

**REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL**

Council President Joe Frank called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

**Special Recognition**

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 06-20

## RESOLUTION

In appreciation to Yvonne Sanderson for her years of diligent service to One South Euclid and to the City of South Euclid. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Joe Frank,

**Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

Mayor Welo gave an overview of the history of One South Euclid and the leadership and efforts of Yvonne Sanderson who, along with Karen Poelking and Pam O'Toole, were there at the beginning and instrumental to the success of the community development corporation. The Mayor presented Ms. Sanderson with a Resolution and the Key to the City as an appreciation for her significant leadership and efforts on behalf of the residents and community.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

- Councilwoman Goodman stated that One South Euclid is a great organization and thanked Ms. Sanderson for her efforts.
- Councilwoman Hardy stated that, in some ways she is on Council because of the efforts of the Sanderson's and O'Tooles because she witnessed the great example they made in helping to bring the neighborhood together.
- Councilwoman Continenza stated that before being on Council, she had the opportunity to serve on the Board of One South Euclid and it was a wonderful experience and that Ms. Sanderson will be missed.
- Councilwoman Gray, congratulated and thanked Ms. Sanderson and stated that One South Euclid helped save many of South Euclid's neighborhoods during the housing crisis.
- Councilman Gelfand stated that Ms. Sanderson's leadership has been key to everything One South Euclid has done and that she led by example taking on issues in her own neighborhood and making them better.
- Councilman Tisdale thanked Ms. Sanderson for her efforts and that he lives in her neighborhood and looks forward to continuing to see her.
- Ms. Sanderson thanked the Mayor and City Council and stated that none of what One South Euclid has accomplished would not have happened without the leadership of the Mayor and City Council.
- Council President Frank stated that he has known Ms. Sanderson since the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and that the City truly appreciates all that she has done on behalf of the community.

**Amend Agenda to include Resolutions 12-20 and 13-20**

**Action:** Motion to Amend Agenda, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The agenda has been amended.

**Report of Mayor**

- Poet Laureate Doc Janning recited a poem celebrating February as "the month of love". Mr. Janning reported that the next Second Sunday Poets event will be March 8 at 3 pm at the South Euclid Library and will feature Christine Hovey the Executive Director of Literary Cleveland. Mr. Janning also stated that he has been chosen by Heights Arts as the Artist of the Month for March 2020.

- Kevin Smalley from First Energy reported on last Friday's power outage in South Euclid, which was the result of a large tree falling down on Francis Court.
- Mayor Welo reported that all are in attendance except Police Chief Nietert.
- Building Commissioner Laura Heilman reported on the ongoing certification of building department employees to obtain various State of Ohio Certifications.
- Housing Manager Sally Martin asked for Council Consideration of Resolution 10-20 working to protect the Federal Community Revitalization Act. Ms. Martin stated that the CRA was established as landmark Civil Rights legislation in 1977 to prevent redlining in suburbs. The current CRA is now under threat by the current presidential administration. Ms. Martin also requested Council Consideration for Resolution 07-20 to go out to bid for nuisance abatement landscaping contractors for 2020.
- Economic Development Director Love reported on Resolution 09-20 which would allow the City to enter into a Letter of Intent with the Leopardo Company to perform an audit and determine the best course forward for a potential energy conservation project for all city buildings.
- Fire Chief Stefko reported on a fire at a home over the weekend and that the firefighters did a great job. Chief Stefko also requested council consideration of Resolution 12-20 which would allow the City to donate the old SCBA Fill Station, which is no longer in use and has no trade-in value, to the Auburn Career Center Public Safety Program's Fire Academy.
- City Engineer Blackley reported that bid openings were held for the 2020 Road Program and Agresta Construction was the lowest and best bidder. Mr. Blackley also reported on Cleveland Water's large valve replacement program ongoing in the area of Mayfield and Belvoir Blvd and a Dominion East Ohio Gas Project commencing on Hinsdale Road.
- Mayor Welo discussed the importance of the upcoming school levies in the South Euclid Lyndhurst and Cleveland Heights University Heights School Districts and that it is critical that we keep our schools strong. Ms. Welo also encouraged the State Legislature to finally fix the school funding issue, which the Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional several times.

