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
Finance Director Larry Heiser
Chief of Police Steven Hammett
Interim Fire Chief David Rodney
Building Commissioner David Menn
Interim Service Director John Pucella

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2012

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting of May 7, 2012.

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MR. COZZENS to approve the minutes of May 7, 2012 as presented. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Comments from the Audience:

There were no comments from the audience.

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

Mayor Infeld announced that the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 28, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. starting on Silsby Road near South Taylor Road proceeding east and continuing south down South Belvoir Blvd. to the steps of John Carroll University’s Johnson Natatorium building, where the program will take place. The guest speaker at the program will be Sgt. Shannon Parker, a current John Carroll University student, who served in Iraq and is attending school on the GI Bill. Mayor Infeld reported that the parade planning this year has been a committee effort with a JCU intern coordinating the functions of the parade.

Councilwoman Cameron mentioned that this is her first parade as a council member. She encouraged her colleagues to bring their enthusiasm to the parade. Mayor Infeld noted that the flags have been posted along the parade route, the Service Department is cleaning the route, and the Building Department is following up to eliminate any debris at properties where JCU students have moved out.

Mayor Infeld announced that she has been appointed to the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission by County Executive Edward Fitzgerald to represent the Heights region. The Mayor commented that she is excited about the opportunity to serve in that capacity. She mentioned that Paul Alsenas, director of the Planning Commission, has resigned, and one of her first tasks will be to interview applicants for the position. The Council members congratulated Mayor Infeld on her appointment.

Agenda Items:

A. Ordinance No. 2012-30 Authorizing the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund (Emergency)

Ordinance No. 2012-30 authorizes the transfer of funds from the General Fund (101) to the Capital Improvement Fund (401) the amount of $100,000.00.
Finance Director Larry Heiser reported that the transfer is necessary to cover the purchase of the house located at 3954 Silsby Road, a police vehicle and a refuse scooter.

MOTION BY MS. GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY MRS. PARDEE to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2012-30 as an emergency measure. On roll call, on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” On roll call, on passage, all voted “aye.”

B. Ordinance No. 2012-31 Authorizing the purchase of a refuse collection scooter from Bortnick Tractor Sales, Inc. (Emergency)

Ordinance No. 2012-31 authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Bortnick Tractor Sales, Inc. for the purchase of a refuse collection scooter in an amount not exceed $14,368.87. Quotes were received from three (3) vendors with Bortnick Tractor Sales, Inc. submitting the lowest and best quote. This is a budgeted item.

Councilwoman Zucker inquired if parts from scooter #209, which was taken out of service, could be used on the new scooter. Interim Service Director John Pucella replied that the parts are not transferable since the two machines are different styles.

In response to a question from Councilwoman Pardee, Mr. Pucella explained that the Cushman Turf Truckster Utility Vehicle quoted by Baker Vehicle Systems, Inc. was the same vehicle quoted by the other two vendors with a different name.

MOTION BY MR. COZZENS, SECONDED BY MRS. ZUCKER to approve the passage of Ordinance No. 2012-31 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. 2012-32 Establishing Section 234.12 of the Codified Ordinances by establishing a returned check policy (1st Reading)

Ordinance No. 2012-32 establishes Section 234.12 of the Codified Ordinances to establish a returned check policy. Mr. Heiser reported that currently the City charges $20 for returned checks; however, the City does not have a written policy. He recommended increasing the fee to $30 in order for the City to recoup its costs.

Ordinance No. 2012-32 was presented on first reading.

D. Motion to approve the Range Service Agreement between the University Heights Police Department and the South Euclid Police Department

Chief of Police Steven Hammett reported that currently the City does not have a formal agreement with the City of South Euclid for use of its firing range. The City currently pays $100 an hour to use the range. The proposed Range Service Agreement will establish a rate of $75 an hour.

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MR. SIMS to approve the Range Service Agreement between the University Heights Police Department and the South Euclid Police Department. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

E. Motion to allow the Mayor to hire Tree Service Now, Inc. to perform pruning and tree removal of certain trees in the city

Mayor Infeld reported that four (4) tree trimming and removal projects have been identified by the City’s consulting arborist, Tom Morgan. Quotes were received from three (3) vendors for each project. Tree Service Now, Inc. submitted the lowest quote for the following three (3) projects: 2012-1 in the amount of $4,750.00; 2012-3 in the amount of $6,950.00; and 2012-4 in the amount of $3,250.00, which totals $14,950.

