

**REGULAR MEETING OF SOUTH EUCLID CITY COUNCIL**

Conducted Via WebEx Meeting Platform

Council President Joe Frank called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Clerk Benjamin addressed meeting protocols for the virtual meeting.

**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** April 20, 2020 Special Meeting of City CouncilApril 20, 2020 Special Meeting of City Council

**Action:** Motion to Approve Minutes, **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, 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**

- Poet Laureate Doc Janning recited the poem "Voices of Stones".
- Community Services Director Benjamin gave an update on various projects including the South Green Road Bridge and Road Improvement Project.
- City Engineer Blackley reported that the 2020 road program is substantially complete and the city was also able to resurface Bradford and Verona Hill as a result of the excellent bid results and gave an update on additional road and infrastructure projects in the city.
- Mayor Welo stated that over the past nine weeks the administration has been working in teams and as a whole to confront the serious issues brought on by the coronavirus and that our local governments have been hit hard during the crisis and there are still so many unknowns. Ms. Welo stated that our revenues have been impacted negatively, but our expenses have gone up on the operational side due to the new protocols necessary to deliver services. Mayor Welo stated that what is most difficult is that issues develop very quickly and we can't look too far into the future because of the current lack of testing and tracing. Ms. Welo stated that to ensure the safety of our community and residents she has been using guidelines instituted by the State of Ohio and the County Health Department and said that there are no rosy predictions and that we have done our best to be honest with our residents. Mayor Welo stated that she is reviewing the State Protocols and later in the week will be making more announcements regarding the summer and that just like the city has in the past with the recession and housing crisis, we will rise to face our current challenges.

**Report of Law Director:** No report.

**Report of School District**

Kathryn Falkenberg, School Board Member, submitted the following report via email. Clerk Benjamin read the report for the record:

1. A big Thank-You goes out to the residents of Lyndhurst and South Euclid for your support of the school levy which passed by 59% in April.
2. Everyone is working hard to help our students continue their school classes through virtual means. It's been difficult for all involved—students, teachers and parents—but there has been an impressive amount of tenacity and creativity displayed, and we are thankful for all who have made this very difficult transition.
3. We are especially disheartened for our seniors who seem to be feeling the brunt of this stay-at-home order. They will be missing their prom—an event that they look forward to from the time they are freshmen at Brush—and their graduation ceremony at the Palace downtown. We wish them all well.
4. The virtual graduation ceremony will take place on May 26 at 6:00 P.M. and will be live streamed to the SEL community. The reading of names, the speeches by both

students and the principal and the customary turning of the tassels will all be a part of this virtual ceremony.

5. For seniors, their last assignments are due on May 18. That means the end of their Brush High School education!
6. Senior Awards Ceremony will be shared virtually on Wednesday, May 13.
7. For grades K-11, their assignments are due May 27, and the school year officially ends on May 29 when grades will be entered.
8. Another heart-felt thank-you goes to our SEL food service workers for their continuous preparation of lunches for students in need and to our Pupil Services department for delivering that food to families who couldn't get to the drop off areas.
9. This is a school year that will not be soon forgotten, yet all of us who are part of the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Schools are so thankful for the successes that we have seen and for the support from our communities.

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### Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Agenda Items

None.

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### Legislation Requested by City Council

Introduced by Frank

Resolution 28-20

#### RESOLUTION

A Resolution proclaiming May 2020 to be Bike Month in the City of South Euclid.  
First Reading.

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

Following discussion, **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.

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### Legislation Requested by the Administration

Introduced by Frank

Ordinance 06-20

#### ORDINANCE

An Ordinance enacted by the City of South Euclid, Cuyahoga County, Ohio hereinafter referred to as the Municipality that requests the cooperation of the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the County, in the matter of the hereinafter described improvement related to the proposed Green Road Bridge Replacement and Resurfacing Project. First Reading.

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

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 29-20

#### RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Director of Community Services to apply for a grant from the AARP Community Challenge Fund 2020 for the Victory Park Improvement Project. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Sara Continenza, **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.

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Introduced by Frank

Resolution 30-20

#### RESOLUTION

Providing for the appropriation of unappropriated funds in the General Fund to the "Outside Legal Fees" in the amount of \$53,611.54. First Reading.

Council President Frank stated that this is the current cost for the city to defend itself against Judge Byers law suits against the city for additional funds, which has so far cost the city over \$92,000 to defend. Councilwoman Gray asked if any of the expenses are reimbursable under the city's insurance and Law Director Lograsso stated that they are not.

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

**Seconded by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman.

Following discussion, **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

Resolution 31-20

#### RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District as a Member of the Euclid Creek Watershed Council. First Reading.

**Action:** Motion to Approve Legislation, **Moved by** Councilwoman Jane Goodman,

**Seconded by** Councilman Marty Gelfand.

Following discussion, **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.

#### Public Hearings (Open Meeting) Related to Open Business

- Yvette Stephanie Wolf, 4500 Birchwold, stated that she works for the city in the summer at the Bexley Pool and asked if there was a definitive answer if the pools would be opening this summer. Mayor Welo stated that many communities around South Euclid have already closed their pools for the summer and that South Euclid is waiting for additional guidance from Governor DeWine and the State of Ohio regarding what kind of protocols will be necessary, but it's not looking good. Councilwoman Gray concurred that the state's protocols are going to be extremely intense and most departments and cities have opted to keep pools closed especially because have mass gatherings is a recipe for disaster.

#### Communications of City Council

- Councilwoman Goodman requested a Public Utilities Committee Meeting for May 26 at 6 pm.
- Councilwoman Gray reported that she has had the opportunity to help sew and distribute facemasks to the community over the shutdown and that it's been a labor of love and thanked Councilwoman Goodman for providing fabric.
- Councilman Gelfand reported that he is pleased that the South Euclid Lyndhurst School Levy was approved by the voters, however he was disappointed that the Cleveland Height University Heights Levy Failed.
- Councilman Tisdale requested that residents stay safe, wash hands and make sure that we are following all guidance to stay healthy during the pandemic.
- Councilwoman Continenza reported on the many summer events that have been canceled, including Bexley Bash, but is hoping that some events can be held on a smaller scale later in the year. Ms. Continenza scheduled a Recreation Committee Meeting for June 8 at 7 pm to discuss the deer population issue.
- Councilwoman Hardy reminded residents that there is a free Food Pantry at Adrian School available for residents that need food staples.
- Council President Frank thanked the Mayor and Administration for all of their hard work during the crisis and that he has seen the additional precautions Service and Safety Workers are taking every day and putting their own health at risk, along with directors looking at their budgets every day. Mr. Frank stated that the Directors Love and Benjamin have consistently communicated with residents and businesses and it has been truly first class work. President Frank also stated that in his work, he has seen the weekly emails from Director Love to business with resources for assistance and that he has not seen another city offering such guidance and assistance and other managers with his organization also use the emails as guidance each week. Mr. Frank said he couldn't be more proud of our directors and staff.
- Councilwoman Goodman encouraged residents to visit our open businesses and get take-out from our restaurants that are open.

- Mayor Welo addressed Ohio Senate Bill 310 which allocates funds from the Federal CARES Act to local communities and was approved by the Ohio Senate, but is apparently being delayed in the Ohio House as a result of politics.

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**Adjourn**

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

**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 9:09 pm.

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Council President

Attest:

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Clerk of Council