

**City of Maple Heights
Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

Maple Heights Senior Center

May 21, 2014

Council President Jackie Albers called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. Councilwoman Toni Jones of District 2 gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Clerk of Council Katherine Unger called the roll.

Council President Albers reminded the audience this public meeting is for City Council to discuss and conduct business, to promote and decide on legislation, and to keep the residents informed about the issues and news in the City. Council President Albers stated that all of the Council members and the audience members are encouraged to discuss, participate, and offer their opinions on the issues. Council President Albers stated that in the last several months, the meetings have become disrespectful and disruptive, with a neglect of the rules set by the Council. Residents are welcomed to comment at the podium at the proper time during the Citizen's comments section of the meeting or may talk to the Council members or Directors after the meeting. Ms. Albers asked the residents to refrain from talking during the meeting or using their cell phones, as it is disrespectful to the Council and to those who want to hear what is being discussed.

ROLL CALL: Those present were Council President Jackie Albers, Council Members Alex Adams, Toni Jones, Anthony Cefaratti, Ron Jackson, Bill Brownlee, Richard Trojanski and Edwina Agee.

Also present were Mayor Jeffrey Lansky, Law Director John Montello, Finance Director Irene Crowell, Acting Chief John Popielarczyk, and Fire Captain Wheeler, and Human Services Director Linda Vopat.

There were no minutes, communications, or Council Committee reports. There were no members of Council who disagreed, so the addendum .became part of the agenda.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department – Fire Captain Wheeler reported the retirement of three members of the Fire Department: Captain Thomas Plunkett with 25 years of service, David Gustely with 28 years of service, and Kenneth Schultz with 32 years of service. Captain Wheeler also commented about National EMS week and announced that Fire Hydrants would be flushed beginning next week.

Law Department - Mr. John Montello had no report.

Police Department – Chief John Popielarczyk reported that he attended the recent DARE graduation with 250 students and stated that the department had an OVI checkpoint sponsored by a University Hospital Grant, and also that the Police Department would be participating in the Memorial Day Parade.

Human Service Department – Mrs. Linda Vopat reported that the License Bureau donated \$754.00 to the Maple Heights Food Pantry and Bob Dober donated \$450.00 to the Senior Center.

Ms. Vopat announced that 2014 is the 40th Anniversary of the Maple Heights Senior Center and that on Sunday, June 22nd, she will be hosting a fund raiser at St. Andrews Church from 1 to 5:00 p.m. for \$20.00 a ticket, which includes dinner from Mr. Chicken restaurant.

Finance Department – Ms. Irene Crowell stated that she is busy working on the 2013 Audit.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Mrs. MaryAnn Toma of 12402 Granger Road commented about the Waste Management fees.

Ms. Linda Vopat, Human Services Director explained several of the programs at the Senior Center.

Mr. Bob Halen commented about the many delinquent taxes that the City cannot collect.

Kamal Janda and Migeal Gill, housing investors, complained about the time it takes to get a Point of Sale inspection.

Ms. Joanne Majoris of Tokay Avenue asked that everyone stop complaining and make a plan to get the City back on track.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014-37

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT OF OHIO, INC. FOR TWO YEARS AND TO ELIMINATE THE RECYCLING PROGRAM IN ITS ENTIRETY, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, TO PROVIDE GARBAGE AND WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

As this Resolution was on its third reading, Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski to adopt the legislation. Ms. Albers asked for discussion. Mr. Cefaratti commented for the record that he believes that by eliminating the recycling program, the City is taking a step backwards. Mr. Cefaratti stated that the residents are already paying \$15.00 a month, which is over-priced, and it includes recycling. In addition, Mr. Cefaratti stated that it is hurting the environment. Ms. Albers stated that she wanted to clarify that all of the trash including the recyclables will be used as fuel for a furnace at the Waste Management site. Mr. Brownlee stated that the garbage and recycling costs the city one million, three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,350,000.) with next year's projected cost from Waste Management at one million, three hundred eighty-eight thousand dollars (\$1,388,000.) Mr. Brownlee stated that the City collects from the residents almost one and a half million dollars for trash pick-up, which goes into Fund 251, and is only to pay the trash bill. Mr. Brownlee stated that he believes that there is more than enough money in the fund to pay the trash bill. Mr. Brownlee stated that the City is over four hundred thousand dollars in arrears to Waste Management. Mr. Brownlee stated that he

is against this resolution. Mr. Montello stated that Mr. Brownlee is assuming that everyone is paying their trash bill, however many people are not paying their assessment, but the City is still charged for them, and that's why there was a shortage. Ms. Albers called for the roll call on Adoption. Mr. Brownlee called for a point of order. Ms. Albers again called for the roll call on Adoption Mr. Brownlee asked to appeal the chair. The Clerk started to call the roll and Mr. Brownlee continued to interrupt. Ms. Albers asked the Police Chief to escort Councilman Brownlee out of the meeting. Mr. Brownlee was escorted out of the meeting by Police Chief Popielarczyk.

