

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OHIO
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2022**

Mayor Michael Dylan Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:22p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Michele Weiss
Mrs. Sheri Sax
Mrs. Barbara Blankfeld
Mr. John Rach
Mr. Justin Gould
Mr. Brian King
Mr. Christopher Cooney

Absent: Mr. John Rach
Mr. Justin Gould

Also Present: Law Director Luke McConville
Clerk of Council Kelly Thomas
Fire Chief Robert Perko
Police Chief Dustin Rogers
Housing and Community Development Geoff Englebrecht
Economic Development Susan Drucker
Service Director Jeffrey Pokorny

MOTION BY MRS. BLANKFELD, SECONDED BY MRS. SAX to excuse the absence of Mr. Rach and Mr. Gould. On roll call, all voted “aye.”

Approval of Council Minutes:

Council Meeting October 3, 2022

There were no additions or corrections to the October 3, 2022 Council Minutes.

MOTION BY MRS. WEISS, SECONDED BY MR. COONEY to approve the October 3, 2022 Council Minutes as presented. On roll call, all voted “aye.” except Mrs. Sax, who “abstained.”

Additions and Removals from the Agenda; Referrals to Committee

There were no additions or removals from the agenda.

Comments from Audience

There were no comments from the audience

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

Mayor’s Report

Since our last meeting....

Walter J. Stinson, age 94, who served the city of University Heights for more than four decades as its community coordinator and then senior services manager, died on Oct. 7, 2022. He is survived by Sara, his wife of 47 years, their son Paul, and two grandchildren.

Walter Stinson was a good man, and a great man. He loved this community, and he served this community like no other. He is an inspiration, and an example for us all.

Walter was a native of Brooklyn, NY, who moved to University Heights in 1973 after serving as a missionary in Africa. In 1996, Mayor Irving Konigsberg hired him to become the city's first Community Coordinator, where he promoted fair housing opportunities, welcomed new homeowners, encouraged neighborhood activities and planned senior citizen programs. Stinson handled the city's communications and become known as "the voice of the city" as host of its cable television program, "University Heights Today."

Stinson served in this capacity for more than 34 years, serving under Mayor Beryl Rothschild and Mayor Susan Infeld. He retired in 2010 at the age of 82 and was then rehired on a part-time basis as the city's senior services manager, serving in that capacity for another 10 years, including two years in my administration. Walter was the only city employee to serve four mayors, from Konigsberg to Brennan.

By joint proclamation and resolution of Mayor Brennan and City Council in 2019, the community park at Fenwick and Saybrook Roads was rededicated as Walter Stinson Community Park (aka "The Walt"). Stinson was 92-years-old when he retired from the city of University Heights for the second time in 2020 at the onset of the pandemic, when in-person gatherings—especially those for seniors—were not possible. In his honor, after consultation with the governor's office, I issued a proclamation on Oct. 10 ordering that the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff at University Heights City Hall and all public buildings and grounds within the city until sunset on the day of his interment. The community gathered to pay their respects at a Mass of Christian Burial at Church of the Gesu, and he was interred at Lake View Cemetery on Oct. 14 in the "Garden Crypts" section.

To many, he was the face of the City, like no other. For decades on behalf of the City, he visited every new homeowner, myself included. Everyone knew him. We all celebrate his service and love of community in the park we renamed in his honor in 2019. We will all miss him.

Last Friday was an historic day here in the City of Beautiful Homes, University Heights.

We broke ground on 30 more beautiful homes in our city, with groundbreaking of South Taylor Place -- Our first new housing development in this city since the 1970s.

This would not have happened without the strong and persistent work of so many. Economic Development Director Susan Drucker, former Housing and Community Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers, City Engineer Joe Ciuni, City Law Director Luke McConville, past and present city building officials, housing officials, past and present members of our City Council – I want to specifically acknowledge two council members who were present at the groundbreaking, Barbara Blankfeld and Brian King.

