MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS FEBRARY 3, 2014

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Susan Pardee

Ms. Nancy E. English Mr. Mark Wiseman Mrs. Adele Zucker Mr. Steven Sims Ms. Pamela Cameron

Absent:

Mr. Phillip Ertel

Also Present: Law Director Anthony Coyne

Clerk of Council Kelly M. Thomas Finance Director Larry Heiser Police Chief Steven Hammett Service Director Jeffrey Pokorny

Mayor Infeld remarked on the deaths of the four Toledo, Ohio firefighters and on the behalf of the University Heights Fire Fighters and the entire City of University Heights Mayor Infeld recognized their years of service, their dedication to their careers and the communities they served. Mayor Infeld further apologized for any distraction over the placement of a sign (banner) that was meant to honor their memory that may have detracted from honoring the fallen fighters, particularly their family members.

MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MRS. CAMERON to excuses the absence of Mr. Ertel. On roll call, all voted "aye."

Pledge of Allegiance

Black History Program

Councilwoman English welcomed everyone to the City's Black History Month Program. Councilwoman stated that the program would tell the origin of Black History Month and the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who's nonviolent protest for civil rights not only helped Afro Americans but all Americans. Councilwoman English gave a brief report on the history of Black History Month and introduced Mr. Wayne Dawson, Co-Anchor for Fox 8 News in the Morning.

Mr. Dawson commended the City for honoring Black History Month and presented a moving speech on Black History. Mr. Dawson remarked that University Heights is a glowing example of how far the Nation has come in making strides in Afro Americans and people of all races. Nothing is beyond the realm of possibilities, especially when it comes to the young people of today. Mr. Dawson closed by saying "we are our brother's keeper and if we can help one person to realize Martin Luther King's dream, then we have done our part - are we ready for the next chapter of Black History, what will our legacy be, what will our history be, how will we affect tomorrow's history, it's up to us today – that is what Black History is all about."

Councilwoman English thanked Mr. Dawson and introduced the students from Mrs. Mendelsohn's 3rd grade class from Gesu who recited original poems and poetry they wrote to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Councilwoman English thanked Mrs. Mendelshon's students and introduced the Award Winning Wiley Challenge Choir who is under the direction of Mr. Glenn Brackens.

The Wiley Challenge Choir sang a selection of music beginning with the Afro American National Anthem.

Councilwoman English thanked everyone for coming.

Mayor Infeld presented a proclamation to the Wiley Challenge Choir and Mr. Brackens. Mayor Infeld noted that it is a bitter sweet moment because Wiley Middle School will be closing at the end of the current school year. The Challenge Choir has provided years of entertainment not only to the community but nationwide and have won awards all around the Country.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 21, 2014

There were no corrections to the January 21, 2014 minutes.

MOTION BY MS. ENGLISH, SECONDED BY MRS. CAMERON to approve the minutes of January 21, 2014 as presented. On roll call, all voted "aye," except Mrs. Pardee, who "passed."

Comments from Audience

Mr. Kyle Wise, 2319 Warrensville Center Road and a student in his senior at John Carroll University. Mr. Wise stated that John Carroll University is an integral part of the University Heights community and many of the students live in off campus housing. Mr. Wise also noted that he felt it was extremely important to students and the community that the students and John Carroll work with the resident of University Heights to coexist in such a way that families can raise their children in a safe and pleasant environment. Mr. Wise noted his belief that both John Carroll and University Heights could benefit from a program which would provide the residents with a contact person at the JCU to call in the event of complaints for the conduct of JCU students while using off campus housing that way residents would not have to call the University Heights Police Department, which could possibility damage a student's future.

Mr. Coyne noted that Mr. Wise's suggestions would require an Ordinance and that once students are off the premises of the University persons are bound by the laws of the State of Ohio and the laws of the City of University Heights. Mr. Coyne noted that there are diversion/first offender programs.

Comments from Mayor

Mayor Infeld reported the following:

- The park plan concept has been developed by the architects and that the Citizen's Committee held four public meetings for discussion of various park features and the overall look of the park. Mayor Infeld stated that the concept plan will be in various places in the City from time to time and that she will inform everyone when the next meeting will take place. Mayor Infeld remarked that this is not the final plan.
- > Council Chambers has been painted and the new carpet is on order from Marshall Carpet.
- > The January newsletter is being distributed late this month due to the cold weather but is out for delivery by the Service Department this week.
- > Rubbish collection was not suspended during the cold weather period because the Service Director redistributed the labor so that rubbish crews could be rotated more frequently for safety.

Agenda Items:

A. Black History Program.

Due to the guest speaker and other presenters the Black History Program was held at the onset of the meeting.

B. Ordinance 2014-02 Appropriating Funds for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of University Heights, Ohio for the period commencing January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014 (on first reading).

