

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

Council President Miller called the meeting to order, the Honor Guard presented the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call.

Present: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icove, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller.

Council President Miller acknowledged State Senator Kenny Yuko who was in attendance.

Approval of Minutes: November 23, 2015

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Moe Romeo, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 6, No = 0, Abstain = 1).

Yes: Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icove, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller.

Abstain: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli (Mr. Fiorelli was absent from the November 23rd Meeting).

Swearing-In Ceremony: New Firefighters Jacob McKenrick & Jonathan Tedeschi were sworn in.

Opening Meeting of Council:

President Miller called the Open Meeting of Council to order and invited the audience to address Council:

- Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, reported that the red light on top of the communications tower at city hall is not working again and said that it is putting him and nearby residents including Mayor Welo in danger. Mr. Turner stated that he would like to be the Law Director so he could write his own paycheck and stonewall on the completion of public records requests and letting the Mayor and Police Chief destroy records which is a felony. Mr. Turner stated that he would appreciate it if someone would do something about it and he will be here for the next five years. The Mayor reported that she is aware of the light being out and there are electrical issues that are being replaced and corrected.
- Stacy Spetrino, 1361 South Belvoir Blvd, stated that she is a resident of South Euclid for four years and is speaking on behalf of her son regarding the issue of cars turning right on red in the crosswalk at Mayfield and South Belvoir Blvd. Ms. Spetrino stated that it is a continuing problem for her son who regularly utilizes the crosswalk to get to the bus and he has nearly been hit by cars on several occasions. Ms. Spetrino stated that she has discussed the issue with Traffic Commissioner and signs are up but people don't see the signs and suggested more signs and police officers at the area. Ms. Spetrino also commended the police department for responding quickly to another issue.
- Howard Goldberg from Purple Heart Homes thanked the members of the community, Mayor Welo, City Council and Administration for their hard work in helping to establish the second Purple Heart Home for a disabled veteran and announced the mission complete ceremony would take place this Saturday at St. John's Church. Mr. Goldberg stated that South Euclid is a great city and commended the staff and leadership.
- Bessie Rhodes, 560 Greenvale Drive, spoke regarding the proposed development of independent senior housing on the former Lowden School property. Ms. Rhodes stated that she moved to the city three years ago and found out that the city was rushing to rezone the property before Christmas. Ms. Rhodes stated that the School Board said they would keep her informed about the project, but had not and she is surprised by the issue. Ms. Rhodes stated that when she bought her home her intent was not to have an apartment building across from her and that the project, which she said will be a 65 unit low-income senior apartment building is too much for the area and is disappointed. Mayor Welo explained that there is no rush to approve the rezoning prior to Christmas and that per law, the Zoning and Planning Commission must review the project, have a public hearing and make a recommendation back to City Council who will have the final decision on the School District's request for rezoning. Director Benjamin gave an overview of the timeline and process and that the deliberations by Planning Commission and City Council would go into the new year. Councilwoman Gray stated that, in addition to the city process, the property has not been sold yet and is still owned by the South Euclid Lyndhurst School District and that residents have the right to express their concerns with the School Board and Superintendent. Ms. Gray stated that until the land is sold, it is still public land and the School District has not agreed to meet with the residents and also expressed concern that the City is discussing a rezoning process that might not be legal. Councilwoman Gray asked residents to attend the School Board meetings to let their voice be heard and she will support them 100% and the school district has not been cooperative at all. Ms. Rhodes stated that she pays thousands of dollars a year in taxes to the schools and does not have kids and does not appreciate the district railroading this issue through.

Report of Council Committees:**Finance Committee**

Councilman Romeo reported that the finance committee met to discuss the process for the establishment of the new Board of Tax Review that will consist of three people, two appointed by City Council and one by the Mayor. Mr. Romeo reported that the application process has been advertised and notices issued and the Board needs to be established within 60 days of January 1, 2016.

Committee of the Whole

Council President Miller reported that the Committee of the Whole met to discuss monthly finances and that the City will end 2015 with approximately \$4 million in the general fund, but there will be additional costs next year due to continuing state cuts, property tax reductions and RITA collections that are \$300,000 lower.

President Miller also stated that the Committee of the Whole met to discuss Resolution 45-15 regarding requesting that the Ohio State Legislature look at merging the South Euclid Court with another neighboring court. Mr. Miller stated that there was informative discussion and that additional facts need to be solicited from the court.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 45-15

RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OHIO STATE LEGISLATURE INTRODUCE AND PASS LEGISLATION TO MERGE THE SOUTH EUCLID MUNICIPAL COURT WITH A NEIGHBORING MUNICIPAL COURT AND REQUESTING THE OHIO SUPREME COURT TO ASSIST WITH SAID MERGER. **SECOND READING.**

The legislation was read and placed on Second Reading.

