Mayor Infeld called the regular meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Susan Pardee
         Mr. Mark Wiseman
         Mr. Steven Sims (7:37pm)
         Mr. John Rach
         Mrs. Pamela Cameron
         Mr. Phillip Ertel
         Mrs. Michele Weiss

Also Present: Assistant Law Director Walter Ehrnfelt
              Finance Director Larry Heiser
              Clerk of Council Kelly M. Thomas
              Police Chief Steven Hammett
              Service Director Jeffrey Pokorny
              Community Development Coordinator Patrick Grogan
              Fire Chief Douglas Zook

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes from February 1, 2016

Typographical errors were noted by Mrs. Pardee, Mr. Wiseman, Mrs. Cameron and Mr. Sims on pages 2, 3 and 4.

Mr. Wiseman questioned why his comment regarding if his driveway looked like Purvis Park Pool’s parking lot wasn’t noted in the minutes on page 4.

MOTION BY MR. SIMS, SECONDED BY MR. RACH to approve the Council Minutes from February 1, 2016 as presented and corrected. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Comments from Audience

There were no audience comments.

Mayor’s Report to Community

- Forest Hill Church Presbyterian Church is holding their second annual celebration of African-American Music on February 27 at 6:30pm
- The City Newsletter is out to the community. One of the feature articles is a listing with the road construction projects for the summer.
- This year is the City’s 50th Memorial Day Parade and there will be a meeting on Thursday, February 26 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room. Anyone who would like to help or volunteer is welcome to come to the meeting.
- There will be a Question and Answer Session by the Mayor for residents on Monday, February 29 and on Wednesday, March 9 at 7pm in Council Chambers.
- The Beautiful Homes Awards will be presented in Council Chambers on Thursday, February 24 at 7pm.
- Reaching Heights is holding their 25th Annual Adult Community Spelling Bee on Wed., April 20 at the High School and is looking for Spelling Teams
Agenda Item:

A. Black History Presentation – Councilman John Rach

Mr. Rach on the behalf of the Civic Information Committee introduced Ms. Kari Queen and stated that Ms. Queen is a 35 years resident of the Cleveland area.

Ms. Queen spoke about Dr. Martin Luther King and of the time she met him during her childhood at her church. Ms. Queen also spoke about her father who was a chemist and his first hand experience of discrimination in his professional field. Ms. Queen ended her presentation by saying “if Martin Luther King were to walk in the Heights community today, he would smile and feel that he once again had that mountain top moment because he would have the opportunity to see people who live together, who work together, who go to school together and even in some cases go to worship together.” Ms. Queen noted her tribute for Black History Month is that she was really proud to have met such a wonderful man and that she was really proud to have the opportunity to live out some of his dreams.

Mr. Sims thanked - Ms. Queen for coming, Mayor Infeld for continuing the tradition of having a Black History presentation and Councilman Rach for such a great selection of Ms. Queen.

B. Ordinance 2016-04 Amending Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2014-03 by updating Annual Compensation Rate of Specified Employees (take off table and passage)

It was motioned by Mr. Sims to take Ordinance 2016-04 Amending Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2014-03 by updating Annual Compensation Rate of Specified Employees be taken off the table. Motion failed due to the lack of a second.

Ordinance 2016-04 was not taken off the table.

Mr. Wiseman stated his thoughts that there needed to be further discussion regarding this motion and desired to have an executive session regarding this tonight.

Mayor Infeld replied that she was in favor of having additional discussion about this item to move it along. Mayor Infeld said she didn’t see any reason to talk about it in execution session as it has been talked about previously in open session and that she preferred to discuss it in open session; the Ordinance addresses salary ranges and not specific employees.

It was motioned by Mr. Wiseman to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of this item. Motion failed due to the lack of a second.

C. Ordinance 2016-06 Authorizing the Transfer of Funds from the General Fund to Street Fund (201), Street Lighting (204), Capital Projects (401), Police Pension (601), and Fire Pension (602) (on first reading)

Ordinance 2016-06 Authorizing the Transfer of Funds from the General Fund to Street Fund (201), Street Lighting (204), Capital Projects (401), Police Pension (601), and Fire Pension (602) was placed on first reading.

Ordinance 2016-06 was placed on first reading.

D. Motion to Authorize the Finance Director to Solicit Price Quotes for two new 2016 Ford Escapes FWD S Models (final replacement vehicle for the building department and a vehicle for City Hall)

Mr. Heiser noted that this year the Ford Escape is not on the State bid listing, but the Administration would still like to purchase that type and model vehicle. The Ford Escape was listed on the State bid list two (2) years ago and that is how the first two Building choose to replacement vehicles with the Ford Escapes. To keep the fleet matching and to make ease of general maintenance it would be better to get the current year model Ford Escapes even though they are not on the State Bidders list. The purchase of both vehicles is in the 2016 budget and should be less than $23,500.
Mr. Heiser noted that the Ford Escape for the Administration would be shared and used by himself, the Mayor, Patrick Grogan, the Mayor’s Assistant, Recreation Staff and any interns.

Mrs. Weiss asked Mayor Infeld if using a City vehicle was more efficient for transportation as opposed to employees using their own vehicle and being reimbursed for the mileage.

