

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
MARCH 5, 2012

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

Roll Call: Present: Ms. Frankie B. Goldberg
Mr. Steven Sims
Mrs. Susan D. Pardee
Mr. Phillip Ertel
Mrs. Pamela Cameron
Mr. Thomas A. Cozzens
Mrs. Adele H. Zucker

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2012

Mayor Infeld noted corrections to the minutes. Under item "F" on the fifth page, the word "perimeters" in the second sentence should read "parameters". In the third sentence of item "F", the word "stated" should be changed to read "suggested". In the fourth sentence of item "F", the word "will" should be changed to read "could". On the sixth page, the word "the" before the word "forum" should be removed from the first sentence of the third paragraph. Also, in the same paragraph, the word "to" should be added before the word "provide" in the last sentence.

There were no other corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting of February 21, 2012.

MOTION BY MR. COZZENS, SECONDED BY MRS. PARDEE to approve the minutes of February 21, 2012 as amended. On roll call, all voted "aye."

Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2012

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the special meeting of February 28, 2012.

MOTION BY MS. GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY MRS. ZUCKER to approve the minutes of February 28, 2012 as presented. On roll call, all voted "aye."

Comments from the Audience:

Dee Coker, 2232 Fenwick Rd., expressed his support for the Saybrook Park proposal at the former Fuchs Mizrahi School property. He mentioned that the proposed park has the potential to increase property values, would create green space, which in turn could create happier, healthier families and bring stability to the community.

Brett Teacher, 3884 Washington Blvd., thanked the Mayor for scheduling the Town Hall meeting to discuss the proposal for Saybrook Park. He distributed invitations to the Town Hall meeting.

Sarah Wilder, 3706 Meadowbrook Blvd., in response to an invitation from Councilwoman Pardee, offered suggestions about senior services, which included: 1) provide office space and a telephone in City for the Senior Services Manager; 2) establish specific office hours for the Senior Services Manager; 3) Council appoint a committee to help identify and seek a location for a Senior Adult Center where regular activities and programs can be planned and implemented and seek input as to the types of services that might be offered; 4) consider locating the Senior Adult Center on the ground floor of a vacant space in the city; 5) request a donated space in University Square or Cedar Center; 6) seek information from the Western Reserve Area Office on Aging and the Cuyahoga

County Office on Aging for development of senior activities and services currently provided by the County and other cities as well as funding that may be available; 7) schedule an open forum within the next few month to seek input from residents about a new Senior Adult Center and to recruit senior volunteers. Councilwoman Pardee thanked Dr. Wilder for presenting her suggestions.

In response to Dr. Wilder, Mayor Infeld noted that Senior Services Manager Walter Stinson does meet with senior residents in space that is made available at City Hall and that he has administrative support at City Hall. She also mentioned that the staff answers calls for him and relays messages.

Michael Brennan, 3814 Washington Blvd., thanked the Mayor and Council for considering the purchase of the former Fuchs Mizrachi School property for the purpose of converting it into a park. He noted that a park would enhance the quality of life for all University Heights residents for years to come.

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

Mayor Infeld reported that the March 2012 issue of the City's newsletter will be delivered this week. The newsletter announces the Town Hall Meeting which will be held on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Wiley Middle School Auditorium to garner citizen input on the possible acquisition of the former Fuchs Mizrachi School property for the purpose of converting it into a park. Mayor Infeld noted that she and the Council members see this as a once in a lifetime opportunity to acquire a large green space in the city. It also describes the capital equipment purchases for 2012 which are included in the budget and announces the free paper shredding and household hazardous product collection scheduled for Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the service yard at City Hall. Community members who cannot participate on Saturday may drop off their items on Friday, March 9, 2012.

Mayor Infeld announced the following upcoming meetings:

Community Garden Committee
Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, Conference Room

Parade Committee
Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, Conference Room

Recreation Committee of Council and Recreation Advisory Committee
Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, Council Chambers

Town Hall Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Wiley Middle School Auditorium

Service and Utilities Committee
Tuesday, March 13, 2012
City Hall, Council Chambers

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing
Wednesday, March 14, 2012
City Hall, Council Chambers

Mayor Infeld explained that the CDBG public hearing is to gather public input on a grant application for beautification efforts and street paving on Lansdale Road. She noted that the areas planned for beautification are the Lansdale/Vernon/Washington intersection and on Lansdale Road itself.

Mayor Infeld reported that the Finance Director interviews have been ongoing, and the search has been narrowed down. The final candidates will meet with the Council members and then the Mayor will possibly have an appointment to announce this month.

Agenda Items:

A. Motion to accept the bid of Creekside Landscaping for General Yard Nuisance Abatement

Mr. Menn reported that bids were opened on February 23, 2012 for the 2012 General Yard Nuisance Abatement. Two bids were received. The low bid was submitted by Creekside Landscaping in the amounts of \$45 per hour for high grass abatement, to trim shrubs, for leaf cleanup, and \$45 per load for debris removal. Prices are the same as the last two years. This service is at no cost to the City as the charges are billed to the property owner, and if not paid, they are assessed on their property taxes. Mr. Menn recommended that the City enter into a contract with Creekside Landscaping for the 2012 General Yard Nuisance Abatement.

