

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
APRIL 5, 2010

Mayor Infeld called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mr. Steven D. Bullock
Mr. Kevin Patrick Murphy
Mr. Frank Consolo
Mr. Phillip Ertel
Mrs. Susan D. Pardee

Absent: Ms. Frankie B. Goldberg
Mr. Steven Sims

Also Present: Clerk of Council Nancy E. English
Finance Director Jennifer L. Esarey
Acting Law Director Dennis Nevar
Interim Finance Director Anthony L. Ianiro
Deputy Chief of Police James Rohal
Fire Chief John Pitchler
Building Commissioner David Menn
Service Foreman John Pucella

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MR. BULLOCK to excuse the absence of Ms. Goldberg and Mr. Sims. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of the regular meeting held on March 15, 2010

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the March 15, 2010 regular meeting.

MOTION BY MR. CONSOLO, SECONDED BY MR. BULLOCK to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 15, 2010. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Minutes of the special meeting held on March 23, 2010

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the March 23, 2010 special meeting.

MOTION BY MR. BULLOCK, SECONDED BY MR. CONSOLO to approve the minutes of the special meeting held March 23, 2010. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Reports and Communications from the Mayor and the taking of action:

Mayor Susan K. Infeld reported that Jennifer L. Esarey was appointed Finance Director effective March 29, 2010. Mayor Infeld announced that as Finance Director, Ms. Esarey will also serve as the Registrar for vital statistic in the City. Although, Ms. Esarey was administered the oath of office on her first official day, Mayor Infeld performed a ceremonial swearing-in. Ms. Esarey introduced her mother, Mrs. Kathy Esarey, who was present in the audience.

Mayor Infeld announced that April has been declared as “Safe Digging Month” in Ohio by Governor Ted Strickland. She mentioned that everyone should call 811 before digging to avoid damaging underground pipelines, wires and cables.

Agenda Items:

A. Resolution No. 2010-22 Honoring the Gesu Boys Basketball Team upon winning the 2010 Catholic Youth Organization Championship

Resolution No. 2010-22, which honored the Eighth Grade Boys Basketball Team of Gesu School for winning the 2010 Catholic Youth Organization Championship, was read by the Council members and presented by the Mayor to coaches: Chris Salata, Bill Kern, Matt Salata, and Brian McLaughlin and teammates: J.P. Volpe, Johnny Gannon, Ethan Barham, Tyler Delhees, Julian Alston, Michael Volpe, John Cirillo, Emmett Rhoa and Jacob Turay.

MOTION BY MR. CONSOLO, SECONDED BY MRS. PARDEE to approve the passage of Resolution No. 2010-22. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

B. Resolution No. 2010-19 Supporting the Cuyahoga County Health & Human Services Levy

Resolution No. 2010-19 supports the renewal of the Cuyahoga County Health & Human Services Levy and advocates passage on Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

MOTION BY MR. BULLOCK, SECONDED BY MR. ERTEL to approve the passage of Resolution No. 2010-19. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

C. Resolution No. 2010-20 Authorizing the City to participate in a consortium to invite proposals for recycling processing services

Resolution No. 2010-20 authorizes the City of University Heights to participate in a consortium with the City of Beachwood, City of Cleveland Heights, City of Independence, City of Lyndhurst, Village of Moreland Hills, City of Pepper Pike, City of Shaker Heights, City of South Euclid, City of Warrensville Heights and the Village of Woodmere to invite proposals for recycling processing services. The resolution also authorizes the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District to develop the request for proposal documents and review and make a recommendation as to the successful contractor.

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MR. ERTEL to approve the passage of Resolution No. 2010-20 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

D. Resolution No. 2010-21 Supporting Issue 1 for Jobs

Resolution No. 2010-21 supports the renewal of Issue 1 for Jobs and advocates its passage on Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

MOTION BY MR. ERTEL, SECONDED BY MR. BULLOCK to approve the passage of Resolution No. 2010-21. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

E. Ordinance No. 2010-23 Amending Section 3 and Schedule A to Ordinance No. 2008-41 by freezing the annual base pay for all non-exempted employees

Ordinance No. 2010-23 amends Section 3 and Schedule A of Ordinance No. 2008-41 by freezing the annual base pay for all non-exempted full-time employees at the July 1, 2009 rate of compensation.

Councilman Bullock inquired as to the impact this action would have on the budget. Mayor Infeld responded that the City will save between \$25,000 to \$26,000 by having directors and fifteen (15) full-time employees forgo their scheduled raises.

