

**City Council Meeting
City of Richmond Heights
March 23, 2010**

Council President, David Roche, called the meeting to order at 8:25 PM

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call:

Present: Alexander, Gambatese, Headen, Henry, Morgan, O'Toole, Roche

Consent Agenda for Tonight:

1. Minutes of the City Council Meeting from March 9, 2010.
2. RESOLUTION NO.: 23 -2010, INTRODUCED BY Mayor Ursu and Members of Council, First Reading: **A Resolution Proclaiming April 30, 2010 as "Arbor Day" in The City of Richmond Heights and Expressing Appreciation to the Richmond Heights Garden Club and Richmond Heights Kiwanis Club for their Support of Arbor Day.**

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda by Morgan, seconded by O'Toole.

Motion passed 7-0.

REPORTS:

Mayor Daniel Ursu: He recommended shopping at the new Dave's Market. There have been many renovations and updates, and we'd like to welcome them to the community.

Acting Fire Chief, Bob Armstrong: The call volume is slightly higher than last year. We've had 32 double hits, provided 14 times of mutual aid to neighbors and requested mutual aid twice. There will be a Paramedics class, done on duty, over two weeks in April.

Police Chief, Gene Rowe: -excused-

Building Inspector, Dan Spada: -excused-

Finance Director, Lynda Rossiter: -excused-

Development Director, Lee Gase: -excused-

Service Director, Don Lazar: We're working on the water breaks, doing mailbox repairs, and putting sod on tree lawns.

City Engineer, Chris Courtney: No report tonight.

Recreation Director, Drda: There is an Egg Hunt scheduled this Saturday, March 27th at the Lodge for kids at 9am. We are applying for the new Legacy grant and are asking for

a new Merry-go-round for the playground. The County Recreation and Parks Grant went out last week, and we are planning for Family Day.

Headen asked the location of the new Merry-go-round feature. Drda said it will be on the gravel, near the school playground.

Audience:

Residents Present at this meeting:

Joe Cooney, 4966 Gleeten Road

Antonio DiPaolo, 4958 Gleeten Road

Marge Skoda, 538 Richmond Road

Dave Trumbull, 546 Richmond Road

Horace Scruggs, 4934 Gleeten Road

Olga Kobasko, 4938 Lindsey Lane

Olga Kobasko brought to the attention of Council that there is bad drainage now in her backyard, since July 1st. She has been working with Lee Courtney on this. She invited some of her other neighbors to the meeting to discuss their problems with water. She said last year her backyard was flooded a lot. She would like the City to do something about this and fix it. She also said that Homewood Residence dumps rocks in her yard, after excavating the land.

Don O'Toole said there was a change made on the terrain at Homewood Residence, and that may have caused some problems.

Don Lazar said he also went to look and it's been hard to determine the problem and what to do. He is looking for indications of where the problem started.

Dave Trumbull asked when the retention wall would be taken down (because of the Homewood renovations), and also said the trees are dying because of the Homewood renovations. He said there are supposed to be new ones planted this spring, and wanted to make sure the City does not forget about this. He said the residents behind him are also having flooding problems. The swale has helped, but not solved the problem. He added that there are geese coming to the area now and the retention pond smells and there are insects all over as well.

Joe Cooney said he is surprised at how large the retention pond has become, and it is overflowed. His backyard is getting saturated.

Tony DiPaolo said there are issues with the water running off the yards. There should be drains every 50 feet.

Marge Skoda said Homewood was built up with mounds of dirt, but the water is in all their yards very badly now. She added that there is a big obnoxious green generator that she can see from her backyard at Homewood.

Chris Courtney said the Design Engineer is required to map and design the property and honor the existing drainage areas.

Todd Hunt, Law Director, said he talked to the architect, and he is aware of the situation.

Joe Cooney had another problem. He said that about 2 houses down from his, is an abandoned, foreclosed home, which is not finished. There are no locks on the doors and anyone can go in there. He worries about the safety of his kids.

Hunt said it is in foreclosure and the City is requesting the title to the property.

Headen asked about barricading the doors and locking them.

Mayor Ursu asked the Clerk of Council to contact Dan Spada, Building Commissioner about this and let him know the problem.

Gail Williams-Byers, was present to announce her candidacy to the Domestic Relations Court. There is an open seat and she asked for everyone's support in the next election on May 4th.

Maureen Clancy is running for Judge of Common Pleas Court and she also asked for everyone's support in the upcoming election.

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO.: 4 -2010, INTRODUCED BY ALEXANDER, THIRD READING
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1329.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS, "CASH DEPOSIT FOR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES"; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE, SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO PASS ORDINANCE NO.: 4-2010. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 11- 2010, INTRODUCED BY ALEXANDER, THIRD READING (amended)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 66-2008 TO REDEFINE THE PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL FUND DESIGNATED AS THE "GENERAL RESERVE FUND".

- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE, SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO PASS ORDINANCE NO.: 11-2010. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 12- 2010, INTRODUCED BY ALEXANDER, THIRD READING
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL FUND TO BE DESIGNATED AS THE "PAYROLL STABILIZATION FUND".

- MOTION WAS MADE BY ALEXANDER, SECONDED BY MORGAN TO PASS ORDINANCE NO.: 12-2010. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 18-2010, INTRODUCED BY ALEXANDER, SECOND READING
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL FUND TO BE DESIGNATED AS THE "CAPITAL RESERVE FUND".

- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE AND SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY HENRY, SECONDED BY MORGAN TO PASS ORDINANCE NO.: 18-2010. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO.: 21 -2010, INTRODUCED BY MORGAN, FIRST READING
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH TO PERFORM STORM WATER INSPECTION AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CITY FOR 2010.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE AND SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE, SECONDED BY MORGAN TO PASS RESOLUTION NO.: 21-2010. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO.: 22- 2010, INTRODUCED BY MORGAN, FIRST READING
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PURCHASE SODIUM CHLORIDE (ROCK SALT) FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE 2010-2011 WINTER SEASON.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY MORGAN AND SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE, SECONDED BY ALEXANDER TO PASS RESOLUTION NO.: 22-2010. THE MOTION PASSED 6-1.
- ALEXANDER, GAMBATESE, HENRY, MORGAN, O'TOOLE, ROCHE- YAY
- HEADEN- ABSTAINED

ADDITIONS:

MOTION FOR THE MAYOR TO HAVE AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN A JOINT STATEMENT WITH THE NOISE ABATEMENT COUNCIL.
GAMBATESE MOTIONED, O'TOOLE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED 7-0.

TODD HUNT, LAW DIRECTOR, SAID THIS IS A VOLUNTARY DOCUMENT REGARDING THE COUNTY AIRPORT, TO LESSEN NOISE ISSUES. THIS IS NOT A BINDING CONTRACT, BUT IT IS A JOINT RESOLUTION, AND WILL AFFECT THE 3 CITIES CLOSEST TO THE AIRPORT (RICH HTS, HIGH HTS AND WILLOUGHBY HILLS).

CORRESPONDENCE: -none-

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Roche, seconded by Morgan to adjourn this March 23, 2010 City Council Meeting at 9:10 PM

Betsy Traben, Clerk of Council

David H. Roche, Council President