Mayor Infeld noted that not everyone has their own vehicle and that it is standard for cities to have a vehicle for employees to use to go to meetings within the State.

Mr. Rach asked if there was insurance for those persons who may drive the vehicle and not have auto insurance of their own.

Mayor Infeld replied that all City vehicles have insurance coverage on the vehicle and the driver. The paperwork is always kept within the vehicle’s glove compartment in the event it is needed. Any employee who would drive a City vehicle would have to have a valid driver’s license.

MOTION BY MR. RACH, SECONDED BY MR. SIMS authorizing the Finance Director to Solicit Price Quotes for two new 2016 Ford Escapes FWD S Models (final replacement vehicle for the building department and a vehicle for City Hall). On Roll call, all voted “aye.”

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

There was no need for a Executive Session.

Directors’ Reports

Police Chief, Steven Hammett informed everyone that the traffic signal located in front of Heinen’s; 2180 South Green Road was not removed by the City but ran over by a private tow truck. The Department is currently in the process of obtaining cost estimates for replacement.

Mr. Sims asked how long it would take to replace the signal once the estimate is received.

Chief Hammett responded it would take a few weeks. The delay is due to the equipment being so antiquated that it can’t be repaired, it has to be replaced. The controller, the wiring, the mount and the wooden pole were all old and out dated.

Mr. Sims voiced his concern that the replacement of the traffic signal doesn’t take a long period of time. Noting that even though he was not familiar with the process of replacing a traffic signal of that nature, he thought that if a traffic signaling device came down and that if it wasn’t the City’s responsibility and for example, if it was the County’s responsibility that the County could come out to replace it overnight as opposed to 3, 4, 5 weeks, 2 months or however long it would take. This is a very congested area along with having pedestrians in the area. Mr. Sims noted that the City needs to move with all expediency to get the replacement in as quickly as possible and asked temporary measures are being taken in the meantime.

Chief Hammett replied that the only temporary measure currently being taken is getting the companies out for an estimate. The City does not have the internal resources to put anything in place temporary. Having a traffic signal in that area is justified; but it is not on the same level as the Cedar and Warrensville intersection. Chief Hammett explained that persons (drivers) have an obligation to stop before entering onto a major thoroughfare from a private driveway. Chief Hammett continued to state his concern is also the pedestrian traffic, particularly on the weekends.

Mr. Sims asked if a stop sign could be placed there temporarily.

Chief Hammett responded that placing a stop sign there wouldn’t accomplish much; noting that a stop sign couldn’t be place on Green Road because it wouldn’t work on a main thoroughfare like Green Road and; if it were placed at the private drive it would only serve the purpose where drivers already have to stop there by law. Chief Hammett added that he would hate for anyone to be confused by having a stop sign there and accidentally pulling out onto Green Road. The portable small stop signs that the department has would be difficult to see once traffic get congested there.
Mr. Sims asked if the City would be reimbursed by the private contractor who hit the traffic sign. Chief Hammett replied that an accident report was taken and that the driver of the vehicle has insurance.

Mr. Wiseman echoed Sims concern and expressed his disbelief that nothing can be placed there temporary. Noting that he understood that the City doesn’t have the ability to place something there, but that he thought it was very dangerous to have nothing there at all at this time. Mr. Wiseman added that now there’s no traffic signal between Cedar and Silsby to slow traffic down.

Chief Hammett stated that there are only two (2) companies that work on traffic signals in the Northeast Ohio area; Traffic Pro and Signal Service. Chief Hammett stated that he monitored the area himself on a Saturday in the morning, in the afternoon and in the evening; people are stopping.

Mr. Wiseman commented about the concern for the safety of persons walking and driving is paramount to the City’s worries that only two companies can replace it.

There were no other Director reports.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Building Committee:** Mr. Wiseman stated that a Building Committee will meet on February 23 at 7:00pm in the Conference Room.

**Civic Information Committee:** Mr. Rach thanked the committee for their hard work in helping to choose a great speaker for the Black History Program.

**Finance Committee:** Mrs. Pardee reminded everyone that the Joint Finance and Finance Advisory Committee meeting is on February 18th at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

**Governmental Affairs:** Mrs. Weiss noted that the committee will be meeting shortly.

**Safety Committee:** Mr. Ertel reported that he has been in contact with “Best Friends Animal Society”. It is an organization that get involves with Cities to help create a template to construct legislation.

Mayor Infeld informed Mr. Ertel that she will be adding the topic of Joint Police and Fire Dispatch Legislation to his committee once things are further along.

Chief Hammett reported that the four communities for the joint dispatch are; University Heights, Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights and South Euclid. The four cities will consolidate their police and fire dispatch into one emergency PSAP (Public, Safety Answering Point).

Mayor Infeld added that the City in under a mandate to consolidate the number of public safety answering points per County.

Mr. Wiseman asked if a site has been selected yet, noting University Square.

Mayor Infeld replied not at this time, it is still under discussion.

**Service/Utilities Committee:** Mr. Sims reported that the Service/Utilities Committee will meet before March.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm.

MOTION BY MR. WISEMAN, SECONDED BY MRS. CAMERON to adjourn the meeting. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Susan K. Infeld, Mayor