# City of Maple Heights Regular Council Meeting Minutes

## **Maple Height Senior Center**

September 1, 2021

# **MEETING CAUCUS**

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. with the following Council members present: Jackson, Shenett, Jones, Ostenson, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Also present were Law Director Frank Consolo, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Service Director Tony Ciresi, Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers, City Engineer Ed Hren and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Mayor Annette M. Blackwell arrived at 6:55 p.m.

Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Ostenson if **Ordinance No. 2019-61**, **As Amended** regarding the tree program would be staying in the Finance Committee to which Mr. Ostenson responded in the affirmative. Mr. Ostenson recommended that this legislation not be removed from Committee at this time.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2021-74** amending Section 452.14 of the MH Codified Ordinances concerning prohibited parking hours would be on third reading and said Council would be voting on this legislation tonight.

Councilman Shenett said he was in support of this legislation but asked about the amendment to this Ordinance which was discussed at the last meeting regarding parking for businesses in residential districts. He asked about the appropriate language for this this amendment.

In response, Mr. Consolo said he would defer to the Police Chief regarding different language to be used depending on whether the district was residential or business. He said this change may require more work to be done on this legislation. Mr. Consolo said subsections may need to be added based upon zoning district.

Mr. Shenett said the amendment would be for the business districts.

Mr. Consolo said an amendment for business districts would not cover the Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Zoning District that was a mixed-use district.

Mr. Shenett said he thought this legislation was for residential districts only.

Mr. Consolo suggested that since this Ordinance was on third reading, Council could make a motion to continue discussion of it to the September 15, 2021 Council Meeting. He said that would give time to work on an amendment based upon different zoning districts.

Mr. Ostenson said he was fine with delaying discussion on this legislation to the next Council Meeting.

Mr. Jackson said Council would need to pass a motion to continue discussion on **Ordinance No. 2021-74** to the September 15, 2021 Council Meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolutions Nos. 2021-77, 2021-78 and 2021-79** concerned the annual special fee assessments for the boarding up of houses and other unsafe structures, the garbage and rubbish collection and disposal fees and the fees for weed and grass control. He said each of these Resolutions were on second reading and would be voted on at tonight's meeting

Mr. Jackson said **Resolutions No. 2021-89 through 2021-92** concerned Side-Yard Program applications and said if there were no objections to any of these items of legislation each would be passed by Council by unanimous consent. There were no objections.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2021-93** authorizing the Mayor to apply to the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for a grant for capital infrastructure improvement projects, Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions. There being no questions, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this legislation at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2021-94** authorized the contract for the 2021 Roadway Repair Program and asked City Engineer Ed Hren to discuss this legislation.

Mr. Hren said previous legislation passed by Council authorized him to prepare the plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the City's 2021 Street Repair Program. He said this project was advertised and went out to bid for the following streets to be resurfaced this year: Wheeler Road from E. 140<sup>th</sup> Street to Dunham Road in District 2; Maple Avenue from Beech Avenue to Libby Road in District 3; Thomas Street from Raymond Street to Libby Road in District 4; Kenton Avenue from Waterbury Avenue to the End in District 5 and Donnybrook Road from Warrensville Center Road to Northfield Road in District 7.

Mr. Hren said Districts 1 and 6 will have certain roads resurfaced as part of other sewer replacement projects. He said the 2021 Road Repair Program would include milling the existing road surfaces and asphalt replacement in the Fall of 2021 with the application of a chip seal surface in Spring of 2022.

Mr. Hren said two (2) bids were received with the project estimated to be approximately \$530,000.00. He said the lowest and best bid was submitted by Specialized Construction at a cost of \$471,400.00. Mr. Hren said it was his recommendation to Council that this bid be accepted and the contract awarded to Specialized Construction. He said the company could start the project as soon as the paperwork was completed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions. There were no questions on this legislation, but Councilwoman Jones asked of she could go back to **Resolution No. 2021-93** and asked what was the timeframe for the three (3) projects included with this grant application.

In response, Mr. Hren said OPWC grant projects were usually done a year after the grant agreement was signed so these projects would be done in 2023.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2021-95** authorized the contract to install trees on Dunham Road as part of the County Healthy Tree Canopy Program (HTCP) Dunham Road Greenway Tree Planting Project and asked Mr. Hren to discuss this legislation also.

Mr. Hren said this was the second part of the contract to install the trees on Dunham Road which was part of a grant from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission. He said the City received approximately \$40,000.00 from this grant with 10% matching funds due from the City. Mr. Hren said under this project the City would plant seventy-one (71) trees. Mr. Hren said that at the previous Council Meeting the contract to purchase the seventy-one (71) trees was approved and this legislation would authorize the contract to install these trees.