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**Report of Law Director:** Mr. Lograsso reported that he and Finance Director Wendt have been meeting with the city's health care provider on the creation of a new wellness program, be proactive and hopefully reduce illnesses.

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#### **Report of School District**

Cassandra Jones, President of the South Euclid Lyndhurst Board of Education reported on the upcoming School Levy and gave an overview of how the current Ed Choice policy will have a major negative financial impact on the schools, which will lose funding. Ms. Jones stated that the District has stretched the current 3-4 year levy to 7.5 years, which is unprecedented and discussed how the School District has been fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars. Ms. Jones reported on upcoming meetings regarding the levy and that the cost to a homeowner of a \$100,000 home will be approximately \$241 a year. Ms. Jones stated that anyone that would like to help should contact her and that she will be at the next meeting to answer any questions residents have about the levy.

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#### **Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Agenda Items**

Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that he is a Brush graduate and supports the upcoming School Levy. Mr. Turner stated that there are two members of council that were no on council at the end of the year and stated that the schools were looking at another levy last year and that there was a secret deal to keep the levy off the ballot last year, which saved the Mayor's career.

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#### **Motion to Create Civil Rights Review Board**

Director Benjamin gave an overview of the Civil Rights Review Board and how it is being implemented.

**Action:** Motion to Appoint a Councilwoman Ruth Gray to the Civil Rights Review Board, **Moved by** Councilman Joe Frank, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

Frank: Nominated Ruth Gray, Seconded by Gelfand

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

Councilwoman Gray has been appointed to the Civil Rights Review Board. Councilwoman Gray stated that this is an awesome opportunity to eradicate some of the wrongs that are in place and thanked her council colleagues for having the confidence to put her on the commission. Councilman Gelfand thanked Councilwoman Gray for her leadership during the discussion of the non-discrimination ordinance and providing a strong voice in helping to get it passed.

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### Report of Committees

#### Legislative Committee:

Councilwoman Hardy reported that the Committee met earlier in the evening to consider the proposed wage enforcement ordinance and discussed the best way to move forward with making sure that contractors are reporting income tax to the Regional Income Tax Authority. Ms. Hardy stated that the Building Commissioner offered to great recommendations for improving the code and that the committee will continue to meet to review and discuss the legislation, including the possibility of tabling the current legislation and presenting new legislation that provides better outcomes.

#### Zoning & Planning Committee

Councilwoman Gray reported that the committee met and recommended that Resolution 31-17 and Ordinance 17-19 has been recommended for removal from the Council Docket and Ordinance 21-17 will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for their review. Ms. Gray stated that the Committee also discussed the timeline for the upcoming Strategic Planning Meetings which will include all of City Council, the Mayor and key administrative staff.

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### Legislation for Removal from Council Docket

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 31-17

#### RESOLUTION

Directing the Mayor to solicit proposals for and conduct a study of creating a Regional Building Department with neighboring Building Departments to create greater efficiencies and advance the goal of regionalism. **FOR REMOVAL AS REQUESTED BY CHAIRWOMAN GRAY.**

**Action:** Motion to Remove Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Ruth Gray, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been removed.

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Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 07-19

#### ORDINANCE

Creating New Chapter 1336 "Registration and Maintenance of Vacant Non-Residential Properties and Establishments" of Title Five "Other Building Provisions" of Part Thirteen "Building Code" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of South Euclid, Ohio. **FOR REMOVAL AS REQUESTED BY CHAIRWOMAN GRAY.**

**Action:** Motion to Remove Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Ruth Gray, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been removed.

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### Legislation Requested by the Administration

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 01-20

#### ORDINANCE

To make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of South Euclid, State of Ohio, during the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2020; and declaring an emergency. First Reading.

The legislation was placed on First Reading and will continue discussion in the Committee of the Whole.

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Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 02-20

ORDINANCE

Amending Section 531.09 "Abatement of Criminal Nuisances" of Chapter 531 "Nuisances" of Part Five "General Offenses" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of South Euclid, Ohio. First Reading.