Northeast Tree Service Ltd. submitted the lowest quote for project 2012-2 in the amount of $3,900.00, which is within the Mayor’s spending authority.

MOTION BY MR. SIMS, SECONDED BY MS. GOLDBERG to award tree pruning and removal projects 2012-1, 2012-3 and 2012-4 for a total of $14,950 to Tree Service Now, Inc. On roll call, all voted “aye.”
F. Motion authorizing payment of a service invoice for repair of a Kubota scooter

Mr. Pucella reported that the Kubota scooter has been down for two (2) weeks. Middlefield Farm & Garden has quoted $6,619.26 to rebuild the transmission. There was discussion about the alternatives of purchasing a new scooter or purchasing a new transmission, neither of which was economically feasible at this time. Mr. Pucella recommended the repair because the unit was purchased in 2007, and, if repaired, it will give four or five more years of service.

MOTION BY MRS. ZUCKER, SECONDED BY MR. COZZENS to authorize payment of a service invoice in the amount of $6,619.26 to Middlefield Farm & Garden for repair of a Kubota scooter. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

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

MOTION BY MS. GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY MR. COZZENS to hold an executive session immediately following this regular meeting for the purpose of discussing the potential sale of real estate. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Directors’ Reports:

Finance Director Larry Heiser reported that the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) will conduct the subpoena program this year in an attempt to collect delinquent city income taxes from approximately 1,100 taxpayers who are non-compliant. The program will be held in Council Chambers on dates to be determined.

In response to a question by Councilman Sims, Mr. Heiser explained how the program works. Councilwoman Cameron inquired if there is amnesty associated with the program. Mr. Heiser responded that R.I.T.A. only goes back three (3) years statutorily. If fraud is involved, they will go back as many as six (6) years.

Mr. Heiser also reported that the TIF payment was made to the trustee; therefore, the City is in good standing with this matter.

Interim Fire Chief David Rodney reported that the department participated in the Flashover Training Trailer on May 16-18, 2012. He noted that the training went very well and it was safer than the last time the firefighters participated in the training.

Chief Rodney mentioned that he may make a request to the State Fire Marshall later in the year for search and rescue trailer training.

Building Commissioner David Menn reported that the Building Department will make every effort to ensure that the tree lawns are free of debris for the Memorial Day Parade.

Under the Engineer’s Report, Mayor Infeld reported that Burton Scot has started on the 2012 Street Resurfacing Program. She also noted that coordination meetings have been held with Shaker Heights for the resurfacing project and street line painting. She mentioned that the waterline projects will also be starting soon.

Committee Reports:

Civic Information Committee Chairman Susan D. Pardee reported that a Civic Information Committee meeting will be held on May 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. The meeting will focus on senior services. She noted that senior citizens have been invited to give input on what they are interested in, what they see as the greatest needs, and how to reach out to more people.

Councilwoman Pardee also reported that since the legislation is in place for the Technology Advisory Commission, Council must recommend up to 15 members, who fit the qualifications as outlined in the code, for appointment by the Mayor with the approval of the Civic Information Committee. Councilwoman Pardee asked the Council members to submit names of people who are involved in technology-related industries for appointment to the Technology Advisory Commission. She suggested that the Commission start to meet in the fall.
Recreation Committee Chairman Pamela Cameron reported that the 2012 Summer Recreation Guide is now available both online and in paper form. She encouraged everyone to participate in the summer recreational activities offered by the City.

Mayor Infeld added that the City will once again offer Paypal as an online payment option for the purchase of recreation passes. Recreation passes will be sold at City Hall, Monday thru Friday, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. through June 1, 2012. After which, passes will be sold at the Beryl E. Rothschild Municipal Pool during regular pool hours.

Under the Service and Utilities Committee, Mayor Infeld announced that the Council will meet as a Committee of the Whole on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to hear a presentation from the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works on the County’s Sanitary and Storm Sewer Maintenance Program. The regular Council meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. that evening as scheduled.

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