Mr. Hren said five (5) price proposals were received with the proposal from Zscape LLC being the lowest bid at \$12,650.00. Mr. Hren said this was a reasonable proposal and would keep the City under the project costs.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions from Council. There were no questions.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2021-96**, Mr. Jackson said this Resolution authorized the contract for the removal of woody debris from the Dunham Road Service Garage. He asked Mr. Hren to discuss this resolution.

Mr. Hren said he had been working with Service Director Tony Ciresi to get quotes for the removal of woody debris that had been collected at the Service Garage. He said this pile of debris needed to be removed according to EPA regulations but not a lot of firms were interested in submitting bids for this type of work. Mr. Hren said only one (1) proposal was received from H&H Land Clearing LLC. He said a total of three (3) proposals were returned, but two (2) of the companies said they did not have the time to do this job.

Mr. Hren said this was a specialized industry since the company would need to bring a shredder on-site and larger wood needed to cut into smaller pieces. Mr. Hren said he could try to get another quote if Council required it, but his firm had already called other companies who declined to submit proposals.

Mr. Jackson asked if this legislation was time-sensitive to which Mr. Hren responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Ciresi said he had been trying to get a company to remove this debris for over a year and that the debris pile was as big as this room.

Mr. Jackson said he did not like just one quote for a contract but if Mr. Hren had tried to receive other quotes and Mr. Ciresi had also tried for over a year to receive quotes, then this quote would probably need to be accepted.

Mr. Hren said the cost of this contract was 100% reimbursable from the Northeast Ohio regional Sewer District (NEORSD) since this work was an approved best maintenance practice.

Ms. Tillman said that as far as the three (3) quote requirement for contracts, as long as Mr. Hren and Mr. Ciresi would be able to document their attempts to receive three (3) quotes it would be acceptable to award the contract from only one (1) proposal.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any additional questions. There were no questions.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2021-97** authorized Change Order No. 3 for Metis Construction Service regarding the City Hall New Vestibule & Elevator Addition Project and asked Mr. Hren to discuss this legislation.

Mr. Hren said that when the plans for the City Hall new vestibule and elevator project were reviewed by the Chief Building Official it was determined that the second floor bathrooms needed to be modified to also be ADA compliant. He said the City applied for additional funding for this work from the County Department of Development CDBG and CDSG grant programs and had been awarded those grants.

Mr. Hren said he went through the budget for this project with the Mayor and the Finance Director and determined that for all phases of this project the costs to the City would be approximately \$120,000.00. He said the previous change orders allowed the City to accept the alternate work on the contractor's bid. Mr. Hren said the City will be expending \$91,000.00 in City money and the rest of the funding would be from the CDBG, CDSG and NOPEC grants.

Mr. Hren said Change Order No. 3 will complete the work on the project including upgraded electrical work. He said the contractor was already on-site and the City had been happy with the work on this project. Mr. Hren said it would be possible to bid the project, but that would not make sense due to the increased administrative costs to do so. He said any savings by rebidding would be minimal.

Mr. Hren said this legislation was asking Council to approve this work with the current contractor since the phases of the project were intricately linked.

Mr. Jackson asked Ms. Tillman if the City had the money for this project to which Ms. Tillman responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Ostenson asked about the total cost of the project including the bathrooms.

Mr. Hren said that originally \$580,000.00 was budgeted between the two (2) phases of the project, including the work on both the first floor and second floor bathrooms to make them ADA compliant. He said with this Change Order the costs of the entire vestibule and elevator project will be approximately \$551,000.00. Mr. Hren said \$25,000.00 in additional contingencies was also included in the cost estimate.

Mr. Ostenson asked what were the costs of the two (2) bathrooms.

Mr. Hren said that the work on the two (2) bathrooms and hallway came to \$54,322.80.

Mr. Ostenson asked if this dollar amount was part of the \$551,000.00 to which Mr. Hren responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There being no further questions he asked Council to pass this legislation at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2021-98** authorized Change Order No. 1 regarding the Northeast Quadrant Sewer Repairs Phase 2 Project and asked Mr. Hren to discuss this legislation.

Mr. Hren said this was more of a formality that was done at the end of each project to formally close it out and balance out the budgeted and actual project costs. Mr. Hren said the price of the project in the enacting legislation was \$364,650.00 but the final cost of the project was only \$321,877.83. He said the Change order being requested by this Resolution would formally close this project out.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions from Council.

Councilman Trojanski asked if the other phase of the project was still on schedule for this Fall to which Mr. Hren responded in the affirmative. He said that Phase 3 will start this Fall and that Phase 4 will be in the Spring of 2022 which would be the resurfacing work.

