

REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL

Council President Joe Frank called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

Minutes of Meetings: January 27, 2020 & February 10, 2020

January 27, 2020

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

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The Minutes have been approved.

February 10, 2020

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

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The Minutes have been approved.

Report of Mayor

- Council President Frank reported that Mayor Welo was out of the office and reported that all directors, except for Building Commissioner Heilman were in attendance.
- Economic Development Director Love reported on legislation for consideration on the agenda including the transfer of property to One South Euclid and legislation for Planning Commission review regarding establishing a Landmarks Commission and regulating tattoo and piercing businesses.
- City Engineer Blackley reported on several road projects including the 2020 Road Program which will be commencing in March, as well as several Cleveland Water and Dominion Gas projects throughout the city.

Report of Law Director: No report.

Special Presentation

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 15-20

RESOLUTION

Accepting the Donation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) from the 4ALEC Foundation for use in the event of a Sudden Cardiac Arrest by the South Euclid Lyndhurst Youth Softball & Baseball Association (SELYSBA) during league games in the City of South Euclid. First Reading.

Council President Frank read the Resolution and Scott & Stephanie Kornet presented the donation of the AED equipment to the South Euclid Youth Softball and Baseball Association. The AED was accepted by SEYSBA and the Fire Department also announced that they will be providing training to all coaches this summer on how to use the AED, as well as CPR.

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

Councilman Gelfand made a motion to remove the City of Lyndhurst from the name of the community athletic organization because, while they are good neighbors, they are not members of the youth sports organization. Council President Frank and Clerk Benjamin stated that it was an inadvertent error and should be revised. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Continenza.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been amended.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved as amended.

Report of School District

- Jodi Sourini, President of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education and James Posch, Vice President of the Board of Education thanked City Council for passing a resolution in support of the upcoming School Levy. Ms. Sourini stated that the reason the district must go back to the residents for additional funding is directly related to the State of Ohio's expansion of the Ed Choice Voucher Program which, if implemented, will have a major negative impact on the district's finances. Ms. Sourini stated that residents and public officials should continue to advocate about the issue and notify state legislators and that all CH-UH Board Members have been to Columbus and provided testimony regarding the Ed Choice issue before the State Legislature.
- Mr. Posch read sections of the testimony he provided in Columbus on many of the issues negatively impacting the Cleveland Heights University Heights Schools and other districts, including the State Report Cards. Mr. Posch described confusing and misleading statistics from the report card, for example, the State gave the High School a "failing" grade for their graduation rate and assigned a grade of a "C", which is actually above the state average. Mr. Posch stated that 90% of those utilizing School Vouchers in the district have never attended public schools and Ms. Sourini stated that the schools are not failing, it's the State Report Cards that are failing.
- Councilman Gelfand thanked Board Members Posch and Sourini for attending the meeting and noted that his daughter has attended Gearity Elementary in the district for eight years and she is getting a good education and the schools are not failing. Mr. Gelfand stated that the State Report Cards don't mean anything except to sell the wrong perception that public schools are bad.

Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Agenda Items

No report.

Report of Committees

Safety Committee

Councilman Gelfand reported that a meeting was held earlier in the evening regarding Ordinance 18-19 regulation of food trucks in the city. The Committee recommended that the legislation be placed on the next council agenda for consideration. The Committee also discussed Ordinance 02-20 regarding new enforcement and regulation of nuisances. The legislation remains in committee for continued discussion and review.

Committee of the Whole

Council President Frank reported that the Committee held its monthly finance update meeting and discussed the city's proposed 2020 fiscal year budget.

Committee of the Whole

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 01-20

ORDINANCE

To make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of South Euclid, State of Ohio, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2020; and declaring an emergency. **Second Reading.**

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

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

Legislation Requested by the Administration

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 14-20

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Mayor to convey certain real property of the City of South Euclid, Ohio to One South Euclid. First Reading.

Action: Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Council President Joe Frank,

Seconded by Councilwoman Sara Continenza.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The legislation has been approved.

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 03-20

ORDINANCE

Enacting New Section 732.03 "Tattoo and Body Piercing Businesses" of Chapter 732 "Conditional Uses in Commercial Districts" of Title Three "Commercial District Regulations" of Part Seven "Planning and Zoning Code" of the codified ordinances of the City of South Euclid, Ohio.

The legislation was placed on first reading and referred to the Planning Commission.

