

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.

Report of Mayor

- Housing Director Sally Martin reported on the "Common Ground" event hosted at the Library on Sunday with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy.
- Police Chief Nietert reported on legislation requested to abate the nuisance of a property on Glenridge where an estimated 15,000 tires have been stored. Chief Nietert also reported on proposed legislation regarding the impounding or booting of vehicles that corrects language in the code.
- City Engineer Andy Blackley gave an update on 2018 road projects.
- Mayor Welo reported on a meeting with 16 developers and former Cleveland Economic Development Director Tracey Nichols and a going away party for South Euclid resident and Princeton University graduate Brandon McGhee who is moving to work for Google. The Mayor requested City Council's support of Ordinance 19-17, requesting that voters consider 0.5% income tax increase on the November ballot. The Mayor stated that we've come to the point where we have to decide together as residents, what kind of community we are going to be, and the request is necessitated on the need for strong fund balances and reinvestments in the community. Ms. Welo stated that if the levy passes, the city will have the opportunity to plan for long term investments and thanked City Council for all of their hard work.

Report of Law Director none**Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Agenda Items**

- Doc Janning, 2092 Campus Road, spoke regarding the resolution appointing a Poet and Literature Laureate and stated that he believes that if the position should be just for the position of poet laureate and that putting it all on one person is a bit strong.
- Nancy Reynolds, 874 Haywood Road, stated that she supports the income tax increase levy and has lived in the community since 1998 and has enjoyed excellent service with police and ems, and that citizens should support the excellent work of the city staff.

Report of Committees

- Council President Fiorelli reported that the Committee of the Whole met last week to discuss the potential income tax levy and collective bargaining agreements with the Police, Fire and Service Unions.
- Councilman Frank reported that the Finance Committee met to review the Community Partnership on Aging Agreement and that the South Euclid has been a member of the regional partnership since 1978.

Finance Committee

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 24-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ON AGING COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. **SECOND READING.**

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilman Joe Frank, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

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 26-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PAY A MORAL CLAIM. **SECOND READING.**

The legislation was placed on second reading.

Committee of the Whole

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 40-18

RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A "POET AND LITERATURE LAUREATE PROGRAM" IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO AND THE NOMINATION AND DESIGNATION OF POET AND LITERATURE LAUREATE. **SECOND READING.**

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman, **Seconded by** Councilman Joe Frank.

Councilman Gelfand stated that he likes the idea of including literature as part of the Poet Laureate position and thanked Doc Janning for bringing the idea to the City.

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 44-18

RESOLUTION

DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF APPROVING THE PASSAGE OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN EXISTING SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, INCLUDING EXISTING SECTION 172.01,

AUTHORITY TO LEVY TAX; PURPOSE OF TAX, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR A ONE-HALF (0.50%) PERCENT INCREASE IN THE CURRENT LEVY ON INCOME, TO A RATE OF TWO AND ONE-HALF (2.50%) PERCENT, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2019; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

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

- Councilwoman Goodman explained that the legislation authorizes a levy to be placed on the ballot and does not authorize an immediate increase and voters will make that decision. Ms. Goodman stated that the city needs the levy, and as a resident, she supports it and paying an additional 66 cents a day is a small price to pay to keep the city going. Councilwoman Goodman stated that Council has not faced up to its responsibility over the years and that its time to step up to the responsibility and ask voters, because there is no such thing as a free lunch and the city is not a charity or business. Ms. Goodman stated that the administration has cut costs to the bone, and now it's time for our residents to have a say.
- Councilman Gelfand stated that he agrees with Councilwoman Goodman and that he has stepped up in the past with the Safety Levy and Issue 65 and knocked on doors and that an income tax levy is perhaps the right thing to do. Mr. Gelfand stated that technically the legislation is on third reading, but he would prefer to table the ordinance to hear more from residents and vote at the next council meeting.
- Councilman Continenza stated that she supports the levy as the city needs money and Council needs to vote on something by the next meeting to meet the deadline to put the issue on the ballot this fall. Ms. Continenza stated that she is also interested in looking at the potential of an adjustment to the income tax credit and other options before voting for this issue and hear more from constituents.
- Councilman Frank stated that for ten years City Council has failed to take more permanent actions to fix the city revenue issue and instead have only put band aids on a gash that has continued to bleed because City Council did not have the courage to fix things the first time. Mr. Frank stated that the time to act is now and let the citizens decide what to do with the future of South Euclid and that

Council has dragged their feet time and time again and the numbers are the same as they were a year ago when council was discussing the matter with residents.