Special mention and thanks go to the CH-UH School Board, Dan Heinz, Malia Lewis, Jim Posch, Jodi Sourini, Beverly Wright, together with Superintendent Elizabeth Kirby and Treasurer Scott Gainer. The land was assembled and this project is happening because school officials and city officials came together and shared a common vision for what will be.

I thank Bo Knez and his team for sharing in our vision as well.

I thank the residents of our City for putting us all in place to do this work on behalf of the community. This project is a monument to what is possible when we work together.

Benjamin Franklin once said: "Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

And as many have said, we favor progress, even when we disfavor or are uncomfortable with change. This progress has been a long time coming. It has been a process.

It began in 2018, my first year in office as mayor. This administration began the process of creating this project, creating this situation, creating the structures through which this project was not only possible, but would one day happen.

That day arrived this past Friday.

In anticipation of the groundbreaking of this project, Knez has built infill houses on Northwood, Tullamore, Raymont, and South Green Roads. Others too have built new homes around University Heights since 2018, encouraged by our example, encouraged by the Community Reinvestment Area our city implemented in my first year in office.

To someone who might come along here now, and see what we are doing, this might look like an overnight success. Like most overnight successes, this has been years in the making. In some ways it is a beginning,

and in other ways it is a continuation of projects our city leaders have had in the pipeline. With more to come.

The new street in the middle of this development will be Mosaic Court – symbolic of our city’s rebranding, embracing and celebrating our diversity, all of us coming together in harmony to make up the community we call University Heights.

And beyond symbolism, this project is a concrete achievement of our city’s ongoing commitment to the success and improvement of the Cedar-Taylor district, our shared district with the City of Cleveland Heights. And our commitment to diversification of our housing stock. With this project University Heights will offer modern living with a Heights address, within view of downtown Cleveland, and just up the hill from University Circle – the scientific, medical, and cultural hub of Northeastern Ohio.

Knowing that projects like these are truly years in the making, I was also pleased to announce at the groundbreaking that the City of University Heights received word from NOACA just the day before, that it is recommending funding of a TIP project for both of our cities, for Cleveland Heights and University Heights, of a multipurpose trail to connect our cities, to connect our communities, to connect our parks, along Washington Boulevard. It is scheduled for funding in Fiscal Year 2026. That may seem like a long way’s away. But it is no longer than the time it took to conceive initially the South Taylor Place project, through last week’s ground breaking.

Perseverance. Persistence. Progress.

While we celebrate this milestone, much of the real work – certainly the visible work – still lies ahead, the actual construction. It is part of the ongoing progress of moving this City forward.

What a great City we have, what great residents we have, to have supported us to create this project.

The IT RFP has been issued. We did extend the timeline to account for the travel schedule of our tech advisory chair Jiang Qian to ensure that he could be present in person for the interviews we do of the bidders. The full RFP is on the city website.

We had our kickoff meeting with Power a Clean Future Ohio, where we identified priorities of measuring our current carbon footprint, together with legislation on solar panels and EV readiness. Solar panel legislation is a particular priority due to federal tax credits that our residents may want to take advantage of.

I turn now to the budget.

The council is aware of all the work we’ve been doing these last couple weeks, items described in the last few minutes, items discussed in executive session this evening. With all that...

The administration is finalizing its proposed budget. We will be releasing it this coming Monday., October 24th.

In preview: the draft budget is a balanced budget. 2023 projected expenses are in balance with 2023 projected revenues.

What may prove to be most notable about the administration’s budget is what is not in it. At the last city council meeting on October 3rd, during the Finance Committee report, Finance Chair Michele Weiss announced that no dollar amounts would be considered in the budget regarding any type of change to collection of solid waste until it again goes through the Service and Utilities Committee for thorough debate there, rather than during the budget process. Accordingly, the administration’s proposed budget does not include any capital expenditures for any new equipment related to solid waste collection, be it rubbish, recycling, or yard waste.

The 2023 budget will be the fourth budget since our city received draft recommendations on collection modernization in 2019 from our consultants at GT Environmental. The longstanding recommendations by GT Environmental regarding collection modernization remain unfunded and therefore unimplemented.