ROLL CALL. Ayes: Jones, Jackson, Trojanski Agee and Adams. Nay: Cefaratti. The Resolution passed by the vote of 5 ayes and 1 nay and would become law upon the Mayor's signature.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014-38

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ON THE INTERNET AT GOVDEALS.COM , AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones to suspend the rules and place the legislation on its third and final reading. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson to adopt the legislation. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. The Resolution passed by the vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays and would become law upon the Mayor's signature.

ORDINANCE NO.: 2014-39

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1484.04 AND 1484.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES INCREASING THE FEES FOR NOTICE OF FORECLOSED PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adams to suspend the rules and place the legislation on its third and final reading. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones to adopt the legislation. ROLL CALL. Ayes: Jones, Jackson, Trojanski Agee and Adams. Nay: Cefaratti. The Ordinance passed by the vote of 5 ayes and 1 nay and would become law upon the Mayor's signature.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014-40

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF LIBBY ROAD FROM THE BEDFORD HEIGHTS CORPORATION LINE TO LEE ROAD AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A LOCALLY ADMINISTERED TRANSPORTATION PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adams to suspend the rules and place the legislation on its third and final reading. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones to adopt the legislation. ROLL CALL. Ayes: Jones, Jackson, Trojanski Agee and Adams. Nay: Cefaratti. The Ordinance passed by the vote of 5 ayes and 1 nay and would become law upon the Mayor's signature.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014-41

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PAVEMENT REPAIR OF LEE ROAD IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson to suspend the rules and place the legislation on its third and final reading. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski to adopt the legislation. ROLL CALL. Ayes: Jones, Jackson, Trojanski Agee and Adams. Nay: Cefaratti. The Ordinance passed by the vote of 5 ayes and 1 nay and would become law upon the Mayor's signature.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014-42

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BURTON SCOT CONTRACTORS, LLC TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESURFACING OF SEVERAL STREETS IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson to suspend the rules and place the legislation on its third and final reading. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski to adopt the legislation. All voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed. The Resolution passed by the vote of 6 ayes and 0 nays and would become law upon the Mayor's signature.

EXPENDITURES OVER \$1,000.00:

Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones to approve the expenditure over \$1,000.00 numbered 2014-58. ROLL CALL. Ayes: Jones Jackson, Trojanski, Agee, and Adams. Present: Cefaratti.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor had no report.

COUNCIL'S REPORT:

Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 2 reported that she drove around her district and gave handed out letters of recognition to those residents who kept their properties nice. Ms. Jones thanked Council for supporting her legislation regarding the foreclosure fees and stated that now the fees would be in line with the surrounding communities.

Councilman Anthony Cefaratti, District 3 thanked the Veterans for their service and stated that he hoped everyone would come out on Memorial Day.

Councilman Ron Jackson, District 4 reported on some of the calls he was receiving in his district including vacant and foreclosed homes, high grass, and various police calls. Mr. Jackson reminded everyone about a Democratic Club meeting and commented about the Waste Management contract.

Councilman Bill Brownlee, District 5 was not present.

Councilman Richard Trojanski District 6 reported on a District 6 meeting on May 3rd where concerns and issues in District 6 were discussed. Mr. Trojanski commented about a Call to Action meeting to be held in June and stated that he is hoping for a positive change for the City. Mr. Trojanski stated that Boy Scout Troop 361 did a Service Project and collected 120 cans of food for the Food Pantry and announced a Finance Committee meeting on June 2nd.

Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7 had no report.

Councilman Alex Adams, District 1 reported on several complaints in District one including high grass, garbage out too early, pot holes, and noise. Mr. Adams thanked the Service Department for their work on the pot holes and hoped that everyone would come to the Memorial Day Parade which will begin at the High School Staff Parking lot at 10:00 a.m.

Council President Jackie Albers reported that all of the City Departments are working to maintain services as best that they can and asked everyone to be patient. Ms. Albers stated that the Farmer's Market would be at the Lutheran Church on Libby Road beginning June 21st and that paper shredding would be available on June 7th at Stafford Park at 9:00 a.m. to noon. Ms. Albers reminded everyone that the Council would begin their summer schedule, so the next regular council meeting would be June 18th, but there would be a special meeting of Council on May 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackie Albers adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Passed: September 3, 2014

ATTEST:

s/s Katherine M. Unger, CMC