

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

Council President Miller called the meeting to order 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 Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller.

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove.

Swearing-In Ceremony

Auxiliary Police Officers Stephen Kandrach & Antwaun Armstrong were sworn-in as new Auxiliary Police Officers.

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 light at the top of the communications tower at City Hall is still not working and stated that he is sorry that Councilman Icove was not at the meeting tonight because he wanted to applaud him for his ability to act on presenting a plaque to President Miller from State Senator Kenny Yuko at the previous Council Meeting. Mr. Turner then referred to Council President Miller as an "Uncle Tom". Mr. Miller told Mr. Turner that he was out of bounds and out of line and that Mr. Turner is probably "delusional" regarding his ongoing complaints related to the police department and told Mr. Turner that his time to speak was up. Councilwoman Gray stated that Mr. Turner is a resident of the community, and whether we agree with him or not, he has a right to be heard.
- Valerie Ridley, 4119 Lowden Road, expressed her concern regarding the proposed redevelopment of the Lowden School property for low-income senior citizen housing and stated that she was against it.
- Rodney Vance, 514 Greenvale Road, stated that he has been a resident for 21 years and seen a lot of changes in the neighborhood and many negative issues were abated when the City purchased nine homes on Greenvale because of problems, but now want to turn around and put low-income apartments at Lowden. Mr. Vance said that it is defeating the purpose. Mr. Vance stated that low-income seniors will be taking care of their grandkids, nieces and nephews at the apartments and cause more problems. Mr. Vance asked why new homes or condos can't be built there instead of renters and said that he doesn't want renters.
- Phyllis Vance, 514 Greenvale Road, stated that most of her neighbors are against and do not want the rezoning and she is concerned about traffic and other issues that might arise. Ms. Vance stated that a study has not been done to see how the area is going to be impacted. Ms. Vance stated that the developers build beautiful homes and asked why they can't build single family homes on the site. Ms. Vance stated that they have lived in the community for over 25 years and all of her children have attended the schools, but is concerned about the rate that the city is seemingly going down with this development which will result in low-income homes, potentially grandparents taking care of children and that is going to impact the city.
- Sunny Simon, County Councilwoman and resident 4110 Princeton, stated that, with the information she has so far, she is concerned about the rezoning of the Lowden property and that 50+ units may be too many for the neighborhood. Ms. Simon stated that the city has worked very hard to stabilize the area and she has concerns about the proposed development. County Councilwoman Simon also presented a proclamation from Cuyahoga County Council to President David Miller for his work and dedication on behalf of the City of South Euclid and the residents that call South Euclid home and thanked him for everything he's done for the community.

Report of Council Committees:Zoning & Planning Committee

Councilwoman Goodman reported that the Committee met to review the Tree Commission Ordinance revisions and that the committee recommended passage to City Council. The legislation includes setting up a tree fund to assist homeowners with abating tree root and sidewalk issues, and revisions to the appointment of Tree Commission members.

Introduced by Miller

Ordinance 20-15

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 943 "TREE COMMISSION/TREES" OF PART NINE "STREETS AND PUBLIC SERVICES" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO.

SECOND READING.

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

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

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

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The legislation has been approved.

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. **SECOND READING.**

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President David Miller, **Seconded by** Councilman Moe Romeo.

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 5, No = 1, Abstain = 0).

Yes: Councilman Dennis Fiorelli, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, Councilman Moe Romeo, Council President David Miller.

No: Councilwoman Ruth Gray.

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The legislation has been approved.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Welo presented Finance Director James Smith with the Government Finance Officers Association's Award for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ending December 31, 2014. Mayor Welo reported that the Service Department is ready for the snow, when it arrives. Mayor Welo reported on the Mayfield-Green Redevelopment Project and that the properties in the Maymore Shopping Plaza scheduled to be part of the project sold for around \$8 million to DeVille Developments.

Legislation Requested by the Mayor and Administration

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 54-15

RESOLUTION

EXCUSING COUNCIL MEMBERS' ABSENCE FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS DURING THE YEAR 2015. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Amend Legislation to reflect the absence of Councilman Icove at the December 28th Meeting, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

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

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The Resolution has been amended.