Last year, by council resolution, the council announced that no changes would be considered then on the grounds that no survey had been completed as of this time last year. Since then, not one but two surveys have been completed.

We now have revised cost figures from RRS that the City of University Heights currently spends \$25.49/house/month on solid waste pickup. This is up from \$23.74/house/month from the GT Environmental study which used 2018 figures.

Also, since that time, Cleveland Heights completed implementation of their collection modernization, and has taken advantage of the improved recycling market.

With their new contract with Waste Management, Cleveland Heights is now being paid for their recyclables, and can now recycle polypropylene plastic (butter tubs, yogurt cups, sour cream containers, etc.). Depending on how “clean” their recyclables are, Waste Management will pay Cleveland Heights \$9.44/ton to as much as \$29.44/ton for their recyclables. This is not only a vast improvement over paying to have recyclables processed (as Cleveland Heights was doing, and as University Heights will continue to do), but it encourages recycling because these items are now too valuable to just put in the landfill at \$40+/ton.

In contrast, our City has not yet modernized, and effective the first of this month is now paying \$101.85/ton to process our residents’ recyclables, in contrast to the \$9.44 to \$29.44 Cleveland Heights will be paid. Our City residents must continue to throw away butter tubs, yogurt cups, sour cream containers, and so on, while Cleveland Heights city residents may recycle theirs.

How do we get this for University Heights? Well, Waste Management’s bid offers no option for processing recycling in blue plastic bags. If University Heights wants to piggyback off this bid, we have to end using blue bags and offer our recyclables loose.

To do that, the most efficient, cost-effective, environmentally friendly and safest way for our service employees, is to convert to curbside automated pickup – as Cleveland Heights did earlier this year.

I also note that the City of Shaker Heights has taken advantage of the Waste Management contract, as well. As many of you know, Shaker maintains sidedoor/backyard pickup of solid waste, including loose recyclables placed outside, uncovered, in five-gallon buckets. These are placed in a buggy with a split rear hopper – one side for trash, one for recyclables. Those buggies empty into a 60/40 split body rear load packer truck. The truck then transports the contents to the city’s transfer station, where everything is unloaded. At the transfer station, recyclables are presorted, and contamination removed. If it is wet out, the recyclables can be left there to dry before being reloaded into another truck and driven to the MRF for processing.

I mention all this, because I know there is some talk about whether our city couldn’t simply adopt Shaker’s methods. In order to replicate Shaker’s methods, we would need not only all new equipment, we would need a transfer station for our presort, and to store recyclables and rubbish till they are ready for transport. The City of University Heights does not have a transfer station.

I know how very much recycling is important to our residents. I know many are frustrated by the limitations of our current system, even among those who otherwise like it. That’s why our administration is committed and constantly engaged on this issue. It is important to you, it is important to us. University Heights can have better recycling too. To do this, we need to make some changes.

I take the council leadership on their word that city council will take this up after the budget is passed. We can then amend the 2023 budget to appropriate funds for implementation. And understanding that “Council is committed to improving recycling,” I trust on behalf of our residents, the 84% surveyed who say recycling is important to them, that we don’t wait another year for modernization.

And we will have to make changes soon. Mr. Pokorny will be reporting later this evening the state of the current fleet of garbage trucks. There are consequences for the delay in make the recommended changes. And in the meantime, our work must continue with service uninterrupted.

Thank you, this concludes my report.

Report and Communications from City Council, and the taking of action thereon

There was no report.

Reading and Disposition of Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions and Consideration of Agenda Items:**A. Motion to Approve Planning Commission's Recommendation of Approval from October 6, 2022 regarding Application for the Demolition of 2531 Lafayette Dr. and Site Plan for New House Build on the Same Lot**

Mr. Chris Bundy, General Manager, and George Pelesky, Market Manager for Drees Homes were present. Mr. Bundy stated that the project included plans to raise the existing structure at 2531 Lafayette and rebuild in that same location. Following the same footprint of the existing structure it will have the same setback from the road, same side setbacks. The new home is actually approximately one foot narrower than the existing structure. The project will need approval for overage of the 25% footprint of the property.

