

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS  
JANUARY 20, 2009

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

Roll Call: Present: Mrs. Adele H. Zucker  
Ms. Frankie B. Goldberg  
Mr. Peter R. Bernardo  
Mr. Kevin Patrick Murphy  
Mr. Frank Consolo  
Mr. Steven Sims

Absent: Mr. Steven D. Bullock

Also Present: Clerk of Council Nancy E. English  
Law Director Kenneth Fisher  
Finance Director Arman R. Ochoa  
Fire Chief John Pitchler  
Chief of Police Gary Stehlik  
Community Coordinator Walter Stinson  
Building Commissioner David Menn  
Service Director Christopher Vild  
City Engineer Joseph R. Ciuni

**MOTION BY MS. GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY MR. MURPHY to excuse the absence of Mr. Bullock. On roll call, all voted “aye.”**

A moment of silent reflection was held regarding the historic moment of today in the change of presidency to The Honorable Barack Obama and the freedom that we enjoy in the United States of America.

**MOTION BY MR. BERNARDO, SECONDED BY MR. SIMS to unanimously approved a resolution of congratulations President Barack Obama, the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America, to wish him well in his next four years in office, and to pledge the City’s support regardless of political affiliation. On roll call, all voted “aye.”**

Minutes of the regular meeting held on January 5, 2009

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of January 5, 2009.

**MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MR. SIMS to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2008 meeting. On roll call, all voted “aye.”**

Agenda Items:

**A. Motion to advertise for bids for 2009 Catch Basin, Inlet and Main Line Sewer Cleaning and Filming**

Service Director Christopher Vild reported that the City normally just bids the catch basin and inlet cleaning, but due to mandates by the Ohio and Federal EPA under the Storm Water Phase 2 regulation to film and identify illicit connections in the main sewer lines, he recommended and the Service and Utilities Committee agreed to add main line sewer cleaning and televising to the bid.

**MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MR. SIMS to advertise for bids for the 2009 Catch Basin, Inlet, Sewer Cleaning and Televising Program. On roll call, all voted “aye.”**

**B. Motion to advertise for bids for contractor services for emergency sewer repairs for 2009**

Mr. Vild stated that the going out for bids for emergency sewer repairs will allow him to establish the terms and conditions prior to contacting a company for emergency repairs and in an attempt to get better pricing.

**MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MR. SIMS to advertise for bids for 2009 Emergency Sewer Repairs. On roll call, all voted “aye.”**

**C. 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:

**Building Commissioner** David Menn reported that E.B. Nails opened in Cedar Center and a new dentist's office opened in the Waterstone Medical Building. He also noted GNC moved out of building on Warrensville Center Road; however, Inland US Management has a potential prospect to fill the space.

Committee Reports:

**Building Committee** Chairman Peter R. Bernardo reported that his committee met on January 15, 2009. The rental fee increase was discussed. Mr. Menn will estimate the cost of the rental permit program to determine if the fees cover or exceed the cost of the program. Mr. Bernardo noted that the committee discussed extending the rental fee to apartments. He noted that most cities also charge apartments a rental fee with a cap on the fees. This will continue to be investigated for future discussion. Mr. Bernardo reported that the committee is looking into standardizing look and placement of rental signs. He also stated that Mr. Menn is reorganizing the Building Department to even out the work load due to the rise in rental inspections. Mr. Bernardo stated that the committee also discussed exempting family members from rental permit program. He will submit some sample affidavits to the Law Director for preparation of an ordinance. The minutes from the meeting will be distributed.

**University Affairs Committee** Chairman Frank Consolo reported that the committee met on January 12, 2009 with representatives of John Carroll University (JCU) who provided requested information. Mr. Consolo noted that JCU unveiled its five-year footprint. The footprint was updated with a key and submitted for posting on the City's Web site. The next meeting of the committee is Thursday, February 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the JCU Green Road Annex. There was discussion relative to the audience not being able to hear the discussion at meetings held at the annex building. Mr. Bernardo will arrange to have the sound system fixed prior to the next meeting.

**Finance Committee** Chairman Steven Sims reported that he met with Finance Director Arman R. Ochoa and reviewed a preliminary draft of the 2009 budget, which will be finalized and presented to Council by Friday, January 30, 2009. Mr. Sims scheduled a Financial Advisory Committee meeting for Wednesday, February 4, 2009 and a Finance Committee meeting for Thursday, February 12, 2009. Mayor Rothschild pointed out that the Recreation Advisory Committee is meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sims stated that he will come up with another date for his meeting.

**Governmental Affairs Committee** Chairman Kevin Patrick Murphy reported that he will arrange a meeting with Mayor Edward Kelley of Cleveland Heights and Mayor Earl Leiken of Shaker Heights relative to the "Call for Action" Program. Mr. Murphy is hopeful the communities can apply for the \$300,000 grants. Mayor Rothschild noted that survey report was received and she suggested that the Council members read it.

**Recreation Committee** Chairman Frankie Goldberg announced that a Recreation Advisory Meeting has been scheduled for February 4, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

**Safety Committee** Chairman Steven Bullock reported that the committee meeting scheduled for December had to be cancelled. A meeting will be scheduled in January to meet jointly with the Finance Committee and Fire Chief Pitchler, who will make a presentation.

**Service & Utilities Committee** Chairman Adele H. Zucker reported that the committee met on January 7, 2009. The two items on this meeting's agenda to advertise for bids came out of that committee meeting.

Vice Mayor Zucker announced that the Northeast Ohio City Council Association (NOCCA) meeting on February 4, 2009 will address truck idling. She encouraged Council members to attend the NOCCA meeting.

Mayor Rothschild reported that she added the following two (2) items to the agenda for the Committee of the Whole: 1) evaluate the Needs Assessment Study prepared by David Siebold of Herman, Gibans, Fedor, Inc. - Architects; 2) evaluate the proposal presented by David B. Hartt of D.B. Hartt, Inc. To update the City's Zoning Code.

Mayor Rothschild also reported that the City's "shovel ready projects" have been presented to the Federal government and to State Senator Shirley Smith.

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

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Mayor Beryl E. Rothschild

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Nancy E. English, Clerk of Council