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

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

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

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 55-15

RESOLUTION

SETTING THE DATE FOR THE FIRST REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO IN 2016. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President David Miller, **Seconded by** Councilman Dennis Fiorelli.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

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

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Miller

Ordinance 30-15

ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 933.07, FEES FOR USE, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 933, MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOLS OF PART NINE STREETS AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, SETTING ADMISSION FEES, SEASON PASSES, SPECIAL PROGRAMS, AND RECIPROCITY WITH THE CITY OF LYNDHURST FOR THE USE OF THE MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOLS AND SPLASH PARK BY RESIDENTS OF THE CITY. **PLACED ON FIRST READING FOR REFERRAL TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE.**

The legislation was placed on first reading and referred to the Recreation Committee.

Introduced by Miller

Ordinance 31-15

ORDINANCE

TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015; 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 = 6).

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

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The legislation has been approved.

Law Director's Report Law Director Lograsso thanked City Council for their continuing support.

Letters & Communications

- Councilman Fiorelli thanked Council President Miller for his years of service and some of the many projects he initiated including establishing the annual community clean-up day.
- Councilman Romeo commended Council President Miller for his hard work, leadership, wit and all that he has done for the city. Mr. Romeo stated that residents respect him and he has been a great colleague and is a true friend.
- Councilman Gelfand thanked those that contacted members of council about their concerns regarding the proposed development of the Lowden School property. Mr. Gelfand thanked Council President Miller for his leadership and stated that he has learned a lot from him over the last four years and will miss him on Council.
- Councilwoman stated that she met Council President Miller over 12 years ago when David's son and Councilwoman Gray's grandson were in school together and since then they also attend the same church. Ms. Gray stated that she remembers suggesting that Mr. Miller apply for the open position on City Council at the time. Councilwoman Gray stated that while it wouldn't be honest of her today to say that they share the same camaraderie and friendship that they once had, she has faith that the lord takes care of all problems and settles old wounds and wished Mr. Miller the best of luck to reach his goals in life, do what he thinks is right and may god be with him.
- Councilwoman Goodman thanked all those who attended the Purple Heart Homes event, and all those who helped veteran Leo Robinson with his new home and she looks forward to the third Purple Heart Home in South Euclid. Ms. Goodman reported about the opening on the Planning Commission and that interviews have been scheduled for January 13, 2016. Ms. Goodman thanked the residents that came out to express their concerns regarding the proposed Lowden development and that as the process continues, the city needs to be creative. Ms. Goodman thanked Council President Miller for his service, patience, generosity of times, creative ideas and passion for the community and stated that Mr. Miller has been inspiring.
- Councilwoman Gray stated addressed the Lowden rezoning issue and stated that the property is still owned by the School District and is public land and encouraged the residents in attendance to address the issue with the School Board and Superintendent before it's too late. Ms. Gray stated that the real issue with the property rests with the School Board and stated that School Board President Cassandra Jones is in attendance at tonight's meeting and suggested that residents talk to her after the council meeting and ask her to set up a meeting with residents and other School Board members and the Superintendent to explain and discuss the issue. Ms. Gray stated that the issue right now is that the property is still public land owned by the school district.

Recognition Ceremony for outgoing Council President and At-Large Member David Miller

Introduced by Miller

Resolution 56-15

RESOLUTION

IN APPRECIATION TO DR. DAVID B. MILLER FOR HIS YEARS OF DILIGENT SERVICE ON SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL AND TO 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.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

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

Absent: Councilman Ed Icove

The legislation has been approved.

Mr. Miller was presented with the Resolution and a key to the City by Mayor Welo and City Council.

Resident Rodney Vance, 514 Greenvale Road, thanked Mr. Miller for his work taking care of the overgrown field at Lowden that needed to be cleaned up for his son's graduation party and thanked him for his service and that he will always have his support.

Council President Miller thanked the residents, Mayor Welo, staff and all members of City Council and said the last ten years have been a blast. Mr. Miller said that everything the city has done has been in the best interests of the city and the residents and that he is looking forward to continuing to be involved with community initiatives, including the One South Euclid Community Development Corporation. Mr. Miller again thanked his colleagues and stated that Mayor Welo and her staff do great work including Finance Director Smith, Law Director Lograsso and stated that Economic Development Director Love and Community Services Director Benjamin are outstanding and they are all advocates for the residents. Mr. Miller stated that he thanks and appreciates all council members and stated that Councilman Moe Romeo is like a second father to him and that he has learned so much from him. Mr. Miller recited Maya Angelou's poem "Still I Rise" and thanked everyone for their support.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Jane Goodman, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

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.

Absent: Councilman Ed Icové

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council