- Councilwoman Goodman stated that every month for over two years City Council has met and looked at the numbers, and Finance Director Wendt has provided the numbers over and over. Ms. Goodman stated that City Council decides on the income tax credit issue and can make adjustments without going to the voters, but the levy must be placed on a ballot and the City cannot have a ballot initiative contingent upon something else and needs to follow the proper process and procedure. Ms. Goodman stated that raising revenue is critical if the city is going to continue to grow and be a place that residents and businesses want to move to, as neighboring cities like University Heights and Cleveland Heights have already taken steps with their residents.
- Councilman Russell stated that Councilwoman Goodman did a nice job of breaking down the issue and council has all of the data it needs and questions answered. Mr. Russell stated that the city has increased tax revenue because of developments like Oakwood Commons and Cedar Center, but many large public investments need to be made in the future and stated that he is in favor of voting and letting the residents decide.
- Councilwoman Gray stated that she agrees with both sides of the issue and was not able to be at the last meeting, and that everyone knows that the city needs more revenue, but we need to justify and explain to the residents how their money is going to be spent and how the 2.5% was chosen, as they are the ones that are going to be the hardest hit and the city has the responsibility of educating residents and asked if the city was ready to make the case of why the money is needed. Councilwoman Gray stated that it is important that the administration five council concrete tangible things like what we are going to lose, maintain and gain and then council needs to make the case to the voters.
- Council President Fiorelli stated that Council needs to do what's right and go to the voters.

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

Ordinance 19-17

ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 172.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, TITLE NINE "MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX," BY INCREASING THE RATE OF MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX TO TWO AND ONE-HALF PERCENT (2.5%) PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **THIRD READING.**

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Dennis Fiorelli, **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

Ordinance 15-18

ORDINANCE

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL 2319 AND OHIO COUNCIL 8 OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY & MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES UNION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **SECOND READING.**

The legislation was placed on Second Reading.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 16-18

ORDINANCE

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, LOCAL 1065, FOR ALL FULL-TIME FIRE FIGHTERS COVERED BY THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **SECOND READING.**

The legislation was placed on Second Reading.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 17-18

ORDINANCE

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, LOCAL LODGE NO. 80, FOR ALL FULL-TIME POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES COVERED BY THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FIRST READING.**

The legislation was placed on First Reading.

Zoning and Planning Committee

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 12-18

ORDINANCE

CREATING CHAPTER 1335 "SMALL CELL FACILITIES AND WIRELESS SUPPORT STRUCTURES WITHIN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY" OF TITLE FIVE "OTHER BUILDING PROVISIONS" OF PART THIRTEEN "BUILDING CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID; AND

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **SECOND READING.**

The legislation was placed on Second Reading.

Legislation Requested by the Administration

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 43-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING FUND: "GENERAL FUND-BUILDING DEPARTMENT-NUISANCE ABATEMENT #101-4410-52738" IN ORDER TO REMOVE TIRES FROM THE PROPERTY AT 4188 GLENRIDGE ROAD. **FIRST READING.**

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

- Councilwoman Gray asked Chief Nietert to give a background of the issue.
- Police Chief Nietert gave an overview of the environmental nuisance and the charges brought against the property owner and that there is estimated to be between 5,000-10,000 tires on the site and that the County Board of Health has also investigated.
- Councilman Gelfand discussed if through the court case there would be restitution from the owner for the cost of the cleanup. Chief Nietert stated that it is possibility that it would be ordered, but might take years to recover funds and instead the City will put a tax lien on the property.

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

Ordinance 18-18

ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 303.08 "IMPOUNDING OR BOOTING OF VEHICLES; REDEMPTION" OF CHAPTER 303 "ENFORCEMENT, IMPOUNDING AND PENALTY" OF PART THREE "TRAFFIC CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. **FIRST READING.**

The legislation was placed on First Reading.

Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Gray reminded everyone to attend the Bexley Bash on Tuesday and that everyone have an enjoyable rest of summer.
- Councilman Gelfand congratulated Councilwoman Continenza for her work on coordinating the Bexley Bash and that she was featured in Levin College of Urban Affairs.
- Councilman Russell reminded resident to check on their neighbors when it's hot and make sure they are okay.
- Councilwoman Continenza reported on the Bexley Bash and other upcoming events.
- Councilman Frank spoke about the tax levy and stated that council's work has just begun and that now we need to educate residents on the issue.
- Councilwoman Goodman reported on the Warrendale Block Club meeting and that Officer Heyges is working with Colony residents to get another Block Club formed. Ms. Goodman thanked Councilwoman Continenza for her work on Bexley Bash and also discussed the Little Free Plant Library.
- Council President Fiorelli reported that the City's recycling has dropped about 1% and the City is now 10th in the County.

Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Open Business

- Don Lisy, 1352 Francis Ct., reported on the Commission on Aging's Taste of Cedar Center fundraising event on July 26 and stated that all of the funds raised go to help senior residents in need.
- Chuck Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that with the income tax levy, city council has to sell the residents how wonderful the city is, but that is not what they have been reading on his signs for the last three years. Mr. Turner stated that for the last five years the city has had a criminal in charge of the police department and stated that the Mayor, Law Director and Police Chief admitted to destruction of evidence that he was attacked by a police car going 60 mph.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, **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 Meeting Adjourned at 9:40 pm

Attest:

Council President

Clerk of Council