

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, Councilwoman Chanell Elston, Council President Joe Frank, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

Approval of Minutes**October 25, 2021**

Action: Motion to Approve Minutes **Moved by** Council President Frank, **Seconded by** Councilman Elston.

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

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

The minutes have been approved.

Report of Mayor

- South Euclid Poet Laureate Doc Janning recited the evening's poem in commemoration of Thanksgiving.
- Mayor Welo asked for a moment of silence was observed for former City Councilman Stanley Stein who passed away recently at 92 year of age and served on City Council from 27 years until 1991.
- Mayor Welo reported that all directors in attendance
- Police Chief Joe Mays gave an update on the USDA's deer management program and reported that 90 deer have culled and that no more culling will take place this year, as the pilot sterilization project begins in December. Councilwoman Goodman asked if there is an update on the recent homicide of the elderly woman in Ward 4. Chief Mays responded that BCI is working on trace evidence collection and a reward for information is being offered by Crime Stoppers.
- City Engineer Blackley reported that the Oakmount Road Infrastructure Project is substantially completed, and the contractor will return in the spring to do seeding and mulching. Mr. Blackley stated that the County project on Green Road is now completely paved, and crews are working on the concrete pavement section between Urban Road and Anderson Road and expects completion by the end of the month.
- Community Services Director Benjamin reported on the upcoming Light Up Holiday Smiles lighting ceremony with First Energy that will take place on December 1st from 4 pm – 7 pm.
- Economic Development Director Love reported on the progress of the Leopardo project, and that City Hall construction should be completed this year, with Community Center improvements underway at the beginning of 2022.
- Mayor Welo thanked that staff for being flexible and working around the construction at City Hall and also thanked Finance Director Wendt for taking the time to train all directors on the new VIP budget software as the administration prepared to present the 2022 proposed budget.
- Mayor Welo reported on the opening of two new businesses that opened recently in South Euclid including Sprinkles and Milk and Jersey Mike's Subs at Cedar Center North and stated that shopping local is critical for the community.
- Mayor Welo reported that she has been on weekly calls regarding the pandemic and Covid-19 infections have been increasing and creating delays at local emergency rooms. The ER delays have resulted in several of our ambulances sitting at the hospital for several hours. Ms. Welo asked residents to consider getting vaccinated, getting the booster shot and consider wearing masks again.
- Mayor Welo congratulated Community Services Director Keith Benjamin for his work in winning the First Energy Light Up Holiday Smiles award for the City and that we beat out 16 other cities for the professionally designed holiday lighting display because of the City's efforts to promote diversity and inclusion.
- Mayor Welo wished residents a happy Thanksgiving and Happy Hanukkah to those who celebrate.

Report of Law Director. Law Director Lograsso reported on legislation on the agenda to approve the new fire union collective bargaining agreement and stated that the only change to the contract is the 2% cost of living pay increase for each of the three years.

School District Report There was no report.

Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Agenda Items

There were no public comments concerning agenda items.

Report of Council Committees

Safety Committee

Councilwoman Elston reported that the Safety Committee met to begin discussions on either banning or regulating fireworks in the City and that the Committee will continue meeting to discuss options.

Committee of the Whole

Council President Frank reported that the committee held its monthly meeting to discuss the budget and finances and that the City currently has a \$7 million general fund balance, with two more months remaining.

Legislation from the Planning Commission

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 58-21

RESOLUTION

Granting a Conditional Use Permit to "Apples Of Gold Daycare" to operate a daycare facility on the campus of the South Euclid United Church Of Christ, located at 4217 Bluestone Road in the City of South Euclid, Ohio. First Reading.

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

Councilwoman Gray stated that the Daycare is currently located in South Euclid but will be moving to a new location at the United Church of Christ.

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

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

The legislation has been approved.

Legislation Requested by the Mayor & Administration

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 59-21

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the appropriation of unappropriated funds in the General Fund in an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00 to Fund #101.6610.52362 to provide for wildlife management services with the United States Department of Agriculture. First Reading.

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

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

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

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 25-21

ORDINANCE

Authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement entered into with the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1065, for all full-time fire fighters covered by the collective bargaining agreement; and declaring an emergency. First Reading.

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

Councilwoman Goodman thanked the department for their wonderful work, especially during the pandemic.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilwoman Chanell Elston, Council President Joe Frank, 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:

- Rev. E. Regis Bunch, 4620 Bradford Road, stated that he is concerned about a ticket and summons he was given by the South Euclid Police Department and called into question the conduct of the police officers, who also were not wearing face masks to protect from Covid-19 during the interaction. Rev. Bunch stated that he was stopped for praying in his vehicle and would not give his name to the police officer and asked to speak to a supervisor. Mr. Bunch asked why the summons was not waivable and also why the police department was so aggressive in their enforcement. Rev. Bunch stated that he has submitted a public records request for additional information. Council President Frank stated that he is aware of the matter and that the public records request will be fulfilled shortly.

Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Elston wished residents a happy Thanksgiving. have a nice thanksgiving.
- Councilwoman Goodman reported on the upcoming South Euclid Humane Society's Pets Light Up Our Lives Lighting Ceremony on December 5th and also reported on an upcoming meeting with Director Benjamin and the new Executive Director of the County's Solid Waste Management District on a potential grant.
- Councilman Tisdale reported that Riley Parks a South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools math teacher passed away from Covid recently and sent his condolences to his family and school district staff. Mr. Tisdale wished residents a happy and safe Thanksgiving.
- Councilwoman Gray wished all a happy Thanksgiving and that even with the struggles with the Covid pandemic, we still have many things to be thankful for. Ms. Gray stated that Councilwoman Goodman's term on council is winding down and stated that she appreciates Ms. Goodman and thankful that she has become a major part of her life.
- Councilwoman Hardy thanked the community for their continued support of our schools and reported on an upcoming fundraiser for Adrian Elementary School. Ms. Hardy reported that there will be a retirement reception for Councilwoman Goodman on December 6th at 6:30 pm at the Community Center.
- Councilwoman Continenza reported that the city is working hard towards the implementation of the pilot deer management sterilization program with County Councilwoman Simon and Director Benjamin. Ms. Continenza wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- Council President Frank wished all a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday and a happy Hannukah for those that celebrate.

Adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of discussing pending litigation.

Action: Motion to Adjourn to executive session, **Moved by** Council President Frank, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Elston.

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

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

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:43 pm.

Adjourn

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

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

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

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council