

**REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL**

Council President Pro Tem Ruth Gray called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilwoman Chanell Elston, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

**Approval of Minutes****July 12, 2021 Special Meeting**

**Action:** Motion to Approve Minutes **Moved by** Councilwoman Elston, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Hardy.

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The minutes have been approved.

**July 12, 2021 Regular Meeting**

**Action:** Motion to Approve Minutes **Moved by** Councilwoman Elston, **Seconded by** Councilman Hardy.

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The minutes have been approved.

**Amend Agenda to include Ord. 11-21 & Res. 40-21**

**Action:** Motion to Amend Agenda **Moved by** Council President Pro-Tem Gray, **Seconded by** Councilman Continenza.

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The agenda has been amended.

**Swearing-In Ceremony**

Fire Medics Connor Bachmann & Fire Medic Jack Dorsky were sworn-in as new Fire Medics for the South Euclid Fire Department.

**Report of Mayor**

- Poet Laureate Doc Janning recited the poem "Hymn and a Prayer".
- The Mayor reported that all directors are in attendance except Law Director Lograsso, who is on vacation.
- Economic Development Director Love reported on Resolution 39-21 approving a conditional use permit for a drive-thru at the new Starbucks to be located at the Marc's Plaza at Mayfield and Green. Mr. Love gave an update on the Leopardo Project.
- City Engineer Andy Blackley gave an update on current road projects on Oakmont Road, South Green Road and Mayfield Road. Mr. Blackley stated that the scheduled repaving of Cedar Road has been delayed by ODOT until next year.
- Mayor Welo reported that she swore-in the members of the newly created City Landmarks Commission and thanked Economic Development Director Love and Community Development Coordinator Subwick for their efforts organizing the new commission.

- Mayor Welo reported on the grand opening of the new Grove Kosher Grocery at Oakwood Commons.
- Mayor Welo reported on summer events including the first band concert featuring the Pop Tarts that was held at Notre Dame College, the South Euclid Browns Barkers' Youth Sports Camp which was held last weekend at Bexley Park and the success of the Farmers' Market, which has been organized by Councilwoman Continenza.
- Mayor Welo reported on Ord. 13-21 regarding the merger of the Heights Hillcrest Emergency Dispatch Center to the larger Chagrin Valley Dispatch.
- Mayor Welo discussed the use of American Rescue Act Funds and that the administration is looking at allowable uses to spend the funds in a way that they impact the community and thanked Community Services Director Keith Benjamin, Economic Development Director Mike Love and Finance Director Brenda Wendt for their hard work in looking at options and how funds can be leveraged to their greatest impact. Ms. Welo also stated that half of the dollars originally allocated for South Euclid have been taken away by the State Legislature and given to Ohio's Townships.
- Police Chief Mays spoke in support of Ordinance 19-21 approving the merger of the Heights Hillcrest Regional Dispatch with Chagrin Valley Regional Dispatch and discussed many of the benefits of approving the merger.

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**Report of Law Director.** None.

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**School District Report** none.

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

None.

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**Report of Committees**

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 40-21

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the appropriation of unappropriated funds in the following fund: "Coronavirus Local Fiscal Relief Fund #924" for expenditures related to the American Rescue Plan Act. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation **Moved by** Councilwoman Goodman, **Seconded by** Councilman Elston.

Director Benjamin gave an overview of the legislation and why it is being requested to be passed on first reading this evening.

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank  
The Legislation has been approved.

**Zoning & Planning Committee**

Councilwoman Gray reported that the Zoning and Planning Committee met to discuss several ordinances related to building and housing department permits and related fees.

**Safety Committee**

Councilwoman Hardy reported that the Safety Committee met to discuss Ordinance 19-21 regarding the emergency dispatch merger and heard a presentation from the director of Chagrin Valley Dispatch and the Heights Hillcrest Dispatch and the committee recommended approval at tonight's meeting.

**Committee of the Whole**

Councilwoman Gray reported the Committee of the Whole held their monthly budget and finance meeting. Also discussed was Resolution 40-21, housekeeping resolution.

Legislative Committee

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 01-21

## ORDINANCE

Creating New Chapter 1415 "Approving the Right of city renters to pay-to-stay" of Part Fourteen "Housing Code" of the Codified Ordinances of The City of South Euclid, Ohio.

**Second Reading.**

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation **Moved by** Councilwoman Hardy, **Seconded by** Councilman Elston.

Councilwoman Hardy stated that she's not in favor of the legislation because case law has already been established, but also understands the opinions of her colleagues who are in favor of the legislation.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5; No = 1).

**Yes:** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilwoman Chanell Elston, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

**No:** Councilwoman Susan Hardy,

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The legislation has been approved.

Zoning & Planning Committee

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 10-21

## ORDINANCE

Amending Section 1607.05 "Fees; Changes in Business Occupancy" of Chapter 1607 "Certificate of Business Occupancy" of Part Sixteen "Business Maintenance Code" of the Codified Ordinances of The City of South Euclid, Ohio. **Second**

**Reading.**

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

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 11-21

## ORDINANCE

Amending Section 1510.10 "Permits and Fees" of Chapter 1510 "City of South Euclid Fire Prevention Code" of Part Fifteen "Fire Prevention Code" of the Codified Ordinances Of The City of South Euclid, Ohio. **Second Reading**

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

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The legislation has been approved.

**Legislation Requested by the Planning Commission**

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 39-21

## RESOLUTION

Granting a Conditional Use Permit to "Starbucks" to have a drive-thru and an outdoor patio and seating area at their facility, located at 4525 Mayfield Road in the City of South Euclid, Ohio. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation **Moved by** Council President Gray, **Seconded by** Councilman Tisdale.

