

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 Ruth Gray, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

Absent: Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

Minutes of Meetings September 26, 2018 & October 8, 2018

Minutes of September 26, 2018

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

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 4, No = 0, Abstain = 2).

Yes: Councilman Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, Council President Dennis Fiorelli.

Abstain: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Councilwoman Ruth Gray.

Absent: Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

The Minutes have been approved.

Minutes of October 8, 2018

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

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 Minutes have been approved.

Report of Mayor

- Mayor Welo introduced Kevin Smalley, Manager of External Affairs for First Energy. Mr. Smalley discussed the First Energy Customer Assistance Program and their plans for response for outages following weather related storms.
- Mayor Welo reported that all directors are present at the meeting.
- Housing Director Sally Martin, reported on proposed Ordinances 27-18 and 28-18 which are being updated related to legal challenges in other Ohio communities. Ms. Martin reported that she will be in Columbus presenting at the Ohio Land Bank Conference.
- Economic Development Director Michael Love asked for Council consideration of Resolution 60-18 to convey property to One South Euclid. Mr. Love stated that Council President Fiorelli would like to remove one parcel on South Belvoir Blvd that includes a section of Euclid Creek from the agenda for further discussion and review.
- Fire Chief Stefko, requested consideration of Resolution 58-18 regarding Fire Equipment that will be funded 100% by a FEMA Grant and a 10% match from Cuyahoga County Department of Public Safety.
- Mayor Welo reported that the City held its first Tele Town Hall regarding income tax and financial educational information and it was well attended. Council President Fiorelli and Finance Chair Frank were in attendance. Ms. Welo reported on the Ward 2 Community Meeting, South Euclid United Church of Christ's Servalution, and the Community Shred Day. The Mayor also reported on the Ward 3 Community Meeting, Garden Club Potluck, One South Euclid fundraiser "Mingle at the Mansion" and the upcoming Pumpkins in the Park and Community Partnership on Aging events.

Report of Law Director & Department Heads

Law Director Lograsso reported on Res. 61-18 regarding legal fees for current litigation and stated that the request was discussed with Council in Executive Session. Mr. Lograsso also addressed Ordinances 27-18 and 28-18 revising the housing code to ensure legal process is observed.

Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Agenda Items

- Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that he is discussing Resolution 61-18 regarding the Law Director's request for an additional payment of \$60,000 when he already got a \$100,000 raise. Mr. Turner asked how the city continues to do business with a firm that hired Miles Welo and stated that the city has spent \$10,000 on ridiculous and silly charges against him for obstructing a sidewalk and the maximum fine is \$150 and stated that "you've got the nerve." Mr. Turner commented on the ongoing case of Wilson versus South Euclid and asked how long is the city going to let Mr. Lograsso taint the system and that the city is not being fiscally responsible or trying to do things that are morally correct and his public records requests have been ignored. Mr. Turner stated that November 11th is Veterans Day.

Swearing-In Ceremony

Dr. Mike "Doc" Janning was sworn in as the City's first South Euclid Poet and Literature Laureate. Dr. Janning read a new poem for the occasion titled "I reach for the Future".

Report of Committees

- **Safety Committee:** Councilman Gelfand reported that a meeting was held to discuss Ordinance 24-18 regarding the operation of motorized scooters and new developments regarding the popularity of scooters as public transportation from services like Bird and Lime. Mr. Gelfand stated that allowing the scooters could be a good thing, but there are also safety concerns that need to continue to be discussed and addressed. Councilman Gelfand stated that the current ordinance last updated in 2004 is antiquated and the committee will continue to meet to discuss potential revisions.
- **Committee of the Whole:** Council President Fiorelli reported that the Committee of the Whole met at 7 pm to discuss monthly finances and that RITA collections are at around \$9 million, which is about \$600,000 more than at this time last year and that disbursement are under budget, leaving a general fund balance of approximately \$5.4 million.

Legislation Requested by City Council

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 29-18

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 111.08 "ORDER OF BUSINESS" OF TITLE THREE "LEGISLATIVE" OF PART ONE OF THE "ADMINISTRATIVE CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

Council President Pro Tem Russell reported on the proposed change to the order of business for council meetings.

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 legislation has been approved.

Legislation Requested by the Administration

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 58-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING FUND: "GENERAL FUND-FIRE DEPARTMENT ##101-1120-52490 FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT TO BE REIMBURSED BY A FEMA GRANT AND THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE SERVICES. FIRST READING.