Legislation Requested by City Council

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 46-15

RESOLUTION

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE V "ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS" OF SECTION 1 "GENERAL PROVISIONS" OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID HEREBY CONFIRMS MICHAEL P. LOGRASSO AS DIRECTOR OF LAW. FIRST READING.

The Legislation was placed on First Reading.

Mayor's Report:

- Housing Manager Sally Martin asked Council consideration of the proposed legislation for 2015-2016 high grass abatement program.
- Economic Development Director Mike Love reported on the Holiday Lighting Ceremony that was attended by about 200 people.
- City Engineer Andy Blackley requested council consideration of three resolutions on the agenda for the 2016 Road Resurfacing Bids, Watermain Renewal Project Bids and renewing the Engineer's contract. There was discussion about the proposed projects and adding Grosvenor Road as a bid alternate to the resurfacing bid.
- Mayor Welo: Thanked One South Euclid for planning the Holiday Lighting Ceremony and also discussed the Pets Light Up our Lives lighting ceremony fundraiser for the Humane Society. Ms. Welo discussed proposed legislation regarding authorization for the repair of the water slide at Bexley Pool and discussed the great turnout of Mayors that attended the First Suburbs Consortium meeting that was hosted by South Euclid at the new library.

Legislation Requested by the Mayor and Administration

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 47-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM SLIDECARE, LLC FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE BEXLEY PARK POOL SLIDE STAIRWAY SYSTEM. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Councilman Moe Romeo.

Following discussion and explanation by Councilman Fiorelli that the City originally budgeted \$120,000 for the project but because of the creativity of the Service Director the refurbishing of the slide will cost only \$52,000

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller.

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 48-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE 2016 STREET RESURFACING PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Moe Romeo, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller.

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 49-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE 2016 WATER MAIN RENEWAL PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Ruth Gray, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 50-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE EAST ANTISDALE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, PHASE 2 IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 51-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY SPECIFICATIONS, ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, AND ENTER INTO SUBSEQUENT CONTRACTS FOR THE 2016-2017 NUISANCE ABATEMENT LANDSCAPING PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilman Moe Romeo.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 52-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING FUND: "GENERAL FUND" IN ORDER TO FUND OVERTIME EXPENSES IN THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Moe Romeo, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 53-15

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHIOBIZ, LLC TO FURTHER DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN THE WORLD WIDE WEBSITE FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Councilman Moe Romeo.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 28-15

ORDINANCE

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENDING THE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR STEPHEN HOVANCSEK & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR A PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Moe Romeo, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 29-15

ORDINANCE

TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT AND OTHER EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Moe Romeo, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman.

Following discussion, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The legislation has been approved.

Law Director's Report - No report

Letters & Communications

- Councilwoman Goodman reported that she attended a presentation on South Euclid water quality monitoring by a biology class at Notre Dame College. Ms. Goodman stated that she missed the holiday lighting ceremony because it was held on the first night of Hanukah and that scheduling should be looked at so that everyone could attend. Ms. Goodman received a complement from a passerby that saw someone from an auto repair shop dumping a bucket of gas/oil down the drain that goes directly into Euclid Creek at Sherbrook and Mayfield. The person who saw the gas being dumped and called the police was Ty McBee who happens to be the External Relations Manager for Dominion East Ohio. Councilwoman Goodman also reported that another resident reported Chipotle pouring cooking oil down a drain and that she is going to look towards outreach and education programs for businesses.
- Councilwoman Gray reported that the annual Kwanzaa Celebration will be December 26 at Garfield Memorial Church and that the event is free and open to the public. Ms. Gray gave an overview of Kwanzaa and that the event is being held on the first day of Kwanzaa, Umoja which represents Unity.
- Councilman Gelfand rescheduled the December 26th Safety Committee meeting to January 25th at 7 pm. Mr. Gelfand discussed the Purple Heart Homes opening and wished those that celebrate a Merry Christmas.
- Councilman Romeo wished residents a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays and also discussed the Purple Heart Homes effort and the fantastic job done by Howard Goldberg in providing housing for those who fought for our country and need help.
- Councilman Fiorelli wished everyone a happy and safe holiday and discussed the Fire Department Lock Box Program for seniors.
- Councilman Icové presented a Senatorial Citation from State Senator Kenny Yuko to Council President David Miller in recognition of his years of service to South Euclid. Senator Yuko had to leave the meeting early to attend another council meeting. The citation was read by the Mayor.
- President Miller reported that he had the opportunity to sit in a session last week regarding diversity and cultural competency training for Northeast Ohio area police officers at Cleveland State University and that South Euclid Director Keith Benjamin, a co-founder of the program at Cleveland State University, facilitated the community listening session with area leaders to give an overview of the first responder training. Mr. Miller complemented the impactful work that Mr. Benjamin is doing not just for South Euclid, but also the Greater Cleveland community.

Adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of discussing pending litigation.

Action: Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session, **Moved by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. Council adjourned to Executive Session at 9:18 pm.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilman Moe Romeo, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilman Ed Icové, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller. The Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council