Mayor Infeld called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Ms. Frankie B. Goldberg  
Mr. Steven Sims (not a roll call)  
Mrs. Susan D. Pardee  
Mr. Phillip Ertel  
Mrs. Pamela Cameron  
Mr. Thomas A. Cozzens  
Mrs. Adele H. Zucker

Also Present: Law Director Kenneth J. Fisher  
Clerk of Council Nancy E. English  
Interim Finance Director Anthony L. Ianiro  
Chief of Police Steven Hammett  
Interim Fire Chief David Rodney  
Service Director Robert Jamieson  
Building Commissioner David Menn  
City Engineer Joseph Ciuni

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 3, 2012

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting of January 3, 2012.

MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MR. COZZENS to approve the minutes of January 3, 2012 as presented. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 9, 2012

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the special meeting of January 9, 2012.

MOTION BY MS. GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY MRS. PARDEE to approve the minutes of January 9, 2012 as presented. On roll call, all voted “aye,” except Mr. Cozzens, who “passed.”

Comments from the Audience:

There were no comments from the audience.

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

Mayor Infeld reported that the State Auditor’s Office will bid out the City’s 2011 audit. Interim Finance Director Anthony L. Ianiro noted that the State Auditor’s Office has the option to either audit the City or to bid it out. They have chosen to bid out the audit for years 2011-2014. The 2011 audit will start in May or June. Mr. Ianiro mentioned that the Council will be kept informed as the process moves forward.

Mayor Infeld reported that Emergency Services Consulting International will begin the Fire Service Feasibility Study during the second week of February. The company will start by reviewing how the fire departments in University Heights and Shaker Heights operate. The consultant will be in University Heights on February 8 and 9, 2012.

Mayor Infeld reported that she attended a meeting of the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) held at Tri-C Corporate College regarding the Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF) program. The LGIF provides financial assistance through grants and loans to political subdivisions for innovative projects which regionalize government services.
Agenda Items:

Councilman Sims entered the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

A. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Program presented by Councilwoman Susan D. Pardee

Councilwoman Pardee announced that the MLK program will be presented by students of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, which is in keeping with Dr. King’s philosophy as indicated in his quote, “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education.” She commented that the young people participating in the program are examples of intelligence plus character.

- Wiley Middle School Challenge Choir

Councilwoman Pardee introduced the Wiley Middle School Challenge Choir under the direction of Mr. Glenn Brackens. She noted that excellence is an expectation for students who join the Challenge Choir. They must maintain a healthy GPA and model self-discipline and integrity. Students in the choir are ambassadors of the CH-UH school system and have won first and second place in classical, gospel and show choir competitions and the Music Showcase Festival Award. The choir has performed on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., at the Apollo in New York City, the Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia (home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.).

The Challenge Choir opened with a medley of patriotic songs, “The Star Spangled Banner,” “God Bless America” and “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.” The second selection performed by the choir was the gospel song “God Favored Me” by Hezekiah Walker. The third selection was an authentic African song sang initially during Apartheid in South Africa as a celebration of life even though the struggle continued.

- Oleaser Johnson, Cleveland Heights High School student, award-winning essayist

Councilwoman Pardee introduced Oleaser Johnson, a Mosaic student at Cleveland Heights High School and a University Heights resident. Ms. Johnson is a well rounded student who excels academically in honors classes and is also an athlete and musician, participating in several musical groups at Heights High. She has integrity and an ethical manner, is well liked and respected and is an inspiration to others. She won an essay contest at the City of Cleveland Heights’ Celebration of the Life and Legacy of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 2011.

Miss Johnson read her award-winning essay, titled “Keeping the Dream Alive.” The essay focused on what Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech means to her. The portion of the speech that stood out most to her was the sentence, “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” For her, this sentence meant a stop to discrimination because of race and also an end to stereotypes. She pointed out that everyone should take the opportunity to get to know one another and not make assumptions. She encouraged a non-prejudicial way of thinking in order to keep Dr. King’s dream alive.