Mr. Hren said this project had been funded from the NEORSD Community Cost Share program and the balance from the OPWC. He said any over-budgeted amount would be backstopped by the Cuyahoga County Sanitary Engineer which would reimburse the City for any such costs.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There being no additional questions he asked Council to pass this legislation on emergency.

Moving to **Ordinance No. 2021-99** amending Section 244.01(d) of the City's Codified Ordinances regarding the number of Sergeants to be appointed to the Police Department, Mr. Jackson ask Police Chief Hansen to discuss this legislation.

Chief Hansen said the appointment of four (4) Sergeants in the Police Department had been based on eight (8) hour shifts to include three (3) Sergeants for Patrol Officers and one (1) in the Detective Bureau but now the Police Department operated on twelve (12) hour shifts. The Chief said the Police Department now needed four (4) Sergeants for these shifts and still the one (1) Sergeant for the Detective Bureau. He said sometimes the Police Department was not always up to full strength.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Ostenson asked if the fifth Sergeant would be a floater to which Police Chief Hansen responded in the negative. The Chief said the Sergeant in the Detective Bureau was directly in charge of that section. He said the Police Lieutenants generally have other responsibilities at that rank.

Mr. Shenett asked Chief Hansen if the Police Department could max out regarding these positions.

Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department needed these positions filled with Sergeants for oversight and supervision of the Officers. He said the Department had an Executive Lieutenant and Detective Lieutenant but no one at the rank of Captain. The Chief said with the change to 12-hour shifts the Police Department sometimes had five (5) Sergeants on duty anyway outside of the current Codified Ordinances. He said this legislation would make sure the Police Department was operating within the rules.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There were no other questions. Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this legislation at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinances Nos. 2021-100 and 2021-101** went together regarding the purchase and installation of thirty-two (32) cameras to be mounted on light posts throughout the City. He asked Police Chief Hansen to discuss both of these Ordinances.

Police Chief Hansen said **Ordinance No. 2021-100** would authorize Signal Service to install the electrical connections for up to thirty-two (32) Flock Group cameras on light posts throughout the City and **Ordinance No. 2021-101** authorized the service agreement with Flock Group for the purchase and installation of the actual cameras. The Chief said these cameras would be license plate reader cameras for crime awareness and prevention and for evidence gathering. He said that a number of other cities were using these types of cameras.

Police Chief Hansen said the cameras would be leased which was better than being purchased so the cameras would be kept updated and serviced. The Chief said the City has had a couple of license plate cameras from the County that were about eight (8) year-old technology.

The Chief said **Ordinance No. 2021-100** more specifically authorized the electrical connection work from Signal Service at a cost of \$1,100.00 per installation. He said the total cost of the cameras and installation authorized by **Ordinance No. 2021-101** was about \$2,500.00 per camera per year and it would be for a two (2) year lease. The Chief said there was also a one-time fee of \$250.00 per camera for it to be hooked to power.

Police Chief Hansen said the cost for Signal Service to install the electrical connections for the cameras as stated in **Ordinance No. 2021-100** would be a maximum amount of \$1,100.00 per installation for the light posts with the arm across the road but only \$700.00 per installation on regular light posts. He said this would be a one-time hook-up fee. The Chief said he quoted the maximum amount per camera, but the final costs would be less than that total amount.

Mr. Jackson asked what would these cameras read.

In response, Police Chief Hansen said these cameras would read license plates and that each of the cameras will read two (2) lanes of traffic. He said the newer technology will also allow the Police Department to look for color, make or model of vehicles or distinctive automobile features such as distinctively designed lights, etc.

The Chief said that on the front end these cameras will not stop anything from happening but that people will realize that the cameras can track their vehicles. He said this program should deter some crime and that it would be a proactive program. Police Chief Hansen said from an investigative standpoint it will be very beneficial. He said Warrensville Heights had already approved these cameras so the City could tie-in with their program and that Garfield Heights was looking at this system also. The Chief said other cities were reviewing this program.

Police Chief Hansen said another benefit of using a nationwide camera company was that the City would have access to their database.

Mr. Jackson asked if any of these cameras were red light cameras to which Chief Hansen responded in the negative. He said this was completely different technology and system. Police Chief Hansen said this system would not issue tickets, did not track speed, etc. and was not connected to the Charter section. He said the \$80,000.00 cost of the system per year was equivalent to the hiring of one (1) new officer but it would give the City 32 sets of eyes. The Chief said the cost was justified since it will ease up the investigative workload for the Police Department and will make the community safer.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions.

Councilwoman Madden asked Ms. Tillman how would the City be paying for this system.

In response, Ms. Tillman said there would be a transfer from the General Fund to the Police Department to pay for this program. Ms. Tillman said it was definitely worth this amount of money.