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

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 legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 59-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE "STREET LIGHTING FUND #511" IN AN AMOUNT OF \$15,000.00 TO COVER THE COST OF COUNTY ASSESSMENT FEES AND ENGINEERING WORK. FIRST READING

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

Following discussion, **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 legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 60-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO CONVEY CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO TO ONE SOUTH EUCLID. FIRST READING.

Council President Fiorelli discussed the legislation and requested that the legislation be amended to remove the South Belvoir parcel from the legislation.

Action: Motion to Amend Agenda, **Moved by** Council President Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Ruth Gray.

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 legislation has been amended.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell.

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 legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 61-18

RESOLUTION

PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE GENERAL FUND TO THE "OUTSIDE LEGAL FEES" IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000.00. FIRST 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 = 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 legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Resolution 62-18

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR "CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH EUCLID CITY HALL COMPLEX" IN THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

The legislation was referred to the Service Committee for discussion and review.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 26-18

ORDINANCE

TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING.

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

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 legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 27-18

ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 1411.99, "PENALTY" OF CHAPTER 1411 "COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT" OF PART FOURTEEN "HOUSING CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

Council President Fiorelli reported on the legislation and it was placed on first reading and referred to the Committee of the Whole for discussion and review.

Introduced by Fiorelli

Ordinance 28-18

ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 1414.04, "CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION APPLICATION; AND ISSUANCE" OF CHAPTER 1414 "REGISTRATION OF VACANT BUILDINGS AND CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE FOR VACANT BUILDINGS" OF PART FOURTEEN "HOUSING CODE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO. FIRST READING.

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

Communications of City Council

- Councilman Frank scheduled a Finance Committee Meeting for November 12th at 6 pm to discuss the proposed Energy Saving Program request for proposals and reported on the Ward 2 meeting that was held last Tuesday to discuss the city's financial situation and upcoming levy educational efforts. Mr. Frank stated that he also attended the Ward 3 Meeting and asked residents to exercise their right to vote.
- Councilwoman Continenza reported that she held a Ward 3 Meeting last week and had a good discussion regarding the city's finances and had lots of questions and good feedback. Ms. Continenza stated that the One South Euclid Mingle at the Mansion fundraiser was a really cool event and that the porcelain museum art is intricate and beautiful.
- Councilman Russell stated that Election Day is on November 6 and stated that it is easy to vote early in advance by mail or at the Board of Elections and asked residents to exercise their right to vote.
- Councilman Gelfand reported on a community garden project at Gearity Elementary School and the One South Euclid Mingle at the Mansion fundraiser. Mr. Gelfand stated that Veteran's Day is November 11 and acknowledged the veterans in attendance at the meeting including Mr. Turner, Mr. Siegel and Mr. Silsby. Councilman Gelfand reported that Halloween will be observed on October 31st and asked that residents please be careful and keep a watch for children in their neighborhoods.
- Councilwoman Gray reported that the Ward One Meeting will be held tomorrow at Inner Healing Ministries Church at 6:30 pm and the agenda will primarily be a discussion of City Finances and Issue 94.
- Council President Fiorelli discussed the upcoming income tax levy and the great work being done by city staff, and that their work is not always visible and stated that across the board the staff does a wonderful job.
- Councilman Frank stated that he is 100% supportive of Issue 94 and that the city truly needs the financial capacity moving forward to plan for the future and how important it is to not let the General Fund go below 15-20% to keep the bond ratings high and provide the kind of services the residents deserve.
- Mayor Welo stated that the city's checkbook is online for residents to review how money is spent at opencheckbook.com and no other neighboring community is

part of this transparency effort. Ms. Welo stated that it takes people to provide services for residents and costs continue to rise, like winter road salt, which was \$29 a ton last year and is \$64 a ton this year. Mayor Welo stated that City Council meets every month to review finances and look at efficiencies.

Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Open Business

- Deborah Janning Matovic, 4612 Greenwald, thanked the Mayor and City Council for honoring her father as Poet Laureate and spoke about local Boy Scout Pack 424, which she is the leader of. Ms. Matovic stated that the Boy Scouts are now accepting girls in the program. They currently have six girls in the pack and that it is one of the only co-ed troops in the area. Ms. Matovic reported on upcoming scouting efforts and that interested parents can find Troop 424 on Facebook.

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

Action: Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session, **Moved by** Council President Dennis Fiorelli, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

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.

City Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:54 pm.

Adjourn:

Action: Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, **Seconded by** Council President Pro Tem Jason Russell.

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 9:39 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council