Councilwoman Pardee thanked the students for participating in the program. Councilman Sims stated that he appreciates the program which the City sponsors every year. He was inspired by the young people in the choir, who do an excellent job every year, and was impressed with the content of Miss Johnson’s essay. Mayor Infeld also thanked the choir members, Mr. Brackens and Miss Johnson for taking part in the program.

B. Dave Stiles, owner of McDonald’s, introducing his business concept

Mr. Dave Stiles introduced himself as the owner/operator of the new McDonald’s at 2224 Warrensville Center Road. He has been with McDonald’s for 35 years, starting as a teenager at age 16. This will be his fifth restaurant. His other restaurants are in Avon, Avon Lake, Brooklyn and Parma. He is also co-op president of the McDonald’s Advertising Association of Northeast Ohio, which represents 255 McDonald’s in Northeast Ohio.
Mr. Stiles announced that the restaurant will open on February 8, 2012 with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2012. He noted that 75 employees have been hired, 80% of which are residents of University Heights, 15% are South Euclid residents and 5% are from other communities. He mentioned that 60 of the newly hired employees are currently working in his other restaurants so they will already be trained when the restaurant opens. The other 15 employees will start about a month after opening. Councilman Ertel appreciated the fact that the majority of the employees were from University Heights.

Mr. Stiles stated that the energy efficient restaurant will have 85 seats many of them booths. There will be free Wi-Fi. There will be a double drive-through for better service. With the project, green space at the site will increase from 3% to 26%. Landscaping will planted in the spring. The hours of operation will be 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. The residents on Bushnell and Lansdale Roads will be invited to the restaurant before it opens.

Mr. Stiles also noted that he donates money to the Ronald McDonald House Charities and the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland.

C. Motion to advertise for bids for painting of the slide at the municipal pool

Service Director Robert Jamieson reported that the paint on the metal structure of pool slide is peeling and requires painting. He noted that this project will be separate from the pool painting and will include sanding and painting.

MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MRS. CAMERON to advertise for bids for painting of the slide at the municipal pool. On roll call, all voted “aye”.

D. 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:

Under the Finance Director’s report, Mayor Infeld reported that she and Interim Finance Director Anthony L. Ianiro will begin conducting interviews for a new Finance Director next week.

Interim Fire Chief David Rodney reported that Firefighter Paul Nees, who was injured in a house fire, has returned to work.

Building Commissioner David Menn reported that the Cuyahoga County Land Bank is now the owner of the house at 3578 Silsby Road. The Land Bank will submit a schedule to demolish the house. Council will be kept informed of the process. Councilman Ertel asked if the property will be deeded back to the City after demolition. Mr. Menn answered in the affirmative. Mayor Infeld added that there is an agreement with the Land Bank whereby they will take possession of properties, take them off the property tax rolls, and either rehabilitate the properties and sell them to families or demolish the structures if they cannot be renovated.

Councilman Sims inquired if a property on Traymore Road has been designated for demolition. Mr. Menn knew of no such designation.

Under the Engineer’s report, Councilman Sims inquired how the City determines which roads will be repaired. City Engineer Joseph Ciuni responded that he has a list of all streets in the city ranked 1-10 in order of priority, 1 being high. The list is reviewed every spring and the streets are re-ranked and presented to the Council. He added that after a budget is establish for street improvements, the number 1 ranked streets are repaired first. Councilman Sims hoped that Lansdale Road is on the list as a top priority for repair. Mr. Ciuni stated that Lansdale Road is eligible for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. He noted that the City applied for funding in 2011, but was unsuccessful. The City intends to apply again in April. Mr. Sims would like the street on the list to be repaired even if the City is unsuccessful for CDBG funds.