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The legislation has been approved.

**Legislation Requested by the Mayor & Administration**

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 19-21

## ORDINANCE

Authorizing an agreement with the Chagrin Valley Dispatch Council (CVD), a regional council of governments, pursuant to Ohio law, to join CVD's joint police, fire and emergency medical services communications system for the dispatch of police, fire and ems services in and for multiple communities, and authorizing the city to approve the dissolution of the Heights Hillcrest Communications Center (HHCC). First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation **Moved by** Councilwoman Elston, **Seconded by** Councilman Tisdale.

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

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

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The Legislation has been approved.

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

- Adreanna Simms, 4524 Whitehall Road discussed the new Starbucks and that there is no chance of bastardizing the sales of other South Euclid Starbucks. Ms. Simms also commented on the condition of Whitehall Road and stated that she does expect the city to address the condition of the terrible street she lives on.
- Kathleen Johnson, 4537 Whitehall, spoke regarding the history of the road and its condition. Ms. Johnson noted that other adjacent streets have been resurfaced in recent years and the percentage of road levy funds that are allocated for repair.
- Eric Holland, 4530 Whitehall, also advocated for the repair of the road and stated that he has spent \$3,600 on repairs to his vehicle and that the condition brings down home values and that less traveled roadways have gotten resurfaced before Whitehall which is a primary roadway and that the residents on the street pay a lot of property taxes and the street should be resurfaced if not this year, then next year.
- Director Benjamin stated that he is in receipt of the petitions received from Whitehall Road residents.
- Andreanna Simms asked who the Ward 2 Councilperson is and when up for re-election? Director Benjamin responded.
- Mayor Welo reported that Whitehall Road is a #1 (meaning it is one of the worst rated) streets using the ODOT system of measuring our streets. Mayor Welo explained the rating system and the yearly process and stated that Whitehall would have been resurfaced this year, but was postponed because of the South Green Road project. Ms. Welo stated that pending any major infrastructure emergencies, Whitehall will be resurfaced next year. Mayor Welo stated that she understands how residents on the street feel and apologized that it could not be done sooner.
- Darius Foster, 4530 Whitehall, also spoke regarding the Whitehall project and stated that the patchworks has been spotty and asked what the City Engineer is going to do about it.
- City Engineer Blackley stated that the other adjacent streets were done first because they were part of major sewer main replacement projects and that the potholes are filled by the Service Department. Mr. Blackley stated that Whitehall is at the top of the list to be resurfaced next year.
- Councilwoman Goodman addressed Ms. Sims and stated that we can only repave 3-4 streets a year and many residents feel your pain on other streets. Ms. Goodman stated that Council has no say in which streets are done and that it is purely an engineering issue.
- Ms. Simms stated that she has worked for a congressperson and also was a deputy clerk for a city and that they can put pressure to get the project done, it is unacceptable, and she can live anywhere and not in South Euclid and Councilperson Goodman should "save" her comments. Ms. Goodman reported on the moral claim process open to residents. Councilwoman Gray stated that all council members and the Mayor hear the concerns of residents and reiterated that the Mayor will convene a meeting of staff to address the issue

and reiterated that the project would have been done this year if not for the South Green Project and we need to give the mayor enough time to develop the plan.

- Mr. Holland asked if Council is really listening? Mayor Welo again reiterated the process for repairs and that the Service Department is in the process of filling potholes.
- Joan Albro, 4500 Whitehall, also agreed with the issue with her street and also issues at 4506 and the new construction of a home that she says has destroyed her property.

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### Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Goodman thanked everyone that came to the grand opening of the Grove Kosher Grocery, and it has all kinds of wonderful food, including take-out. Ms. Goodman reminded residents that there's a primary election on August 3<sup>rd</sup> for the congressional seat and absentee ballots can be requested.
- Councilwoman Continenza gave an update on the Farmers' Market every Thursday from 4 pm – 8 pm at the corner of Mayfield and Green and also stated that she received great updates from the Mayor and administration regarding great park improvements being planned.
- Councilwoman Hardy reported that she has been appointed to the board of the South Euclid Historical Society and they are applying for grants and hopefully get an intern to scan and digitize unique south Euclid historic documents.
- Councilman Tisdale reported on a funeral held for one of his former players from Brush and stated that it puts in perspective how short life is and how we need to put in perspective what matters most to us and live happy and make sure others are happy.
- Councilwoman Elston stated that early voting is open now at the Board of Elections and that Garfield Memorial Church is having a back-to-school event on August 7 from 1 – 4 pm and is free to anyone,
- Councilwoman Gray reiterated the importance of voting and casting our ballot and that District 11 has been without a representative for a few months, this is a critical period for our region, and we need someone to advocate for our area. Ms. Gray asked residents to please exercise their right to vote. Councilwoman Gray also reported on the Covid-19 pandemic and asked residents to get vaccinated and that the impact of being inside and isolated from others has had a tragic effect on rates of suicides from people who are struggling to cope. Ms. Gray indicated that in recent months she has lost a nephew and a co-worker and that the stresses we see going on every day is real and we need to work together to fight Covid-19. Ms. Gray stated that City Council breaks during the month of August and that it's important for council to take the time off.

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### Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, **Action:** Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilwoman Elston, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Goodman

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

Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilwoman Chanell Elston, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

**Absent:** Council President Joe Frank

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:50 pm.

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Council President

Attest:

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Clerk of Council