

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

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

Swearing-In/Promotions: Lance Whitmer was sworn in as a new South Euclid Police Officer

Roll Call

Present: Fistek, Goodman, Gray, Icové, Miller, Simon, Romeo (7)

Absent: None

Staff: Benjamin, Cannell, Gallagher, Kowalczyk, Lograsso, Martin, Nietert, Welo

Opening Meeting of Council:

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

- Valerie Mikluscak, 4033 Bayard Rd, reported that she has good news and thanked the city for the increased police force in the neighborhood and she appreciates the effort being made. She commented on a couple of incidents and that the police responded to immediately.
 - Yakov Lieber, 4242 Hindsdale, spoke regarding "the chicken feed" resolution 16-08. Lieber stated that the resolution is ridiculous and said that South Euclid is not the "poultry capital of Ohio" and that the resolution should be withdrawn and that council should confine deliberations to situations which occur within the boundaries of South Euclid.
 - Paul Webster, 3941 Princeton, a committee member of the Good Neighbor Committee asked what the status of the Good Neighbor Guide was. Mr. Webster expressed his disappointment at how the process was handled and the length of time it has taken to get the guide produced. Director Benjamin and Councilperson Fistek responded.
 - Debbie Frost, 4566 Crestview Court, a new homeowner at Crestview Court expressed her concern regarding the issues that affect the homes and their homeowners association. She stated that the developer of the project did not address some of the building issues that were part of the conditional use and wanted to know why the city can't represent them to do something about it. Law Director Lograsso responded. Ms. Frost asked what would be the process for having the city take over services that is currently a part of the Homeowners Association. Law Director Lograsso agreed to meet with Ms. Frost to discuss her concerns. Building Commissioner Kowalczyk also reported that he is trying to secure a \$20,000 performance bond from the developer to take care of some of the issues.
 - Bob Schoenenwald, 4426 Bayard, commented about the new housing policy regarding grass-cutting and that not providing due process in terms of giving 72 hour notice after the first-time offense is a policy that begs for abuse and wide open fraud by the City. He stated that he was upset that no one on City Council disagreed about the matter and said he found it of concern. He stated that this kind of policy is more of a threat to our way of life than Al Qadea or any other terrorist group. Mr. Kowalczyk, Ms. Martin, Mr. Gallagher, President Romeo and Councilperson Gray responded.
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Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes of the February 11 and February 25, 2008 meetings of City Council were approved with the correction of the adjournment time of the February 11, 2008 meeting.

Following discussion, It was moved by Romeo, seconded by Fistek, that the Minutes be approved.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Report of Council Committees:Recreation Committee

Councilperson Miller reported that the Recreation Committee met and reiterated that the City of South Euclid will continue to provide reciprocity to the City of Lyndhurst. President Romeo acknowledged three Lyndhurst Council Members who were in the audience: Lyndhurst Councilmembers Ward, Marko and Frey.

Zoning and Planning Committee

Councilperson Ilove reported that last week a Public Hearing was held regarding Riparian rights and that a meeting will be scheduled to consider the legislation. Councilperson Goodman distributed recommendations from the Cuyahoga River community area planning concerning riparian setbacks. Councilperson Gray requested a legal ruling on if it's okay for a councilperson to solicit recommendations when they work for another public entity.

Finance Committee

Councilperson Fistek reported that a meeting was held to discuss that legislation 21-08, 22-08, 23-08, 24-08, and that pending changes requested in committee, that the legislation be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Zoning & Planning Committee

Introduced by Romeo

Resolution 15-08

RESOLUTION

GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO NOTRE DAME COLLEGE FOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AT 4545 COLLEGE DRIVE IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Following discussion, It was moved by Ilove, seconded by Romeo, that Resolution 15-08 be passed.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Fistek, Goodman, Gray, Ilove, Miller, Simon, Romeo.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Legislation has Passed Unanimously.

Mayor's Report:

- **Mayor Welo:** reported in the engineer's absence that bids came in very favorably for the nine-mile creek wetlands project.
- **Engineer Blackley:** Absent.
- **Building Commissioner Kowalczyk:** No Report.
- **Housing Manager Martin:** Received notice from the County Prosecutor that the city has filed an affidavit for two parcels of land to be placed in the City's land bank and also spoke regarding the Grosvenor Beautification Day last Saturday which helped beautify 14 homes. 20 volunteers participated.
- **Community Services Director Benjamin:** Discussed the new Storefront Renovation Program and the Vacant Residential Property Fund being created by the First Suburbs Development Council and how they can be utilized by the City of South Euclid.
- **Finance Director Filippo:** Absent
- **Service Director Gallagher:** No Report.
- **Police Chief Nietert:** Reminded Council of the Notre Dame Safety Fair this Saturday and also stated that the Police Department will hold a Citizen's Police Academy this Fall.
- **Fire Chief Cannell:** Hydrant Flushing will be performed beginning this week through June.
- **Mayor Welo:** Relay for Life and March for Marcy is coming up this weekend.
- **Community Services Director Benjamin** explained what the \$1.8 million from the County Commissioners DOD Loan Program would be used for at Cedar Center.

Legislation Requested by City Council

Introduced by Romeo

Resolution 16-08

RESOLUTION

OPPOSING THE ABUSIVE FARMING PRACTICES OF THE CONFINEMENT OF EGG LAYING HENS IN BATTERY CAGES. FIRST READING.

It was moved by Simon, seconded by Goodman, that Resolution 16-08 be passed.

Simon explained and there was discussion.

Following discussion **Roll Call:**

Ayes: Fistek, Goodman, Simon.

Nays: Gray, Icove, Miller, Romeo.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The Legislation has Failed

Law Director's Report

None

Letters & Communications

- President Romeo – read a statement regarding communication between Lyndhurst and South Euclid and apologized for any lack of communication on South Euclid's side with the Lyndhurst Council and that it is his intention to be communicating directly and on a regular basis with Lyndhurst Council on issues that affect both communities.
 - Councilperson Simon, passed on to Council that former South Euclid resident Roy Hall, an NFL player with the Indianapolis Colts is raising funds for a football camp for needy youth and reported that she met with Kirby Date from CSU with members of the administration to start the process for looking at our PURD ordinances. Councilperson Simon also commented on the Bird Walk by nine-mile creek last week which the Mayor also attended and reported that the next low-cost spay/neuter clinic for cats will be Monday, May 19.
 - Councilperson Goodman, thanked Sally Martin and Matt Jones and volunteers from Red Point Church for the Clean-Up Day on Grosvenor. She stated that the day was heartwarming, rewarding and stated that she would like to do as many as possible.
 - Councilperson Gray thanked to Chief Nietert for the revised Block Watch program and that the changes have been great. Gray also acknowledged Chief Cannell for allowing for the utilization of Reverse 911. Councilperson Gray also said that on May 19th at 6:30 pm the Splash Park Celebration Committee will be meeting.
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Adjourn

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

Roll Call to Adjourn

Ayes: Fistek, Goodman, Gray, Icove, Miller, Simon, Romeo

Nays:

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Attest:

Clerk of Council

Council President