

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

Council President Dennis Fiorelli called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

Approval of Minutes: January 8, 2018; January 16, 2018 (Special Meeting) & January 22, 2018.

January 8, 2018

Action: Motion to Approve Minutes, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

The minutes have been approved.

January 16, 2018

Action: Motion to Approve Minutes, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

Abstain: Councilwoman Ruth Gray.

The minutes have been approved.

January 22, 2018

Action: Motion to Approve Minutes, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

The minutes have been approved.

Special Presentation

Mayor Welo asked for a moment of silence in memory of the Westerville, Ohio police officers. A proclamation was held to posthumously commend Police K9 Oktane for his service to the South Euclid Police Department. Oktane passed away from cancer.

Recognition Ceremony

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 09-18

RESOLUTION

IN APPRECIATION TO AND RECOGNITION OF FIREFIGHTER BEN OVELGONNE FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE SOUTH EUCLID FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID AND HAVING BEEN NOMINATED AND ELECTED FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR FOR 2017. FIRST READING.

Following commendation and discussion, **Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 10-18

RESOLUTION

IN APPRECIATION TO AND RECOGNITION OF PATROL OFFICER MILES BLANSETTE FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE SOUTH EUCLID POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID AND HAVING BEEN NOMINATED AND ELECTED OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR 2017. FIRST READING.

Following commendation and discussion, **Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

The legislation has been approved.

Report of the Mayor

- Mayor Welo reported that South Euclid resident Jim O'Toole is in the audience and that we continue to mourn the loss of his wife, Pam and will carry on her legacy of community involvement.
- The Mayor reported that all directors are present except Fire Chief Stefko. Assistant Fire Chief Csire is in attendance.
- Mayor Welo reported on efforts with the first-rings Superintendents regarding House Bill 70, a bill that would provide for the state takeover of underperforming schools. Ms. Welo also reported on First Suburbs efforts on issues of economic development and tax foreclosure and discussed the five-city survey that was recently completed. The Mayor reported that the survey has attracted a lot of media attention and she has been interviewed by several reporters from newspaper and television over the last few weeks.
- Mayor Welo thanked Councilwoman Jane Goodman for her work to have 130 trees donated and planted at the Oakwood Nature Preserve by Davey Tree through a Great Lakes Restoration Project.
- Housing Manager Martin reported on a brown-bag lunch presentation that will be held tomorrow regarding the Five-City Property Survey.
- Fire Chief Dave Csire reported on three fires in the City in the past week including two on Verona. No one was injured in the fires and the Red Cross was called to assist the residents. Asst. Chief Csire stated that none of the homes had working smoke detectors and discussed the importance of having them and changing batteries twice a year.
- Community Services Director Benjamin reported that South Euclid is the lead city for a planning study with Lyndhurst and Mayfield Heights to look at the future of the Mayfield Road Corridor and stated that a public workshop will be held at the
- Police Chief Nietert reported on an event that happened on Villa regarding a CSU student, which was resolved without injury.
- City Engineer Blackley reported that progress is finally being made on the South Belvoir Blvd watermain restoration and repair project by Cleveland Water and is expected to be completed in the next two weeks. Mr. Blackley reported on bid openings for the 2018 Street Repair Program.

Report of Law Director

- No report

Report of School District

- No report

Opening Meeting of Council Related to Agenda Specific Items

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

- No residents spoke on items related to the agenda.

Report of Council Committees:

Zoning & Planning Committee

Committee Chairman Russell reported that a committee meeting was held on January 29 regarding a conditional use permit for a new Burger King at the Marc's Plaza on Mayfield Road. The Committee recommended that the application for permit be denied. The Committee also discussed the conditional use permit application for the South Euclid Lyndhurst School District Transportation Facility and the committee

recommended approval with new conditions. The School District has requested additional time to review the conditions.

Service Committee

Committee Chairwoman Goodman reported that the committee met to review and amend the ordinance regarding the city's tree code and tree commission. The legislation was amended and recommended for passage. The Committee also voted to recommend the appointment of resident Tammy Lease to fill a vacancy on the Tree Commission.

Committee of the Whole

Council President Fiorelli reported that the committee met to continue discussion regarding the 2018 budget, which must be passed by the end of March pursuant to state law.

