Department has had to abate and remove several big trees this year and the city arborist is concerned about several additional trees that might pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the city. Abating the trees cost about \$4,000 each.
- Economic Development Director Love requested City Council support for the passage of Resolution 19-17 regarding the proposed elimination of CDBG and other HUD programs. The resolution was requested by the First Suburbs Consortium.
- City Engineer Blackley reported on current road reconstruction and infrastructure projects that are underway and on schedule.
- Mayor Welo reported that Community Clean Up day is May 13 and that the Garden Club will be having a garden exchange on May 16. Mayor Welo welcomed Cuyahoga County Council Member Sunny Simon who is in attendance.

Report of Law Director

No Report

Opening Meeting of Council Related to Agenda Specific Items

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

- No residents addressed any agenda specific items

Report of Council Committees:

Amend Agenda to Include Ordinance 04-17

Action: Motion to Amend Agenda, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilman Jason Russell.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 7).

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

The Agenda has been amended.

Introduced by Goodman

Ordinance 04-17

ORDINANCE

CREATING NEW TITLE NINE "MEDICAL MARIJUANA CONTROL PROGRAM" OF PART SEVEN "PLANNING AND ZONING CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. **TO BE PLACED ON SECOND READING.**

The legislation was placed on second reading.

Legislation Recommended by the Planning Commission

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 22-17

RESOLUTION

GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS AT THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4551 AMMON ROAD IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Jason Russell, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 7).

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

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 23-17

RESOLUTION

GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO "APPLES OF GOLD ENRICHMENT CENTER" DAYCARE, LOCATED AT 1440 SOUTH GREEN ROAD IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Jason Russell, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 7).

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

The legislation has been approved.

Legislation Requested by the Mayor and Administration

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 19-17

RESOLUTION

OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION AND REDUCTION OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS THAT ARE VITAL TO THE COMMUNITY, THE RESIDENTS OF SOUTH EUCLID, AND THE ENTIRE NATION. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Jane Goodman, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

- Community Services Director Benjamin reported that this year's CDBG award of \$150,000 for the Grosvenor Road project is at risk as a result of non-action by the federal government.
- Councilman Gelfand spoke about the proposed federal budget cuts and that the federal and state have taken our tax dollars and we deserve it back.
- Councilwoman Gray stated that CDBG funding is very important and we need to fight for it and send letters to our representative show the federal government the power of the people.
- Mayor Welo stated that several Northeast Ohio Mayors are going to Washington in May to discuss the cuts to CDBG and HUD.
- Councilman Frank stated that when he worked for Cuyahoga County he helped administer the CDBG program and that 100% of the funds were distributed to the communities.
- Councilman Russell stated that as a former employee of an entitlement community, CDBG funds are important community investment tools.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

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

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 20-17

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING FUND: "GENERAL FUND-NUISANCE ABATEMENT #101-4410-52738" FOR THE PURPOSE OF NUISANCE TREE ABATEMENTS. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Jane Goodman, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

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

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Goodman

Resolution 21-17

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO CREATE A NEW FUND ENTITLED "SALARY AND BENEFITS RESERVE FUND #927" WITHIN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Council President Jane Goodman.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

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

The legislation has been approved.

Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Gray discussed a recent change to the salary ordinance that is having a negative impact on members of our boards and commissions, as they are no longer eligible to receive OPERS and stated that Council may need to reconsider the change. In addition, boards and commission members perform a lot of work prior to meetings and the new current pay-per-meeting scenerio does not reflect the work commissioners do in between meetings. Councilwoman Gray also reported on the ad-hoc Recreation Committee and asked for those council members who have not yet appointed members to please do so, and also to pay attention to make sure there is a diversity of age, race and cultures on the committee.
- Councilman Gelfand reported on the April 29 Hillcrest Council of Council meeting that included a presentation from Cleveland Water who discussed billing practices. Mr. Gelfand also reported on aggressive solicitors from Vivint security going door to door with high pressure and aggressive soliciting practices and advised residents that they don't have to talk to them. Mr. Gelfand reported that he attended the Cleveland Tenants Organization annual meeting and that Gary Katz is their new Executive Director. Mr. Gelfand reported on the Heights Hillcrest Chamber Business Expo and the National Alliance on Mental Health Annual Meeting.
- Councilman Russell reported that Vivint came to his home and they are using strong sales tactics. Mayor Welo reminded residents that no-soliciting stickers are available at city hall for residents to put on their doors.
- Councilman Fiorelli discussed participation in the upcoming Community Clean Up Day and asked that residents make a difference and lead by example.