Mr. Schwartz stated that they have been living and raised their children in the community since 2009 and was looking forward to staying for many years.

Mayor Brennan noted that as per Planning Commission condition, it was his understanding that the Board of Zoning granted the necessary variance for the land coverage overage and the City Engineer, Mr. Ciuni has also approved the presented plan.

MOTION BY MRS. BLANKFELD, SECONDED BY MRS. WEISS to Approve Planning Commission's Recommendation of Approval from October 6, 2022 regarding Application for the Demolition of 2531 Lafayette Drive and Site Plan for New House Build on the Same Lot. On roll call, all voted "aye."

B. Resolution 2022-67 Necessity Declaring the Intent to Appropriate and Acquire the Fee Simple Interest in Certain Real Property Titled to Yeshivath Adath B'nai Israel, known as 2308 Warrensville Center Road, Bearing Permanent Parcel No. 722-17-050, City of University Heights, County of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio, as more Fully Described Herein, for The purpose of expansion and Construction of the City Campus, and Declaring an Emergency (on emergency)

Mr. McConville stated that this was the statutory resolution that is required as the initial step in enacting an Eminent Domain proceeding to take the property. The city is proposing to take the property known as YABI, 2308 Warrensville. In connection with this resolution on there is a tandem notice of intent to acquire that is also a statutory requirement that has been provided to the Mayor along with the appraisal that we previously obtained, so that the appropriate notice can be provided to the owner of the property.

In the event that Council adopts this resolution will be coming back to you in a month or so or in with an ordinance to authorize the taking. If we are not able to work out a deal with the property owner back then and we'll go ahead and file the lawsuit.

Mrs. Sax asked if the property was owned by an entity and if she would need to recuse herself from this agenda item.

Mr. McConville replied that the property was owned by the entity B'nai Israel.

Mrs. Sax asked if she were related to someone affiliated with the entity would that matter.

Mr. McConville stated that if someone has a blood relation then yes, it does matter most commonly conflicts of interest from an economic interest. If someone in any way is receiving remuneration or other economic benefit from that entity, they would be required to recuse themselves but otherwise, merely knowing someone or becoming someone having a relationship that is not romantic or blood related is not a conflict.

Mrs. Sax asked what if it were a previous marriage.

Mr. McConville said he felt Mrs. Sax was okay and did not need to recuse herself from this agenda item.

MOTION BY MRS. WEISS, SECONDED BY MRS. BLANKFELD to approve Resolution 2022-67 Necessity Declaring the Intent to Appropriate and Acquire the Fee Simple Interest in Certain Real Property Titled to Yeshivath Adath B'nai Israel, known as 2308 Warrensville Center Road, Bearing Permanent Parcel No. 722-17-050, City of University Heights, County of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio, as more Fully Described Herein, for The purpose of expansion and Construction of the City Campus,

and Declaring an Emergency. Roll call on suspension of the rules, all voted “aye.” Roll call on passage, all voted “aye.”

C. Ordinance 2022-68 Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Member Community Infrastructure Grant Agreement for the East Scarborough and Canterbury Relief Sewer Project, LLC and Declaring an Emergency (on emergency)