Councilman Ertel stated that it is very difficult times and everyone is contributing in some way. He thanked the employees for their assistance in making it easier to continue the existing city services. Councilman Consolo concurred.

MOTION BY MR. ERTEL, SECONDED BY MR. MURPHY to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2010-23 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

F. Ordinance No. 2010-24 Amending Ordinance No. 2007-04 by freezing the 2010 season pay scale for all Recreation Department personnel at the 2009 season pay scale

Ordinance No. 2010-24 amends Ordinance No. 2007-04 by freezing the 2010 season pay scale for all Recreation Department personnel at the 2009 season pay scale, unless otherwise required to be raised in order to comply with minimum wage requirements. Finance Director Jennifer L. Esarey reported that the Ohio minimum wage is \$7.30 per hour. She mentioned that the staff has not been hired for this year, but in reviewing last year's records there were approximately twenty (20) employees who were paid under minimum wage.

Councilman Murphy stated that the Recreation Committee will review the shifts schedule at the pool to determine the safest and most cost effective method to man the shifts. He noted that the committee would meet prior to the summer recreation season.

MOTION BY MR. MURPHY, SECONDED BY MR. ERTEL to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2010-24 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted "aye." On roll call, on passage, all voted "aye."

G. A motion to repair the floor of the packer box of rubbish truck 21-10

Service Foreman John Pucella reported that holes have developed in the floor of the packer box of rubbish truck 21-10, a 1991 Mac, and garbage is spilling onto the street. The estimate for Waste Removal Company to repair the truck was \$11,097.71. Mr. Pucella noted that the department has six (6) rubbish trucks, all of which are in service daily for rubbish pick up, yard waste pick up and recycling.

Mr. Murphy inquired if this expense was a budgeted item and why a second quote was not obtained. Mayor Infeld stated that the expenditure was not built into the budget; it is an emergency repair. She also noted that Mr. Vild has used Waste Removal in the past for other rubbish truck repairs and felt the estimate was the lowest and best.

Mr. Ertel inquired if the department could maintain services with five (5) trucks. Mr. Pucella noted that one service would lack, probably yard waste pick up.

Mr. Consolo asked how long the truck had been down and how long it would take to repair. Mr. Pucella replied that the truck had been down for a week and repairs can be made as soon as approval is granted. Mr. Consolo preferred to see a second estimate due to the estimated labor costs.

Mr. Murphy noted that the truck was purchased used in 2001 for \$56,000 and inquired as to the cost of a new truck. Mr. Pucella stated that a new rubbish truck would cost approximately \$170,000. Mr. Murphy suggested sharing the cost of the purchase.

Mr. Bullock stated that the City has to start purchasing new equipment for the Service Department and added that it would be practical to put the funds toward a new truck, but he was in favor of repairing the truck. Mr. Ertel recommended repairing the truck so that all services could be maintained.

MOTION BY MR. ERTEL to approve the repair of the floor of the packer box of rubbish truck 21-10. Motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Infeld stated that the Service Director will be instructed to obtain a second quote and the item will be placed on the agenda of the next council meeting.

H. Motion to hold an executive session immediately following this regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation and real estate matters

An executive session was not required.

Directors' Reports:

Finance Director Jennifer L. Esarey did not have a report, but mentioned that she looks forward to working with everyone.

Fire Chief John Pitchler reported that the Fire Department has been awarded a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the amount of \$81,880 to purchase state of the art smoke detectors, which detect two different types of smoke. He noted that the funds should purchase approximately 4,000 smoke detectors, which would service approximately 1,000 homes.

Committee Reports:

Civic Information Committee Chairman Frank Consolo did not have a report, but he mentioned that the website has been updated. He also complimented the new design of the City's newsletter. Mayor Infeld stated that she is still working on the website update. She also noted that hundred of dollars were saved by doing the newsletter in-house.

Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Susan D. Pardee reported that she will schedule a committee meeting at the end of April. She shared information with Mayor Infeld on ESOP, an organization that supports individuals facing foreclosure. Mrs. Pardee suggested that the information be disseminated to the community so that people can receive help.

Recreation Committee Chairman Kevin Patrick Murphy reported that he will schedule committee meeting prior to the start of the summer recreation season.

Service and Utilities Committee Chairman Phillip Ertel reported that his committee will review the Service Department's truck situation.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan K. Infeld, Mayor

Nancy E. English, Clerk of Council