

**City of Richmond Heights
City Council Meeting
September 26, 2023**

President of Council, Bobby Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:15 PM.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

***Roll Call:* Alexander, Jordan, Justice, Lentine, Lewis, Nelson, Ursu**

Motion was made by Lentine, seconded by Nelson to excuse Ursu; passed unanimously.

Excused: Ursu

Motion was made by Jordan, seconded by Lewis to approve the meeting minutes of September 12, 2023; passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted after reading of the titles of each by two motions -- one motion requires five affirmative votes to suspend the Council's rules requiring three separate readings of legislation and the second motion requires four votes for passage of all items listed on the Consent Agenda. There will be no separate discussion of these items prior to their adoption. If any Councilperson desires discussion, the particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately by Council with full discussion and individual action thereon.

1. Minutes of the City Council Meeting from September 12, 2023.

Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Lentine to pass the consent agenda items; passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

Mayor Kim A. Thomas:

- Mayor invited all residents and all of council to the Community Resource Fair on October 5th, 4:00 PM-6:00 PM.

Fire Chief, Marc Neumann:

- No Report.
- Lentine asked if they completed the fire testing at 444 Park. The testing has been completed for the Standpipe and they are back in service in all buildings.

Police Chief, Calvin Williams:

- Over the past two weeks they conducted 13 misdemeanor arrests, issued 38 traffic citations, four parking infractions, and 12 motor vehicle accidents and handled 202 assignments.
- Reminder that the distracted driving law begins October 5th and law enforcement agencies are free to enforce the distracted driving law, punishable by citation. They will have hand outs at the next council meeting.
- Alexander asked if using Bluetooth is ok. Williams said that the law allows for use of hands-free devices as long as they are not being handled.
- Jordan asked if we could get more information on the bill that takes away the tax of handguns. Williams said he can get that information to him later.

Finance Director, Michael Frederick:

- The city earned \$2.9 M in revenue for August. The expenses were \$1.5M. They were waiting on the second half of the property taxes and received them. They haven't received the homestead exemption, but they expect it this week.

Building Commissioner, William Gallagher:

- Met with planners at Cleveland Metroparks. They are asking for public opinion to discuss improvements at Euclid Creek Reservation and Euclid Creek Greenway on Wednesday October 4th 5:30 PM -7:30 PM 22639 Euclid Ave.
- They are planning to build a new pavilion, to expand the trails, improvements at the lakefront and the land that was donated to the Metroparks and other areas.
- Belle Oaks is moving along well. It will take 3-4 weeks to sort and take away materials. They may start taking down the JC Penny's building the second week of October.
- Currently they did a final approval on the Life Storage buildings. The contractor wants all permits in place and ready to go to get started in the Spring.

Human Resources Director, Rhonda Lowe:

- We are in the middle of Open Enrollment benefits preparation.

Economic Development Consultant, Shayla Davis: excused

Service Director, Ryan Tiedman:

- Service Department is continuing normal operations, tree trimming, grass cutting, building maintenance. They are preparing the fall leaf equipment.
- The crew has been at White Rd. for a storm water main that collapsed in front of a resident's house. They completed the work in 10 hours.
- Lentine asked what the materials at the lot behind the 444 apartments are. Tiedman said there are wood chips that they will take to Green Vision, and they are looking for a place to take the asphalt.

Recreation Director, Cameron Campbell: excused

City Engineer, Chris Courtney:

- **The 2022-2023 Road Program** - Specialized Construction will be in town for the next 7 to 10 days to complete paving work for the 2022 Road Program. That's the final asphalt surface on Meadowlane and Georgetown and then they will move directly to the 2023 Road work repairs on County Roads which is currently asphalt repairs crack sealing.
- **The School Bridge Replacement Project**- We conducted an onsite progress meeting this morning attended by the mayor and many city representatives. Work is on schedule on budget. The junction chamber is complete. The landscaper is scheduled to be on site around 10/16 and will be completed by the end of October.
- Tiedman and Courtney have participated in the Ohio EPA audit of the storm water program last week. It looks like a pretty good program however we were dinged on a few items but will get results in a notice of violation. Please don't panic by that term because it's not a major problem but rather an opportunity to update and streamline some portions of that Phase Two program. We should receive the highlighting correspondence regarding the audit by the end of October and then we'll leave assemble plan of action over the next 30 days after receiving that letter to respond to the notice of violation.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**RESOLUTION NO.: 106-2023 (AS REVISED 8-8-23) INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS;
FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF SHAYLA L. DAVIS AS DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

- **HOLD ON**

RESOLUTION NO.: 118-2023 INTRODUCED BY JORDAN; SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 121.20, "STANDING COMMITTEES", TO CHANGE THE MEETING TIMES OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD BEFORE AND ON THE SAME DAYS AS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING TIMES.

- **HOLD ON**

RESOLUTION NO.: 119-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; SECOND READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT OF OHIO, INC. FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING.

- Motion was made by Alexander, seconded by Lewis to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Lentine, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 119-2023; passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO.: 122-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; SECOND READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH.

- Motion was made by Alexander, seconded by Lewis to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Alexander to pass Resolution 122-2023; passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

**RESOLUTION NO.: 129-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS & ALL OF COUNCIL;
FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS APPOINTEE MEMBERS PAUL ELLIS AND TIMOTHY LOWE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BELLE OAKS NEW COMMUNITY AUTHORITY.

- Motion was made by Alexander, seconded by Lentine to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Lentine to pass Resolution 129-2023; passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO.: 130-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ADMAR CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES FOR THE EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF A NEW SIDEWALK SNOWPLOW MACHINE.

- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Alexander to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Lweis, seconded by Alexander to pass Resolution 130-2023; passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO.: 131-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A NEGOTIATED
TERMINATION OF AN OPEN-END EQUITY LEASE AGREEMENT WITH ENTERPRISE FLEET
MANAGEMENT FOR TRUCKS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE WITH THE
PURCHASE OF FIVE 2022 CHEVROLET TRUCKS.

- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Jordan to suspend the rules; passed 5-1.
Alexander - No
- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Jordan to pass Resolution 131-2023; passed 5-1.
Alexander - No

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Council President, Bobby Jordan adjourned the City Council Meeting at 8:39 PM

Minutes taken by Donnie Hunter, Clerk of Council