Mr. Ciuni stated that last week are these regional Sewer District any ORSD (Ohio Regional Sewer District) informed the city that it was successful in being awarded the grant for the project at East Scarborough and Canterbury release sewer. At the intersection of East Scarborough and Canterbury there is a sanitary sewer overflow that is located in manhole and during significant rain events in allows for the sanitary sewer water to enter into the storm sewer system. And then eventually to the environment, lakes, rivers and streams. Mr. Ciuni added that the Sewer District and EPA knows about this overflow and that it is inherent in our system which was built in around 1914. If that system was ever plugged, there would be significant basement flooding events on Canterbury and East Scarborough and affect both University Heights and Cleveland Heights. This project will close up that sanitary sewer overflow and construct a relief sewer from that manhole down Canterbury to the intersection of Canterbury and Meadowbrook and at that intersection is the deep tunnel shaft part of the inner community relief sewer and it has the capacity to take this flow. The Sewer District has offered a grant 50% with a total cost of \$86,951.67. The city's portion of the cost will be paid for out of the Community Cross Share dollars so the good news is that the project can be paid for without any of the city's budget. All residents have a stormwater fee on their sewer district waste water bills now and 75% of those fees the Sewer District keeps for regional projects with the other 25% coming back to the city. There is a large enough capacity balance in our account to govern the city's share of this project. Mr. Ciuni recommended the acceptance of the project grant and noted that he would be bringing back to Council the agreement for using those funds. The project would be designed over the winter and performed next year.

Mr. King mentioned that the city was looking at using some of those share funds for the intersection project at Washington/Silsby/Saybrook and asked if there would still be funds in that pot if those same monies were used for this project?

Mr. Ciuni said that there would be enough for both projects, there is a balance of approximately \$226,000 in the account and that is over and above the funds that have been approved for the Washington/Silsby/Saybrook intersection project.

Mrs. Blankfeld asked Mr. Ciuni if there were any funds that can be use where we promised the residents in the Saybrook/Meadowbrook neighborhoods that have had horrible basement flooding when there is substantial rain and they get 18inches of sewage in their basements. Mrs. Blankfeld said that she knew that at one point they were promised that the work will be done to remediate, but that hasn't happened yet. Are there any funds there that can be put toward remedying this problem?

Mr. Ciuni replied that it has to be stormwater funds for the community and cost sharing dollars but yes, those funds could be used.

Mr. McConville commented that he recalled that the last meeting occurred during the pandemic via zoom and one of the outcomes was that there was no consensus amongst the homeowners themselves about the level of spending and type of repairs.

Mr. Ciuni added that the issue is that they have issues on their property and personally on their pipes, the city has nothing to do with that. They have cross connections on their side of the line so they have to take care of that first, that is not a city issue.

Mr. McConville stated that there is case law and that they have talked about that with the neighbors. Where it indicates that you're talking about repairs that are on individual's property, it is not permissible to utilize taxpayer dollars for those individual repairs. There were steps that could be taken that related to a benefit for all owners if they were all committed to making their own repairs and that is where there was some desire to take a step back and for those individual homeowners to think about it.

MOTION BY MR. KING, SECOND BY MRS. SAX to approve Ordinance 2022-68 Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Member Community Infrastructure Grant Agreement for the East Scarborough and Canterbury Relief Sewer Project, LLC and Declaring an Emergency On Roll call on suspension of rules, all voted “aye.” Roll call on passage, all voted “aye.”

D. Motion to Request Authorization to Bid Emergency Sewer Repairs for 2023-2026

Mr. Pokorny stated that this was a request to bid for emergency repair services for repairing sewers, sanitary and storm sewers that the city maintains within city public properties and right of ways. Whenever a repair is required that is outside of the scope that service department can do this emergency repair contract kicks in and we utilize the contractor involved in that to do the repair. This will be a three-year contract like the previous contract. The current contract will expire on January 1 so there is a need to get this approved and out for bidding and back to council for awarding pretty rapidly. The contract bid is in the unit prices and the estimated cost is approximately \$160,000. Funds for this are available in the sewer/water maintenance fund.

MOTION BY MRS. WEISS, SECONDED BY MRS. SAX to Approve Request Authorization to Bid Emergency Sewer Repairs for 2023-2026. On roll call, all voted "aye."

E. Motion to Request Authorization to Bid the 2023-2026 Catch Basin Inlet, Sewer Cleaning & Television Inspection Program

Mr. Pokorny stated that this was a contract is similar to the sewer maintenance contract and is for the cleaning, televising, inspecting and cleaning out of catch basins. Approximately 370 catch basins are done a year with a three-year cycle that involves all the catch basins in the city and a four-year cycle of all the sewers being cleaned, televise and inspect. The current contract expires on January 1st similar to the last one. Mr. Pokorny estimated the cost to be about \$280,000 annually and the funds will come from the sewer maintenance fund.