Vice Mayor Pardee stated that Council as a Committee of the Whole met on December 3, 2014 to review the 2014 budget and that on January 23, 2014 the Finance Committee along with the Finance Advisory Committee met to review the same. Vice Mayor Pardee noted that just prior to tonight's Council Meeting the Finance Committee met a final time in regards to the city's budget for 2014 and voted unanimously in favor of presenting the 2014 budget to the full body of council for passage.

C. Ordinance 2014-03 Amending Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2011-07 by updating Annual Compensation Rate of Specified Employees (on first reading)

Mayor Infeld reported that Ordinance 2014-03 pertains to Administrative positions including the Clerk of Council and the salary ranges of those positions.

Ordinance 2014-03 was placed on first reading.

D. Motion to approve purchase of 2014 Pick-up Truck for the Service Department.

Mr. Pokorny stated that this vehicle will replace the 2001 pickup truck which is currently being used for special pickups and the plowing of various dead end streets, small intersections and public lots.

Mr. Pokorny remarked that he didn't believe that 2001 pickup truck warranted repairing in its current condition and that it was scheduled for replacement in 2014. The purchase of a new pickup truck was requested and appropriated for 2014.

Mr. Sims asked how the state purchase coop worked and if the various bids are solicited and then those prices are provided to the city?

Mr. Pokorny explained that once a year the state goes out for bids from around the state and then awards the contract for the best price.

Mr. Sims asked if the was any additional cost to the pick-up truck?

Mr. Pokorny stated the only additional cost is the delivery charge of \$265.00

Mrs. Cameron asked if the new pick-up truck would be used for snow removal as well.

Mr. Pokorny replied that yes, it will be used for snow removal and also for special pickups.

MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR PARDEE to approve purchase of 2014 Pick-up Truck for the Service Department in the amount of \$26,117.50. On roll call, all voted "aye."

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

Mayor Infeld requested a motion to hold an executive session immediately following this regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

MOTION BY VICE MAYOR PARDEE, SECONDED BY MS. ENGLISH to hold an executive session immediately following this regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. On roll call, all voted "aye."

Directors' Reports

Finance Director Larry Heiser thanked the Finance Committee for meeting to get the 2014 budget on the agenda.

Service Department Director Jeffrey Pokorny provided an update on the usage of road salt and the current state of snow plowing. The season started early this winter season with the October 24th ice storm. There have been 30 events that have required overtime plowing and salting. And the City has used approximately 1,000 tons of road salt. Mr. Pokorny noted that the city orders salt via the State of Ohio contract and that Morton Salt is the supplier of that salt. Mr. Pokorny continued to explain how in light of Morton Salt no delivering order salt in a timely fashion and how the city is handling the issue by working with Cleveland Heights by borrowing salt and replacing it to Cleveland Heights upon receiving from Morton Salt.

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Mr. Sims expressed a thank you to the City of Cleveland Heights for being so accommodating and asked Mr. Coyne if there was any legal concern in terms of how the salt is being delivered by Morton Salt relative to the contract the city has through the State.

Mr. Coyne stated that he didn't think the issue has reached a level of concern for the City to take any legal action at this time. But will monitor the issue going forward.

City Engineer Joseph Ciuni report that Dominion East Ohio Gas will be replacing gas lines on Cedar Road from Miramar Blvd. all the way to Legacy Village in Beachwood. Dominion will be replacing an 8" and a 30" gas line in the treelawns and under the sidewalks. Mr. Ciuni stated that during the construction one lane of traffic on Cedar Road will be unavailable and that the city has already requested that the contractor does the work that would go across the Green Road intersection during night. This will be the only time construction would be done at night. The project will last 3 to 4 months. The city will receive new sidewalks and drive aprons for the ones they have to drive through.

There were no other director reports.

Standing Committee Reports

Civic Information Committee Chairman Nancy English reported that she will be scheduling a Civic Information Committee meeting on Thursday, February 13 at 7pm in the Conference Room.

Finance Committee Chairwoman Susan Pardee reported that Finance Committee is looking to expand the Financial Advisory Committee. Vice Mayor Pardee asked member of council to inform any member of the Finance Committee if they know a resident of University Heights who is a CPA with financial experience, especially municipal experience. Mayor Infeld stated she will also include a notice in the city's newsletter.

Governmental Affairs Chairman Mark Wiseman thanked Councilwoman English for arranging the Black History program.

Mayor Infeld stated Council would enter into Executive Sessions at this time and return to open session at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

Council resumed its regular meeting.

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

MOTION BY VICE MAYOR PARDEE, SECONDED BY MR. WISEMAN to adjourn the meeting. On roll call, all voted "aye."

Susan K Infeld Mayor

Kelly M. Thomas, Clerk of Council