Councilman Sims inquired as to the status of the letter to residents on the streets that had water line replacements informing them that tree lawn restoration will be addressed in the spring. Mr. Ciuni replied that to his knowledge the letters were delivered last week. However, he will follow-up.
Committee Reports:

**Civic Information Committee** Chairman Susan D. Pardee announced that a committee meeting has been scheduled for Monday, January 30, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Councilman Pardee also announced that Superintendent Douglas G. Heuer will present the State of the Schools address on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the social room at Cleveland Heights High.

**Finance Committee** Chairman Thomas A. Cozzens reported that he will schedule a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Finance Advisory Committee.

Mayor Infeld stated that she and the Finance Director are in the process of developing the 2012 budget.

**Recreation Committee** Chairman Pamela Cameron reported that she will be familiarizing herself with the items on the committee’s agenda. Mayor Infeld mentioned that she will be talking to all committee chairs about their agendas.

**Safety Committee** Chairman Frankie B. Goldberg did not have a committee report, but she thanked Councilwoman Pardee for organizing the MLK program.

Vice Mayor Goldberg asked Clerk of Council Nancy E. English to outline the process of advertising for the position of Law Director. Ms. English reported that the job posting for Law Director was advertised in Plain Dealer on Sunday, January 15, 16 and 18, 2012 and will be posted on cleveland.com for 30 days. The ad will run in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal on January 23 and 30, 2012 and on the association’s website. It will also run in the Ohio State Bar Association Report during the month of February as well as on its website. The job posting has also been placed on the City’s website. The application deadline is February 13, 2012.

Mayor Infeld also thanked Councilwoman Pardee for coordinating an outstanding MLK program.

Mayor Infeld asked the Clerk of Council to report on the Civil Service testing for positions within the Police and Fire Departments. Ms. English reported that the Civil Service Commission met on December 20, 2012 and authorized five (5) civil service examinations to be given for positions within the Police and Fire Departments.

The entrance exams will be administered first. The City started accepting applications for Patrolman 3rd Grade on January 17, 2012. Applications will be accepted from the first 100 individuals to apply until the deadline of Friday, February 3, 2012. The written exam will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at Wiley Middle School. The physical agility test will be given to those applicants who pass the written exam and is scheduled for March 24, 2012 at Wiley Middle School.

The next examination will be the entrance exam for Firefighter 3rd Grade. The candidates for Firefighter must pass the physical agility test given by Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) with a time of 4.5 minutes in order to apply to take the written exam. The City actually advertised for the firefighter exam first in order to give potential candidates the opportunity to take Tri-C’s next physical agility test, which is scheduled for Sunday, February 19, 2012. The City will accept applications starting Monday, February 27, 2012 through Friday, March 9, 2012. Again, the City will accept applications from the first 100 individuals to apply. The written exam will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at Wiley Middle School.

After the entrance exams have been completed, the promotional exams for Police and Fire will be administered. Ms. English reported that she is still in the process of scheduling the promotional exams. However, she noted the Ohio Fire Chiefs’ Association will administer both the written exam and the assessment center for the position of Lieutenant within the Fire Department. And, the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police Advisory Services will administer the written exam and the assessment center for the positions of Sergeant and Lieutenant within the Police Department.
Councilman Sims inquired as to how the entrance exams were advertised. Ms. English replied that the exams were advertised in the Plain Dealer, Sun Press and the Call and Post. Mr. Sims inquired if the Chief of Police or Fire Chief were aware of opportunities to do outreach in communities where the City may be under-represented in the safety forces in order to encourage applications from under-represented populations. Chief of Police Hammett replied that the most effective means is by word or mouth. The police officers have been encouraged to spread the word about the exams. He added that the police academy training facilities are also notified. Interim Fire Chief David Rodney was willing to entertain any suggestions for outreach. Interim Law Director Kenneth J. Fisher stated that it is the City’s mission and objective to ensure that there is diversity within all departments of the City.

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

Mayor Susan K. Infeld

Nancy E. English, Clerk of Council