MOTION BY MRS. BLANKFELD, SECONDED BY MR. KING to Approve the Request Authorization to Bid the 2023-2026 Catch Basin Inlet, Sewer Cleaning & Television Inspection Program . On roll call, all voted "aye."

F. Motion to Accept the Bid from VanCuren Services, Inc. as the Lowest and Best Bd for the 2022-1 Fall Tree Pruning and Removal Program and Entering into Contract with the Same in an Amount not to exceed \$105,785.00

Mr. Pokorny stated that this was the annual tree trimming and removal program of 2022-1. This year bids were opened on Friday, October 7. There were two bidders, Parks Tree was \$129,900 and VanCuren Services was \$105,785. VanCuren Services has done this work in the past, in fact and they had the contract for the previous year and things worked out well. Mr. Pokorny recommended awarding the contract to VanCuren Services.

Mrs. Sax asked Mr. Pokorny to remind council how the city is divided up for the work and in areas such as Warrensville Center Road where that street is not on the list for tree replacement.

Mr. Pokorny replied that the city is divided up into four sections and one section is done each year. Streets such as Warrensville, Cedar or Green Road would be a special project that we have not done. Homes on those streets don't typically ask for their trees to be replaced if they are removed and the city has not forced them to accept trees.

Mr. King commented that last year's contract was for 44 trees and this year it is for 473 and asked Mr. Pokorny to explain the difference in numbers.

Mr. Pokorny stated that last year during the budgeting process departments were asked to try to scale back expenses and this was one of the programs that was specifically asked to scale back. In 2020 the year prior there were 627 trees on the list and then in 2021 we cut it down to 45 tree removals.

Mrs. Weiss asked if they were within the expenditures of the shade tree fund.

Mr. Kenney stated that there was a fund balance to cover the expense.

MOTION BY MRS. WEISS, SECOND BY MRS. SAX to Accept the Bid from VanCuren Services, Inc. as the Lowest and Best Bd for the 2022-1 Fall Tree Pruning and Removal Program and Entering into Contract with the Same in an Amount not to exceed \$105,785.00. On roll call all voted "aye."

G. Motion to Accept the Bid from Johnson's Landscaping, Inc. as the Lowest and Best Bid for the 2022-2 Fall Tree Planting Program and the Entering into Contract with the Same in an Amount not to exceed \$17,520.00

Mr. Pokorny stated that this was the annual tree planting program of 2022-2. This year bids were opened on Friday, October 7 with planting occurring before December 15, 2022. Two bids were received from Parks Tree of Eastlake for \$27,337 and from Johnson's Landscaping of Mentor for \$17,520. Johnson's has performed tree planting projects in the past year, and has done so acceptably. Mr. Pokorny recommended awarding the contract to Johnson's Landscaping for \$17,500. This would be funded out of the Shade Tree Maintenance Fund and 48 trees will be planted.

Mayor Brennan commented that at this juncture, the city was removing more trees than planting and at this stage there was also an ample amount of funds in the shade tree fund. One of the things discussed with Mr. Pokorny was that in the new year to take advantage of the fact that there is money in that fund and that next year could be a year where we perhaps gain some ground on some tree planting. With respect to Warrensville as Mrs. Sax mentioned, NOACA will select Warrensville Center Road to be done in the year 2025. If there is something that we want to do with the American trees on Warrenville Center Road, Mayor Brennan suggested that sometime between now and the design phase to be looking at that respective regarding trees.

MOTION BY MRS. WEISS, SECONDED BY MRS. SAX to Accept the Bid from Johnson's Landscaping, Inc. as the Lowest and Best Bid for the 2022-2 Fall Tree Planting Program and the Entering into Contract with the Same in an Amount not to exceed \$17,520.00. On roll call, all voted "aye."