The legislation was placed on First Reading and referred to the Safety Committee for review and discussion.

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 07-20

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Mayor to prepare the necessary specifications, advertise for bids, and enter into subsequent contracts for the 2020-2021 Nuisance Abatement Landscaping program in the City of South Euclid, Ohio. First Reading.

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

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 08-20

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Letter of Intent with the Leopardo Company. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Joe Frank, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 09-20

RESOLUTION

In support of the Cuyahoga County Health & Human Services Replacement Levy, appearing as Issue 33 on the March 17, 2020 Ballot, to ensure the continuation of vital services to County residents. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Joe Frank, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 10-20

RESOLUTION

To protect the Federal Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to ensure that current efforts to modernize regulations do not undermine the intent of the law and continue to protect low- and moderate-income communities across the country. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Ruth Gray, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6; Abstain = 1).

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

**Abstain:** Joe Frank

The legislation has been approved.

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 11-20

RESOLUTION

In support of the South Euclid Lyndhurst (SEL) Schools and their upcoming School Levy appearing as Issue 32 on the March 17, 2020 Ballot. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Susan Hardy, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 12-20

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Fire Department to donate equipment no longer of use to the Auburn Career Center Public Safety Program's Fire Department. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 13-20

RESOLUTION

A resolution in support of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Cities School District's 7.9 Mill Continuing Operating Levy. First Reading.

Councilman Gelfand reported that a representative from the Cleveland Heights University Heights School Board will be at the February 24<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to discuss the Levy.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilman Justin Tisdale.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

**Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Open Business**

- Linda Pagan, 684 Parkside Blvd., asked questions regarding the proposed cell phone tower at Oakwood Green and stated that she appreciated Councilwoman Goodman's sarcasm in the newspaper article. Ms. Pagan also discussed credit-card only businesses and that they adversely impact lower income people and should not be in our city. Ms. Pagan reported on a topsoil issue and best practices and asked why the public speaking time limit is only three minutes when it used to be five.

**Communications of City Council**

- Councilwoman Goodman reported on the work she is doing with students who are participating in the ACE Mentors program which works with students interested in careers in Architecture, Construction and Engineering. Ms. Goodman also reported on her upcoming attendance at the Ohio Forest Action Plan.
- Councilwoman Hardy reported on her attendance at a School Levy Meeting held in Lyndhurst and that Mayor Ward discussed how involved they are with the schools and a resident asked if South Euclid was equally informed and involved.
- Councilwoman Continenza gave an update on First Baptist Church's plans for their Faith Walk Community Center.
- Mayor Ward was talking about how involved in Schools and someone asked if SE was equally informed.
- Councilwoman Gray discussed the negative impact that upcoming changes to the federally funded SNAP program will have on our children and seniors. Ms. Gray stated that between 40-70% of our school children participate in a free and reduced lunch program as part of the SNAP program and that many of our

seniors receive food stamps from the program. New restrictions will make it harder for residents in need to receive help and that it is up to us to help address the increased need.

- Councilman Gelfand scheduled a Safety Committee Meeting for February 24 at 6 pm to discuss Resolution 02-20 regarding nuisance abatements and Resolution 18-19 regarding food truck registration. Mr. Gelfand reported on meetings with the Hillcrest Council of Councils and the upcoming Health and Human Services Levy. Mr. Gelfand reported on the Bel-Green Chili Cook-off and that his chili earned second place and resident Curtis Orr came in first. Mr. Gelfand also discussed the Kosher Food Pantry which is located in South Euclid and serves residents in need of kosher foods every Thursday afternoon.
- Councilman Tisdale stated that he is a product of the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools and that voting no for the levy will negatively impact our children and that he supports both South Euclid and Cleveland Heights School Levies and asked residents to think about the repercussions if the levies fail.
- Council President Frank reported that South Euclid Lyndhurst School's annual Founder's Day event will be held on February 12 at 5:15 pm in Brush Auditorium.

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**Adjourn**

With no further business before City Council, **Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

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

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 pm.

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Council President

Attest:

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Clerk of Council