- Councilman Frank thanked those that reached out to him offering condolences regarding the recent death of a family member and reported that he attended and present awards to students at a recent SEL PTA event.
- Council President Goodman also discussed the Vivint Security soliciting issue and reminded residents to get the no soliciting sticker. Councilman Ilove stated that residents can make their own sticker. Ms. Goodman discussed the Arbor Day Celebration and upcoming regional River Day that will be held on May 20th. Council President Goodman reported that the City's first Democracy Days meeting will be held on May 9th at 6:30 pm to discuss the move to amend issue.

Open Meeting

- Ori Akrish stated that he is a Board Member of the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools and thanked Councilman Frank for his support of the district. Mr. Akrish stated that the district has had an impressive year with many students getting awards for their work, including students being awarded for their work in the arts. Mr. Akrish recognized several team and individual athletic accomplishments and reported that Sunview School was last week's Fox 8 School of the Week and that the preschool program at Rowland was awarded five stars by the State Board of Education.
- Terry Killeen, manager of external affairs at First Energy, reported that he was visiting cities to discuss First Energy's storm restoration process when there is a power outage. Mr. Killeen stated that the utility first responds to major hazards that need to be repaired and critical facilities such as 911 centers, hospitals, pump stations, etc. Following critical facilities, repairs are made in areas where most residents are affected and then in areas with less outages. Mr. Killeen stated that First Energy has an app that can be downloaded where residents can report outages and get updates.
- Carlean Alford, 1355 Belvoir Mews, stated that she is a member of the Zoning and Planning Commission and spoke about the recent change to the salaries for boards and commissions. Ms. Alford stated that she appreciates council's willingness to go back to the table and look at the issue and thanked Mayor Welo for directing them to the right people to get more information. Ms. Alford said that the change was not something the administration wanted and that the change was made for some, but not for all the city commissions. Finance Director Wendt stated that the change does not apply to the Jury Commission with the court. Ms. Alford also addressed the court merger issue and stated that the South Euclid Court is one of the only municipal courts with its own night court, mental health docket, live streaming and was the first suburb to join the drug court with Cleveland. Ms. Alford stated that she would like to see a comparison of what we have and that if we merge we may be doing a disservice to ourselves.
- Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that he would like to report to Council President Goodman that the giant tree in front of the library has bloomed and looks like it has ben saved. Mr. Turner stated that Council may remember Bob Frey and his difficulty getting public records and discussed the two "bogus" cases that he is charged with and that the City is withholding public records. Mr. Turner stated that Ohio Revised Code requires that the records be turned over and he wants them now.
- Cuyahoga County Councilwoman Sunny Simon, 4110 Princeton Road, gave an update on Cuyahoga County efforts. Ms. Simon discussed the Quickens Loan Arena Transformation Process and the need to maintain economic development efforts, including the ability for Metro Health to expand and update its campus to provide services to our residents and not turn anyone away that needs assistance. Councilwoman Simon reported on the \$1 million County Development Supplemental Grant Fund that is funded through casino revenue and provides funds for revitalization in our suburbs. One South Euclid received funds this year for the Neighborhood Grant Program through the grant program. Ms. Simon stated that the County is beginning its budget process and that they are facing the same federal and state cuts that South Euclid is facing and the county is doing everything it can. Ms. Simon stated that South Euclid is always at the forefront and are leaders in creating programs and providing services and it is a testament to the leadership in the City and that other communities are not as prepared as South Euclid.

Adjourn

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

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 7).

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

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council