H. Motion to Enter Executive Session for the purpose of Discussing Legal Proceedings, Personnel and Real Estate Matters

There was no cause for an Executive Session.

Director's Reports

Finance Department – Mr. Kennedy

Mr. Kennedy stated that work continues on the budget proposals for 2023 with plans to provide the proposed budget to council the upcoming week. Also, Mr. Kennedy is reviewing the current for necessary appropriations needed to carry through this year and that will be presented to council during the month of November as a requirement of the State Auditor. Mr. Kennedy provided the various funds balances to date and made notice that the administration is in the process of receiving telephone/internet service proposals and that should be presented to council the first meeting in November as well as the city's contract with Dollar Bank.

Mr. King commented that IT RFP included requesting a quote for a phone system.

Mayor Brennan agreed and said that the administration was working with an internet provider with respect to changing over our internet and we looked at a proposal that was made and even though this is in the RFP, there is a council meeting coming up where able, Mayor Brennan thought they could go with this alternative as simply advised.

Mrs. Blankfeld asked if we were to go with a new system, this would obviously be one that is expandable for a new municipal center, it would not create double work or cost.

Mayor Brennan replied that Mrs. Blankfeld was correct. This is something where it would be modular, expandable and transferable it will also be upgraded from time to time by the provider so that we don't get locked on 1995 technology.

Public Safety – Fire Department

Chief Perko reported that the department had its open house on October 9th and thanked the community for coming out as well as the administration and other departments for their support.

Service Department – Mr. Pokorny

Loose leaf collection has started and will continue until approximately December 15th. one of our rubbish trucks has broken and can no longer be repaired economically. Although not Mr. Pokorny's ideal solution, the quickest and simplest thing would be to purchase a used truck.

City Engineer – Joseph Ciuni

Mr. Ciuni reported that last Thursday, NOACA informed us that the city was awarded funding for two projects, it was voted on at their programming and planning committee meeting on Friday morning and now has to go to the full board in December. Contracts and scoping will be ready probably in January of next year. The first project is the Washington Boulevard all-purpose path in University Heights and Cleveland Heights and it is a \$1.6 million award for that in fiscal year 2025 which actually starts July fiscal year 2024, the State's fiscal year and an 80/20% grant. The other one is they awarded \$3 million for Warrensville Center Road resurfacing from Cedar to Fairmont in 2025 probably 80/20% grant. With both projects exact numbers will not be known until everything passes both boards and contracts are drawn up.

Mr. Ciuni also reported that all the paving is done on the Cedar Road project although the stripping still has to be done so the project is about 95% completed. Mr. Ciuni said he was not aware of any change orders but ODOT is in charge of the project. The other project is the 2022 road improvement program, all three streets are paved and we ended up with additional monies because there was not as much prep work. Given that Washington from resurfacing from the little piece of Cedar to Staunton was added for the 100 feet and was able to squeak that in under the budget.

Communications and Civic Engagement – Mike Cook

Mayor Brennan stated that Mr. Cook was excused for the meeting and announced announce that Wednesday, November 16 is the Civic Awards. It will be at John Carroll University in the Jardine room with a reception at 6:30pm followed by the awards presentation at 7:30pm.

There were no other director reports.

Standing Council Committees:**Building and Housing – Mrs. Blankfeld**

Mrs. Blankfeld stated that the committee will meet in November.

Finance Committee – Mrs. Weiss

Mrs. Weiss reported that the Finance Committee will meet on November 2 where the directors will present their wants and needs.

Committee of the Whole – Mrs. Weiss

Mrs. Weiss reported that there was one confirmed Service Department tour on November 14. and that they were in the midst of scheduling a second one. After that they will begin the process of right sizing the spaces and hopefully move forward from there.

Reports of special committees, and the taking of action thereon

None

Unfinished and miscellaneous business

None

MOTION BY MRS. BLANKFELD, SECONDED BY MR. KING to adjourn the meeting. On roll call, all voted "aye."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm

Michael Dylan Brennan, Mayor

Kelly M. Thomas, Clerk of Council