

**City of Richmond Heights  
City Council Meeting  
October 10, 2023**

President of Council, Bobby Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:54 PM.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

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

Motion was made by Lentine, seconded by Jordan to excuse Alexander; passed unanimously.

**Excused: Ursu**

Motion was made by Jordan, seconded by Ursu to approve the meeting minutes of September 26, 2023 and the Consent Agenda; 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 26, 2023.

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

**REPORTS:**

**Mayor Kim A. Thomas:**

- No Report

**Fire Chief, Marc Neumann:**

- This is Fire Prevention week. Fire Prevention week is October 8<sup>th</sup>- October 14<sup>th</sup>. Cooking Safety Starts with You. Pay attention to Fire Prevention. The campaign is to educate everyone about simple actions to take when cooking to reduce the risk of cooking fires. More information is on the website.
- Richmond Heights Division of fire participates in Red Cross Operation Save Life Program which provides Free fire safety checks and smoke alarm installations. Smoke alarms are provided to Richmond Heights homeowners in need. Landlords are required to provide them in rental properties. If you would like to schedule a fire checkup, call the hotline at 216-361-5535 or call Neumann.
- Heart Saver CPR is scheduled for Monday October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00-4:00. The next CPR course is Dec 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM and anyone interested can check the website or call Neumann at 216-383-6304. CPR is the first link in the chain of survival.

**Police Chief, Calvin Williams:**

- This week is the International Association of Chief of Police Conference in San Diego. He will not be there. He will be here.

- Arrested someone for swatting false calls to residents that they have to respond. They arrested them in Parma. He issued 33 citations and eight parking tickets.
- Lentine asked about legislation concerning forgiveness on taxes for firearms and ammunition. It is a proposed piece of legislation that may or may not make it to the state house this year.
- Lentine says they have a crossing guard now, and said he is concerned that when school lets out the students bypass the crossing area to cross in front of City Hall. He said it's been brought to his attention. Williams said they place a marked car when available because of the issue. There will not always be a car there, if there are no calls for service, they will have a car parked in front of City Hall to discourage students from jaywalking. Williams said he will have the officers talk to the students.
- Jordan said they will talk to the Superintendent and ask her to make an announcement and possibly have someone out there to take names of violators.

**Finance Director, Michael Frederick:**

- **No Report**

**Building Commissioner, William Gallagher:**

- They will start removing the JC Penny building the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup> at Belle Oaks.
- There are a number of things up and coming at Belle Oaks and they will meet with the planning commission tomorrow for the new leasing building.
- Also, a Specialty Shop is on their agenda that has a zoning issue. The Planning Commission will need to weigh in on it.
- The church property to the north is requesting a zoning change. It is an R1 zoned area and Belle Oaks has been classified as a MU Overlay. He is working with the law director on how to present it to the Planning Commission and council.

**Human Resources Director, Rhonda Lowe:**

- The Open Enrollment process will be their focus over the next few weeks. They will be gearing up to talk to their health care committee.
- HR has been focusing on safety. There is now an auxiliary person in City Hall all day and on meeting days.
- Evacuation maps have been installed all over the building. Notice where you are so in the event of an evacuation you can follow the evacuation map. This morning the admin building had their first fire drill. They had an opportunity to be evaluated by the fire prevention officer and they have a summary. That is a step in making the employees safe. They are also reviewing the safety manuals.
- HR will partner with fire and police on Lieutenant interviews.
- Jordan asked if there is a fire, and someone came on a wheelchair to the second floor who will bring them down. Neumann said that the fire fighters have special chairs and equipment that can be used. They will be discussing it with council to add it to the budget.
- Lowe said they are committed to training employees to exit the building and how to handle safety events. Tomorrow and Thursday they will have annual safety training.
- Jordan said the training is essential.

**Economic Development Consultant, Shayla Davis:**

**Service Director, Ryan Tiedman:**

- The First round of leaf cleanup started yesterday and today to test the equipment. Cleanup will officially start October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- They are continuing normal operations and getting prepared for fall and winter.

**Recreation Director, Cameron Campbell:**

- The Amish Country Bus Trip is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>. The trip has been sold out for the last three weeks.

- The soccer program ends this Saturday, Flag football ends next Sunday.
- Breakfast with Santa tickets go on sale November 1<sup>st</sup>. The breakfast is Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Fall city edition will be sent to the printer this week and residents will receive it next week.

**City Engineer, Chris Courtney: excused**

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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

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

- Jordan said they vote at the next meeting.
- **HOLD ON**

**ORDINANCE 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. (With Revisions)

- Hunt will send the revision to council to ensure clarity of the days and times.
- Motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Ursu to pass Resolution 118-2023; passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 133-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY FOR JAIL SERVICES FOR CITY PRISONERS.

- **HOLD ON**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 134-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR & ALL OF COUNCIL; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (“ARPA”) FIRST RESPONDER RETENTION GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE GRANT.

- Motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Lentine to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Nelson to pass Resolution 134-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 135-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR & ALL OF COUNCIL; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FROM THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS FOR A PROJECT TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR ITS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS AND/OR IN-KIND SERVICES FROM THE CITY.

- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Nelson to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 135-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 136-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR & ALL OF COUNCIL; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FROM THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS FOR A PROJECT TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR ITS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.

- Motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Jordan to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 136-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 137-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GLOBAL LED SOLUTIONS FOR LED LIGHTING FOR CITY HALL AND THE POLICE STATION.

- Motion was made by Lentine, seconded by Justice to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lentine to pass Resolution 137-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 138-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CT CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE NEW GAZEBO PROJECT AT GREENWOOD FARM PARK.

- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lentine to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 138-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 139-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CT CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE CITY'S NEW SERVICE DEPARTMENT FACILITY PROJECT.

- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Nelson to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 139-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 140-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING**  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CT CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE MAIN HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AT GREENWOOD FARM PARK.

- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Justice to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 140-2023; passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 141-2023 INTRODUCED BY MAYOR THOMAS; FIRST READING**  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CT CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN STUDY PROJECT.

- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Nelson to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Lewis to pass Resolution 141-2023; passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO.: 142-2023 INTRODUCED BY URSU; FIRST READING**  
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE CODIFICATION, EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS, OHIO, AND APPROVING THE UPDATING OF VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE TRAFFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSES CODES TO COMPLY WITH STATE LAW.

- Motion was made by Lewis, seconded by Ursu to suspend the rules; passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Ursu, seconded by Nelson to pass Resolution 142-2023; passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Council President, Bobby Jordan adjourned the City Council Meeting at 9:29 PM*

*Minutes taken by Donnie Hunter, Clerk of Council*