Mayor Infeld called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present:  
Mrs. Susan Pardee  
Mrs. Pamela Cameron (7:08)  
Mr. John Rach  
Mr. Phillip Ertel  
Mr. Steven Sims  
Mr. Mark Wiseman

Absent:  
Mrs. Michele Weiss  
Mrs. Pamela Cameron

Also, Present:  
Acting Law Director Walter Ehrnfelt  
Clerk of Council Kelly M. Thomas  
Police Chief Steven Hammett  
Fire Chief Douglas Zook  
Building Commissioner Larry Brown

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MRS. WEISS to excuse the absences of Mrs. Cameron, and Mrs. Weiss. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting December 19, 2016

Mayor Infeld noted typographical corrections.

MOTION BY MR. ERTEL, SECONDED BY MR. RACH to approve the Council minutes from December 19, 2016 as presented and corrected. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting January 3, 2017

Mayor Infeld presented an edited version of the January 3, 2017 minutes that provided both grammatical corrections and a summary of the minutes as opposed to a more complete explanation of the discussions. Mr. Rach also provided corrections to the January 3, 2017 minutes.

MOTION BY MRS. CAMERON, SECONDED BY MR. ERTEL to approve the Council minutes from December 19, 2016 as presented by the Council Clerk with only the grammatical corrections provided by Mayor Infeld and the corrections provided by Mr. Rach. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Comments from Audience

Mr. Outman, 3781 Westwood Road stated that the minutes from the last half of 2015 were not on the City’s website.

Mayor’s Report to Community

Mayor Infeld provided the following report.

- Board of Zoning will hold a Special Meeting at 6pm on Thursday, January 19, 2017 re: rear home addition at 2536 Claver Road
- Planning Commission Meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2017 re: Bellefaire Group Home at 2433 So. Belvoir Blvd. and Cleveland Community Mikvah building a Mikvah Bathhouse at 2588 South Green

Agenda Items:

A. Presentation from Judge K. J. Montgomery, Shaker Heights Municipal Court regarding the setting of bond rates at the Court

Shaker Heights Municipal Judge, K.J. Montgomery provided everyone with a brief preview about the concerns regarding issues of justice system reform: judicial bail practices and the desire to reform the processes of how bail practices along with their penalties and fines are decided.
B. Update regarding 3505 Tullamore Road

Mayor Infeld informed everyone that the County Landbank acquired title to the property and will be evaluating the condition of the property.

Mr. Sims asked if the Administration know when the Landbank would be assessing the property to determine whether it is structurally strong and if any additional bids/quotes had been received for the demolishing of 3505 Tullamore.

Mayor Infeld replied that Mr. McConville had informed her that the Landbank was moving quickly regarding this address and that county-wide it was at the top of their list. Mayor Infeld added, the Landbank may have already visited the property but once more details are known Council will be informed.

Mayor Infeld added that regarding the raccoons, raccoons had been around the neighborhood but the animal control warden has been contacted.

Mr. Wiseman asked if the animal warden was informed of raccoon issues specifically at 3505 Tullamore.

Police Chief Hammett replied yes and that traps were placed at that address. The animal warden saw evidence of the presence of raccoons but has not been able to trap them yet.

C. Presentation from Building Commissioner Larry Brown regarding demolition bids received for 3505 Tullamore Road

Mr. Brown reported that four quotes had been received thus far; ranging from $7,800 to $22,338, but noted that the quotes will be higher if evidence of asbestos is found.

Mr. Wiseman asked why the Administration didn’t go out for official public bids.

Mayor Infeld replied that it wasn’t known if there was a need to go out for public bids until there was a sense of how much the demolition would cost. This will be reviewed with Mr. McConville.

Mr. Wiseman asked if the Administration could go out for public bids at any time, regardless of the cost of the project and if the County Landbank had been contracted to get the typical cost to demolish a house of this size or requested a list of demolition companies they’ve worked with.

Mayor Infeld replied yes, but got quotes to get an idea of the cost.

Mr. Brown replied that the Landbank has not return his phone calls yet. The price quotes were: TRW Construction, LLC $7,800; C & J Contractors $12,530; B & B Wrecking $14,680 and Independence Excavating $22,338. Mr. Brown noted that these were quotes and that the City would have to obtain a formal contract for the work to be done.

