

Test: [6:49:13 PM](#)

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

Council President Moe Romeo called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icove, Miller, Simon, Romeo (7)

Absent: None

Staff: Benjamin, Blackley, Cannell, Filippo, Assistant Police Chief Franey, Gallagher, Lograsso, Martin, Welo

It was moved by Romeo, seconded by Miller, that the Agenda be amended to include Ordinance 17-09.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icove, Miller, Simon, Romeo.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Agenda has been amended.

Special Presentation: Swearing-In Ceremony: Auxiliary Police – Donna Stellar & Brian Riggs were sworn-in as new Auxiliary Police Officers.

Opening Meeting of Council:

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

- Kris Gill, introduced herself as the new Manager of the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Public Library. Gill is a South Euclid resident residing on Hillrock.
- President Moe Romeo remarked that today was Ray Rhode's birthday. Rhode, who was in attendance puts together the City's summer band concerts.

Approval of Minutes:

Following discussion, It was moved by Romeo, seconded by Miller, that the Minutes of the January 12, 2009 meeting of City Council be approved.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Miller, Simon, Romeo.

Nays: None.

Abstain: Icove

Absent: None.

The Minutes have been approved.

Report of Council Committees:

Committee of the Whole

Council President Romeo discussed the budget hearings that have been held concerning the 2009 City Budget and that recommendations made by the committee were on tonight's agenda for vote.

Public Utilities Committee

Councilperson Goodman reported that the Committee met to discuss the proposed legislation concerning the Water Agreement with the City of Cleveland. Goodman stated that the Committee voted to recommend that council approve the resolution and asked that it be placed on the agenda for next Council meeting.

Mayor's Report:

- **Engineer Blackley:** Reported that the City is submitting road projects that would be eligible for funding through the federal stimulus funds. Blackley also reported that construction of the Observation Deck at nine-mile creek would begin as soon as the weather improves.
- **Building Commissioner Kowalczyk:** absent
- **Housing Manager Martin:** Reported about the CRA and that applications would be made available online.
- **Finance Director Filippo:** no report
- **Service Director Gallagher:** Thanked the Utility Committee for recommending passage of the water agreement and reported that beginning April 1, 2009 resident grass clippings, twigs and leaves should be placed in Brown Paper Craft Bags. Gallagher stated that the City could save up to \$300,000 this year if the amount of rubbish is reduced. Bags may be purchased at local places like Home Depot.
- **Police Chief Asst. Franey:** no report

- **Fire Chief Cannell:** no report

Legislation to be Removed from Council Docket

Introduced by Romeo

Resolution 11-05

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1409.01 "CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY REQUIRED" OF PART FOURTEEN OF THE HOUSING CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. **FOR REMOVAL.**

Following discussion, It was moved by Icové, seconded by Romeo, that Resolution 11-05 be removed from Council Docket for consideration.

Roll Call:**Ayes:** Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.**Nays:** None.**Abstain:** None.**Absent:** None.

The Legislation has been removed.

Legislation Requested by City Council

Introduced by Romeo

Ordinance 07-09

RESOLUTION

AMENDING SECTION 339.13 "EXCESSIVE IDLING" OF PART THREE, TRAFFIC CODE, TITLE-FIVE "VEHICLES" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. SECOND READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Goodman, seconded by Simon, that Ordinance 07-09 be passed.

Roll Call:**Ayes:** Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.**Nays:** None.**Abstain:** None.**Absent:** None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Legislation Requested by the Administration

Introduced by Romeo

Resolution 13-09

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) TO PROVIDE SODIUM CHLORIDE (BULK ROCK SALT) TO THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, PER OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5513.01 (B); FOR THE 2009-2010 WINTER SEASON. FIRST READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Hartigan, seconded by Miller, that Resolution 13-09 be passed.

Roll Call:**Ayes:** Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.**Nays:** None.**Abstain:** None.**Absent:** None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Introduced by Romeo

Ordinance 10-09

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, 2009; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Romeo, seconded by Miller, that Ordinance 10-09 be passed.

Roll Call:**Ayes:** Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.**Nays:** None.**Abstain:** None.**Absent:** None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Introduced by Romeo

Ordinance 13-09

ORDINANCE

DECLARING 3893 GROSVENOR ROAD A NUISANCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 531.08 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO, AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF LAW, AFTER HAVING BEEN ADVISED OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES THEREOF, TO INSTITUTE AN APPROPRIATE ACTION AT LAW OR IN EQUITY, TO ABATE SUCH NUISANCES PER SECTION 531.08. SECOND READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Goodman, seconded by Miller, that Ordinance 13-09 be passed.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Introduced by Romeo

Ordinance 16-09

ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 125.04 "CHARGES FOR REPORTS AND RECORDS" OF CHAPTER 125 "DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE" OF PART ONE – "ADMINISTRATIVE CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Romeo, seconded by Simon, that Ordinance 16-09 be passed.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Introduced by Romeo