MOTION BY MR. ERTEL, SECONDED BY MRS. PARDEE to accept the bid of Creekside Landscaping for the 2012 General Yard Nuisance Abatement.

Councilman Sims stated that Creekside Landscaping is responsive and has done a good job for the City, but because he has a business relationship with the company through a contract, he will abstain from voting on the motion.

On roll call, on the motion, all voted “aye,” except Mr. Sims, who “abstained.”

B. Ordinance No. 2012-06 To accept the bid of Frank Novak & Sons, Inc. for the Purvis Park Pool Painting (Emergency)

Ordinance No. 2012-06 accepts the bid of Frank Novak & Sons, Inc., and authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Frank Novak & Sons, Inc. for the Purvis Park Pool Painting Project in an amount not to exceed \$20,652.00 with approved alternates at a total cost not to exceed \$11,500.00.

City Engineer Joseph R. Ciuni reported that bids were opened on February 24, 2012 for the Purvis Park Pool Painting Project. Three bids were received. The lowest and best bid was submitted by Frank Novak & Sons, Inc. with a base bid of \$20,652.00 for the pool painting, Alternate No. 1, painting the life guard chairs at \$2,800.00 and Alternate No. 2, painting the structural steel of the water slide at \$8,700.00. The work can be done in the spring and completed by Memorial Day, weather permitting. Mr. Ciuni recommended that the City enter into a contract with Frank Novak & Sons, Inc. for the Purvis Park Pool Painting for a total bid price with the alternates of \$32,152.00.

MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MR. COZZENS to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2012-06 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

C. Ordinance No. 2012-07 To appropriate for current expenses and other expenditures of the City for the period commencing January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012 (1st Reading)

Ordinance No. 2012-07 appropriates funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the City for the period commencing January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012. Councilman Cozzens stated that the Finance Committee met on February 29, 2012 and reviewed the budget. He noted that there was nothing out of line and suggested that the ordinance be placed on first reading. Interim Finance Director Anthony Ianiro stated that he is in the process of making minor changes to the budget and Exhibit “A” attached to the ordinance may be changed prior to the second reading.

Mayor Infeld noted that there will be more public meetings to discuss the budget.

Ordinance No. 2012-07 was presented on first reading.

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

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MRS. CAMERON to hold an executive session immediately following this regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel and the purchase of real estate. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Directors' Reports:

Interim Finance Director Anthony L. Ianiro reported that income tax collection through the first distribution in March is up over 7%. He noted that a 1% increase was budgeted for 2012 so the collections are ahead of schedule. Mr. Ianiro also reported that the estate tax collections which will be distributed by the County for the first half settlement will be \$149,000. He noted that the revenue budget is estimated at \$200,000 so those distributions are on pace to meet or exceed the estimated amount.

Service Director Robert Jamieson reported that the City will host another free document shredding and household hazardous waste drop off event on Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the service yard at City Hall. Community members who cannot participate on Saturday may drop off their items on Friday, March 9, 2012. Items to be accepted for disposal include: oil based paint, used motor oil, used anti-freeze, solvents, flammable materials, cleaners, batteries, pesticides, herbicides, mercury thermometers, adhesives, computers and accessories, tires, mixed paper, plastics (1-7), glass bottles and jars, metal cans, and yard wastes. Hazardous materials will be separated and taken to the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Special Waste Drop-off Center in Garfield Heights. Paper shredding will be done in a confidential manner and the City will receive recycling credit for the material generated. Mr. Jamieson noted that another event will be held in the fall. Mayor Infeld mentioned that it is the City's intention to have the special collection events on the weekend of the time change (spring and fall).

Councilman Sims inquired as to how residents may dispose of items during other times of the year. Mr. Jamieson replied that most of the materials may be dropped off at the Service Department during regular operating hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Cameron inquired if the County Solid Waste District takes political yard signs. Mr. Jamieson responded that he is checking with the County about that program, but he will accept them.

Committee Reports:

Civic Information Committee Chairman Susan D. Pardee reported that there has been activity in all the areas discussed at the January 30, 2012 Civic Information Committee meeting, except iPads. An update of those activities was e-mailed to the Council members and Mayor. Councilwoman Pardee mentioned that she will schedule a meeting in late March or early April.

Finance Committee Chairman Thomas A. Cozzens reported that the Finance Committee reviewed a draft of the FY 2012 Annual Budget. A meeting will be scheduled for the Finance Advisory Committee to review the budget.

Recreation Committee Chairman Pamela Cameron reported that a joint meeting of the Recreation Committee of Council and the Recreation Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. She invited those with an interest in the Saybrook Park proposal to attend the meeting, bring others and express their interest so that they might be able to form a consensus about what may be done.

Councilwoman Cameron reported that a representative of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School Board will be added to the Recreation Advisory Committee once a person has been so designated by the Board. Mayor Infeld suggested that School Board President, Karen Gorman-Jones, who is a University Heights resident, be asked to serve on the committee.

Service and Utilities Committee Chairman Steven Sims announced that his committee will meet on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting recessed into executive session. Following the executive session, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Susan K. Infeld

Nancy E. English, Clerk of Council