D. Motion to advertise (public bid) for janitorial services in city buildings

Mayor Infeld stated that the City acquired an additional building/house via a donation to the City which is being used by the City’s Police Detective Bureau. The additional building has caused additional work in terms of maintenance and cleaning thus the Administration is looking at the cost of outsourcing the janitorial services for the municipal complex. Mayor Infeld said bids had been received in the past but she wasn’t sure if the information from those bids would still be pertinent.

Mr. Ertel asked if the additional house is causing the City not to be able to do the job in-house any longer.

Mayor Infeld replied that it has been difficult because there is only one employee assigned to this duty. Adding that she needs to find what the cost for outsourcing may be so that she can make a determination on how to best clean the buildings moving forward.

Mr. Sims asked where would this be advertised in a wide range of print media, i.e. Sun News, Plain Dealer, Call and Post, etc.

MOTION BY MRS. PARDEE, SECONDED BY MR. ERTEL authorizing the Mayor to advertise and seek public bids for janitorial services in city buildings. On roll call, all voted aye.
Mayor Infeld said the cleaning would include City Hall, Police Dept., Service Dept., Building Dept., Detective Bureau and the public park on Fenwick; along with snow blowing around the Buildings where the public would walk.

Mr. Rach questioned what would happen to the employee that is currently performing those duties.

Mayor Infeld replied she didn’t know at this point and that she would have to know what the cost are and then at that point she would be able to make an assessment and determination.

E. Ordinance 2017-04 Amending Codified Ordinance Section 212.01 Entitled “Advertising Requirements; Bids

Mr. Sims commented that Ordinance 2017-04 is a way that the City can assure that there is an understanding of how and why the participation of women and minority contractors occurs or does not occur. This does not an Ordinance that would force any level of participation per say, but is an Ordinance that requires reporting. Mr. Sims continued to say he felt that if the contractors felt a responsibility to report that they may feel a greater responsibility to include.

Ordinance 2017-04 was placed on first reading.

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

There was no need to hold an executive session.

Directors’ Reports

Finance Department

Mayor Infeld reported that she is still in the process of interviewing candidates as well as receiving resumes. Mayor Infeld added that the budget and mechanisms are in place so that the City’s financial operations continue uninterrupted.

Fire Chief Zook reported that the ladder truck is back in service.

Building Commissioner Larry Brown had no report.

Mrs. Pardee made reference to 3505 Tullamore and noted that the City has 4 quotes and the Landbank has taken title and Council passed an Ordinance which indicated that the house would be demolished within 60 days (2/17/17). With the knowledge that the Landbank is accessing the property; Mrs. Pardee asked what steps was the City taking to finalize the requirements of that Ordinance.

Mayor Infeld replied that it was a motion and not an Ordinance or Resolution. But, now that the Landbank has secured the title to the property she is waiting to see what they determine. Mayor Infeld added that she did not think the City needed to take any action now that the Landbank has title to the property.

Mrs. Pardee asked what happens if the Landbank nor the City takes action to raze the house by the 17th of February and Council doesn’t withdraw the motion, what are the repercussions, if any.

Mr. Ehrnfelt noted that his understanding was limited but provided his thoughts that since the Landbank now holds the title and will make an assessment as to whether the house will be demolished or rehabbed based on whatever considerations it (Landbank) but that this property is on the top of their list to handle urgenty.

There were no other Director reports.

Standing Committee Reports:

Building Committee: Mr. Wiseman stated the Building Committee will meet on January 31 at 7pm to discuss homeowner who are doing home repairs being named contractors, the size of house numbers on dwellings and other items.
Civic Information Committee: Mr. Rach informed everyone that the speaker for February’s Black History Program will be Mr. Sandy Womack, Director of Principal Leadership & Development for the Cleveland Heights/University Heights School District. The program will take place at the February 6 at 7pm. Mr. Rach asked that the program be added to the agenda for the date and be well publicized to the community.

Finance Committee: Mrs. Pardee had no reported, but reminded everyone that there will be a Joint Governmental Affairs/Civic Information & Finance Committee meetings on January 23 at 7pm.

Service/Utilities Committee: Mr. Sims stated that there will be a meeting tomorrow, January 18 at 7pm.

There were no other committee reports.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Susan K. Infeld, Mayor

Kelly M. Thomas, Clerk of Council