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance04-20

ORDINANCE

Enacting New Section 761.07 "Landmark Commission" of Chapter 761 "Administration" of Title Six "Administrative Provisions" of Part Seven "Planning and Zoning Code" of the codified ordinances of the City of South Euclid, Ohio.

The legislation was placed on first reading and referred to the Planning Commission.

Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Open Business

- Charles Turner, 4549 Lilac Road, stated that he was going to go over a few things for audience members that they may not be aware of and stated that there has been ongoing cover-up and corruption by the Police Chief who several years ago assigned a police officer to attack him on Mayfield Road going 60 mph and the Mayor and Law Director have protected the Chief. Mr. Turner stated that he has made several public records requests for evidence over the years that have not been provided and that the City does not care. Mr. Turner asked if his constitutional rights are being violated because he is not the right color, creed or religion and stated that he is veteran who joined the armed forces at 17 and his records have been disposed of by the Law Director.
- Arthur Franklin, 1570 Felton Road, stated that he is a junior student at Brush High School and thanked City Council for passing the resolution in support of the South Euclid Lyndhurst School District's upcoming levy and hopes that residents will support the schools and students.

Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Goodman: reported that she recently had a medical emergency and needed EMS assistance and that mutual aid from University Heights was first on the scene because South Euclid's two squads were both on other calls. Ms. Goodman stated that South Euclid Firemedic Tepley arrived to check in on her before the ambulance took her to Metro Hospital. Ms. Goodman thanked South Euclid and University Heights for their response. Ms. Goodman also reported that she will be absent at the next meeting of council to attend the annual National League of Cities Congressional Conference in Washington DC.

- Councilwoman Hardy had no report.
- Councilwoman Continenza reported that the Bexley Community Group meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Community Center and reported on upcoming efforts including a potential raingarden at Bexley Park that is part of a Girl Scout's project, and working with the school district regarding recreational partnerships including basketball and potential greenhouse project at Brush.
- Councilman Tisdale stated that it is cold and flu season and reminded residents to keep appropriate hygiene and seek medical attention if necessary.
- Councilman Gelfand reported that he is participating in a program facilitated by Cuyahoga County Judge Synenberg that provides pro bono legal services to those in need and also a program of the Legal Aid Society which includes working with South Euclid residents to help prevent foreclosure. Mr. Gelfand reported on a Cleveland Heights University Heights Library Chili Cook-Off event and also the Community Partnership on Aging's Senior Lunch Program. Mr. Gelfand stated that since he recently turned 60, he is eligible for the senior program and has attended two of the senior lunches and stated that the food is a good value at \$1.50 per lunch and includes additional programming, for example the lunch held on February 19th included a game day with students from Rowland Elementary School.
- Councilwoman Gray reported that she will also be in Washington DC for congressional visits from March 4 through March 9 and stated that she will be hosting a series of community forums on the upcoming Census at the Community Center on March 18 and March 26 at 6:30 pm and on March 31st at 11 am. A representative from Cuyahoga County will be at the meetings to discuss the importance that every resident be counted and the City will hopefully have computer stations set up so residents can fill out their census online. Ms. Gray stated that the count is important because it determines the funding levels for our schools, housing and roads and she has invited the city's faith based community and the library to participate and provide resources and is working with Director Benjamin to coordinate.
- Councilwoman Goodman stated that President Trump's proposed budget cuts social and human service programs including the Community Development Block Grant Program and reminded residents that March 17th is primary election day.
- Councilwoman Gray stated that she is also reaching out to daycare facilities and apartment buildings regarding the Census and that we need to make sure that we address the needs of residents of different ethnic cultures to ensure that everyone is counted.
- Council President Frank thanked the 4Alec Foundation and the Kornet Family for the donation of the AED and apologized for becoming emotional during the special presentation earlier in the meeting. Mr. Frank stated that he coached Alec Kornet and that from tragedy, there is something good. President Frank stated that he is attending meetings regarding the South Euclid Lyndhurst School Levy and that he supports the levy and that he and his son are both Brush graduates.

Adjourn

With no further business before City Council, **Action:** Motion to Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, **Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

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

Yes: Councilwoman Sara Continenza, Council President Joe Frank, Councilman Marty Gelfand, Councilwoman Jane Goodman, Councilwoman Ruth Gray, Councilwoman Susan Hardy, Councilman Justin Tisdale.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Council President

Attest:

Clerk of Council