Ordinance 17-09

ORDINANCE

AMENDING ORDINANCE 02-08; IMPLEMENTING SECTIONS 3735.65 THROUGH 3735.70 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, ESTABLISHING AND DESCRIBING THE BOUNDARIES OF COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO; DESIGNATING A HOUSING OFFICER TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM; AND CREATING A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT HOUSING COUNCIL AND A TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL. FIRST READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Romeo, seconded by Gray, that Ordinance 17-09 be passed.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Law Director's Report

None

Letters & Communications

- Councilperson Miller reminded residents that as we move clocks for daylight savings time that they check their batteries in their smoke detectors, and also reminded residents that Community Clean Up Day is scheduled for April 18. Miller also read the following statement and asked that it be placed "on the record" of the minutes of the meeting: "Her name is Meg Martines and she serves as the Director of the South Euclid Community Center. As city council reviewed the 2009 fiscal budget, circumstances regarding her salary received unfair innuendo from individuals bent on scoring points for personal vendettas and narrow-minded interests. If one would take a moment to objectively review the proposed budget for 2009, one would see that first and foremost, Ms. Martines' salary request, if fully funded, would still place her well below the other department heads, who by the way are all men. Is council supposed to look the other way when a clear discrepancy exists? Is council not to see the covert acceptance of discrimination desired to be

sanctioned by some outside of South Euclid and some inside the city, of her salary request? Ms. Martines' role in the city frequently places her face out in front as representative of our community for others to judge. Her activities and accomplishments are open and available for inspection if one so chooses to take the time to look and not go on hearsay. I find it interesting that a recent letter to the Sun Messenger highlighted the square footage of the community center implicitly implying that her salary request can be reduced to 6th grade math. However, the individual writing that letter had the arrogant audacity to ask the city and by proxy, council, to cover the cost of participating in a hockey league in which his son plays; a league located outside of South Euclid. We were elected by the citizens of this city to steward its resources, its direction, and more importantly, its vision as a place that welcomes and beckons all those looking for a community which personifies neighborliness and honesty. Council has many people who constantly challenge and question us, Yakov Lieber and Robert Schoenenwald are two that come to mind and who do so in an open manner and not behind the puppet strings of outsiders who just can't let it go and move on. Yes, these are difficult and trying economic times; there are foreclosures on every street in this city. There are people wondering this very day if they're going to be able to make their mortgage payments and/or feed their families. This council is committed to working with this administration in seeing that those families have every opportunity possible to stay in their homes while providing for their families. We will not buckle in the face of cut and paste internet flagellation from those outside the community nor will we cower in the face of threats, explicit or implied. We will lead this city. The administration and council have worked closely to assure the city's financial stability. While other city's around us are indeed laying off or not hiring, the work of our finance director, Joe Filippo in concert with the other directors and chiefs, our city is able to hold steady in these times. We don't know nor can we predict what the city's economic picture will be down the road but know this, your elected leaders are watching and monitoring the expenditures with all due diligence and oversight. To insinuate that local officials are buying influence without one shred of evidence questions the integrity of public servants and it's something that I for one, will not let pass unnoticed or unchallenged. Narrow agendas, backward thinking, and myopic perspectives will not serve the residents of this city. They will not be bamboozled, hoodwinked, or lead astray by those whose only quest in life is their own personal self-aggrandizement. Finally, as someone who has worked with and walked among murderers, rapists, pedophiles, robbers, drug dealers, and those without regard for the humanity of others, I know a threat when it's communicated. As communications 101 says, "it's not the how the deliverer of the message intended for his message to be heard but how the receiver of the message understood it" as a foundation for understanding. The individual did clearly and openly communicate a threat to council members. Sitting behind someone, if in fact that person stayed for the entire meeting, allows for someone to make a statement about intent from a safe distance. As a trained professional and researcher in the area of violence, I'm acutely aware of potential warning signs of an individual's potential for aggressive behavior or even worse. And anger and words associated with that anger are indeed warning signs."

- Councilperson Gray: stated that as a councilperson and colleague in municipal government "we have to speak on injustices and inequality" and asked if we would be having this conversation if Meg was male instead of female and that the Community Center Director's increase was bringing her in line with other City directors and regional directors. Gray stated that Council has to make decisions based on fairness and equality and not because of political agendas.
- Councilperson Goodman reported that the spring Ward 4 meeting was held last Wednesday and thanked members of the administration that attended. Goodman also reported that GreenFest would take place at the Community Center this year on April 4, 2009 and thanked Ed Gallagher for his new recycling efforts.
- Councilperson Ilove stated that Jennifer Brunner would be holding a community meeting on March 11 at 7 pm at the Community Center.
- Councilperson Goodman stated that Lt. Governor Lee Fisher would be speaking at a Community Meeting at the Shaker Community Center on March 23.

Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, President Romeo made a motion to adjourn the Meeting. Seconded by Hartigan.

Roll Call to Adjourn

Ayes: Goodman, Gray, Hartigan, Ilove, Miller, Simon, Romeo

Nays:

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:51pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council