Zoning & Planning Committee

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 03-18

RESOLUTION

GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A DRIVE-THRU FOR "BURGER KING" AT 4525 MAYFIELD ROAD IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. SECOND READING.

The legislation was placed on Second Reading.

Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Goodman reported that Arbor Day will be April 27 and the City will hold its annual ceremony at 1 pm near the police department. This year the city will be planting dogwood trees in memory of the three police K9s that passed away over the last few years. Another memorial tree will be planted in memory of resident Pam O'Toole who passed away recently and was instrumental in the founding of the South Euclid Police K9 Foundation.
- Councilman Frank thanked the South Euclid Fire EMT's for their excellent service and care for his father when they were needed and that our safety services are very good and dependable. Mr. Frank discussed that the state of Ohio continues to try to take local tax dollars away from local communities and may not want to give them back and we need to make sure what's going on at the statehouse in Columbus and work to keep our tax dollars local.
- Councilwoman Continzenza reported on new efforts of the Bexley Neighborhood group that was formed several years ago. The neighborhood association is working with city staff including Block Watch Officer DiLillo, Dan Subwick, Mike Love and Keith Benjamin on a series of events on the second Tuesdays in June, July and August this summer at Bexley Park. The events will be family-friendly and will include concerts by local and South Euclid-based musicians, information booths promoting healthy lifestyle and more.
- Councilman Russell thanked Police Chief Nietert for sending City Council updates when serious events happen in the community, as it is good to know what is happening. In response to a January 28th article and also regarding the conditional use permits for Burger King and the SEL Schools Transportation Facility, Mr. Russell stated that the city's commercial corridors are very important to South Euclid and it's the way both residents and prospective residents experience South Euclid as they drive through the city. Mr. Russell stated that the value and quality of our commercial districts has a direct impact on the value of the neighborhoods and the look of our business districts impact how people imagine how the houses behind them look. South Euclid has excellent housing stock, but if the business districts don't reflect quality and high standards, the neighborhoods will suffer. Mr. Russell stated that the decisions before City Council regarding these projects are 50 year decisions and not five or ten year decisions and we need to make sure that these projects are done right.
- Councilman Gelfand reported that the Heights Hillcrest Chamber of Commerce will hold their monthly breakfast meeting this Thursday at 8 am at the Hyatt at Legacy Village. Mr. Gelfand reported on the sudden passing of Dale Beatty, one of the founders of Purple Heart Homes. Mr. Beatty and co-founder John Galina had worked with South Euclid on three Purple Heart Homes for disabled veterans.
- Councilwoman Gray reported that she was in Columbus to attend the Ohio Association of Food Banks Annual Partner Meeting with the Ohio Department of Education Summer Food Service Program. Ms. Gray discussed how she has been an advocate for the Summer Food Service Program which provides breakfasts

and lunches to youth in need during the summer months. Ms. Gray stated that funding for the program is one of the items that has been cut in President Trump's latest budget proposal, along with cuts that will severely impact the SNAP program for low-income residents. Ms. Gray advocated that a letter be sent on behalf of residents to express how the severe cuts will hurt residents and the community. Councilman Gelfand stated that he agrees with Councilwoman Gray and reported that all students at Gearity Elementary School in University Heights all receive free lunches and also how the cuts could impact seniors.

- Councilman Fiorelli reported on the outstanding efforts of the Brush High School Basketball Team and thanked the Chiefs for their updates.

Open Meeting

- Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that he has a court date coming up on February 21st and recommended that the city look into reading comprehension studies for the Police Chief, Officers and the Law Director and stated that the City's show gun hitman prosecutor Cicero got caught misrepresenting some facts to the Judge at the last court hearing and she was not happy with it. Mr. Turner reported that he has been cited for obstructing a sidewalk with his protest signs and at least one, if not three officers were sent out and that they have video of him making comments about Mayor Welo's unlawful ownership of the hardware store, as well as loan fraud and Key Ban got involved in the fraud.

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

Action: Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session, **Moved by** Councilman Marty Gelfand, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

City Council Adjourned to Executive Session at 9:13 pm.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, **Seconded by** Councilman Joe Frank.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

Absent: Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

The Meeting Adjourned at 10:16 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council