Mayor Infeld called the special meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Roll Call: Present: Ms. Frankie B. Goldberg
Mr. Steven D. Bullock
Mr. Kevin Patrick Murphy
Mr. Frank Consolo
Mr. Steven Sims
Mrs. Susan D. Pardee

Absent: Mr. Phillip Ertel

Also Present: Law Director Kenneth J. Fisher
Clerk of Council Nancy E. English
Finance Director Jennifer Esarey
Chief of Police Steven Hammett
Fire Chief John Pitchler
Building Commissioner David Menn

MOTION BY MS. GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY MRS. PARDEE to excuse the absence of Mr. Ertel. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Mayor Infeld mentioned that she was not aware of the reason for Mr. Ertel’s absence.

Agenda Items:

A. Ordinance No. 2011-48 Granting the petition of John Carroll University to change the name of North Park Boulevard to John Carroll Boulevard (2nd Reading)

Ordinance No. 2011-48, which was presented on first reading on August 10, 2011, grants the petition of John Carroll University to change the name of North Park Boulevard to John Carroll Boulevard.

Dora Pruce, Director of Government and Community Relations, John Carroll University (JCU), stated that the request of the University as submitted in a petition on August 4, 2011 is to rename North Park Boulevard between Fairmount Circle and Carroll Boulevard to John Carroll Boulevard.

Mayor Infeld noted that she spoke with Mayor Earl Leiken of the City of Shaker Heights and that city’s Legal Counsel, William Gruber, regarding the renaming and they did not have any objections. She added that the Shaker Heights Law Department is in the process of drafting an ordinance for the name change.

Law Director Kenneth J. Fisher mentioned that the municipal boundary line between the cities of Shaker Heights and University Heights runs through the middle of the North Park Brew N Bistro in the Fairmount Circle shopping plaza. He stated that this creates an unusual situation in that the only portion of the street that would change would be the portion from North Park Brew N Bistro to the end of the Pizzazz parking lot. He added that the portion of the street west of North Park Brew N Bistro is in Shaker Heights.

Mr. Fisher stated that he spoke with Maria Alfaro-Lopez, General Counsel for John Carroll University, about the necessity to coordinate the name change with the City of Shaker Heights. He noted that even though University Heights is acting separately, the Council of the City of Shaker Heights would have to follow the same process per State statute in addressing the name change. Ms. Pruce mentioned that the University should be receiving a letter from Shaker Heights today as to the process and timing. She noted that Shaker Heights did not have many concerns, but one was notification to the businesses in the plaza. Ms. Pruce commented that the businesses have been notified and there have been no complaints. Mr. Fisher mentioned that he received a call from a representative of the U.S. Post Office who expressed concern that everyone be notified. Mr. Fisher recommended that when the street name is actually changed that it be done after the City of Shaker Heights has acted and before the U.S. Post Office is formally notified.
Councilman Bullock stated that the process with Shaker Heights should not delay University Heights’ decision. He added that the City has made its concerns known to the University. Mr. Bullock noted that since the City does not have a problem with the change, the Council should move forward.

Councilman Consolo inquired if the ordinance should be contingent upon the City of Shaker Heights approving the name change as well. Mr. Fisher responded that he thought about that, but did not think it was necessary. He added that he amended the ordinance to add an emergency clause so that the ordinance would take effect immediately because the University is interested in effectuating the name change as part of its 125th Anniversary.

Councilman Sims commented that coordination between communities is important and inquired as to why the University had not requested formal action from the City of Shaker Heights earlier. Ms. Pruce replied that originally they thought they only needed approval from University Heights until Mr. Fisher brought up the fact that part of North Park Boulevard is in Shaker Heights. It was then that they realized that the name change request had to be made in both cities.

To the question of contingency, Councilman Sims stated that he would not want part of the street to be named North Park Boulevard and another part to be John Carroll Boulevard due to the short length of the street. He inquired what would have to be done to place a contingency on the table. Mr. Fisher replied that John Carroll University has represented that they will proceed with the name change request with the City of Shaker Heights before the U.S. Post Office is notified so he was not concerned. Councilman Consolo commented that if Shaker Heights does not approve the name change, the ordinance could be repealed. Councilman Sims and Councilman Bullock agreed.

MOTION BY MR. CONSOLO, SECONDED BY MR. BULLOCK to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2011-48 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

B. Ordinance No. 2011-50 Authorizing a contract between the City and the Ohio Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association

Ordinance No. 2011-50 authorizes a collective bargaining agreement between the City of University Heights and the Ohio Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association (Patrolmen, Sergeants, and Lieutenants Units) setting forth the rate of compensation and benefits for members of the bargaining unit for a period of three (3) years commencing July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.

The City’s Labor Counsel, Patrick J. Hoban, Zashin & Rich Co., L.P.A., summarized the negotiated agreement. There will be a wage freeze for the first two (2) years of the contract and a negotiation reopener in the third year for annual compensation only. Effective November 1, 2011, employees will pay a percentage of the combined premium costs for group health insurance and dental insurance at 6% the first year, 7% the second year and 9% the third year. The health insurance plan design changes which increases deductibles, co-insurance and other incidental costs are identical to the Service Department’s union contract. All prior limits on employee out-of-pocket costs for out-of-network service were deleted from the contract.

Mr. Hoban noted that in order to have one health care plan design for all employees of the City, a “me too” clause as to health care only was agreed upon with the Service Department.

Councilman Consolo inquired as to the savings with regard to health care. Mr. Hoban noted that the first year savings would be approximately $100,000 on the premium payment. He added that the plan design changes would generate 15% - 18% potential reductions in premiums.

Councilman Consolo inquired if an executive session was necessary to discuss the details of the contract in regards to the savings based on the Service Department’s union contract. Mr. Hoban advised that the Council go into executive session to discuss the details.

MOTION BY MR. CONSOLO, SECONDED BY MR. MURPHY to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters related to collective bargaining agreement negotiations. On roll call, all voted “aye.”
Following the executive session, the public meeting reconvened. Law Director Kenneth J. Fisher noted that there was a motion to adjourn from executive session and the meeting was back in public session.

MOTION BY MR. CONSOLO, SECONDED BY MS. GOLDBERG to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2011-50 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

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

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Susan K. Infeld, Mayor

Nancy E. English, Clerk of Council