Ms. Madden concurred with Ms. Tillman but said she just wanted to make sure the City had the funds available.

Mr. Trojanski asked how long the camera images were kept in the Flock Company database.

Police Chief Hansen said the images would be held in the cloud for seven (7) to ten (10) days but if the Police identify specific footage it can be clicked on and it will stay in the cloud at no additional cost.

Mr. Shenett asked if these cameras would stay in place at the entrances and exits of the City.

In response, Police Chief Hansen said since the City was ordering 32 cameras they would also be located on interior streets of the City as well.

Mr. Ostenson thanked Police Chief Hansen for talking with him about this program and said he was a proponent of this project.

Ms. Jones asked the extent of the cameras abilities to track a car speeding back and forth or to capture a hit skip accident. Chief Hansen said the system could be checked within timeframes

and that the beauty of this camera program was that footage could be checked for accidents, drunk driving, speeding in school zones, etc.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There being no other questions, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on these items of legislation at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2021-102** concerned the bidding for the solid waste contract and asked Mr. Ciresi to discuss this legislation.

Mr. Ciresi said the City was getting to the end of its current contract with Waste Management so it was necessary to request bids for a new solid waste and recycling program contract.

Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Ciresi if the City was out of renewals under the current contract to which Mr. Ciresi responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on this Resolution.

Ms. Jones asked if this could be put into committee when the bids came due.

Mr. Consolo said the plan was to try and bid the contract by the first week of October and receive the bids back by the middle to end of October. He said the City would have to work quickly to review the bids.

Mr. Jackson asked when the current contract expired to which Mr. Ciresi responded that the current contract expired December 31, 2021.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There were no additional questions.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2021-103** authorized the acceptance of the Budget Commission's amounts and rates for the City tax levies and said this legislation was done on an annual basis. Mr. Jackson asked Ms. Tillman when this was due to the Budget Commission. Ms. Tillman said this legislation was due to the County by September 30, 2021 so it could be on First Reading at tonight's meeting and then voted on by Council at the second meeting of September.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on this Resolution. There being no questions, Mr. Jackson said it would be on First Reading.

Moving to the List of Expenditures, Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or discussion.

There being no other questions or comments, the Caucus Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

# **REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. with the following Council members present: Jackson, Shenett, Jones, Ostenson, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Law Director Frank Consolo, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Service Director Tony Ciresi, Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. City Engineer Ed Hren was absent and excused.

Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, Sr. gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson called the roll.

**ADDENDUM:** There was no Addendum for tonight's meeting.

MINUTES: Mr. Ostenson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the Special Meetings of Council Minutes of June 21, 2021 and July 15, 2021

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Ms. Jones: Yes; Mr. Ostenson: Yes; Ms. Anderson: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Yes; Ms. Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Mr. Shenett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of August 4, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Ms. Jones: Yes; Mr. Ostenson: Yes; Ms. Anderson: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Abstain; Ms. Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays with one (1) abstention.

**COMMUNICATIONS**: There was one (1) Communication for tonight's meeting:

From the Ohio Division of Liquor Control:

Notice Regarding the 35% Licensing Fee Distribution to the City of Maple Heights in the amount of \$2,622.90

**<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS:</u>** There were no Council Committee Reports for tonight's meeting:

# **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

<u>Fire Department</u> - Fire Chief Kavaliunas said that Fire Department calls for service to date were 3,854 and that the Fire Department responded to the following fires:

On August 16<sup>th</sup> at 01:35 a.m. a house fire at 14709 Brunswick Avenue. The Chief said no one was home at the time of the fire and the cause was still under investigation;

On August 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 a.m. a house fire at 5629 Kenton Avenue which was an occupied home. The Fire Chief said there were no injuries and that the Red Cross assisted the occupants. He said the cause of this fire was determined to be accidental.

The Chief said the Fire Department had been dealing with a spike in the coronavirus variant illness and urged those who have not been vaccinated to do so per the CDC recommendations.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas announced the retirement of Firefighter/Paramedic Albert Szczepanik from the Department. He said Albert had served the City of Maple Heights since 1991 and wished him well with his well-deserved retirement.

The Fire Chief said the Department had completed the pre-hire testing of two (2) additional candidates to fill the remaining two vacancies and planned to have them on board shortly.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas wished everyone a safe and happy holiday weekend and asked everyone on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks to please take a moment to remember all who lost their lives in the worst attack on American soil. The Fire Chief also asked everyone to remember the service members killed in the recent attack in Afghanistan.

<u>Law Department</u> –Mr. Consolo said the Charter Review Commission completed its work last week and recommended six (6) Charter Amendments that will appear on the November 2, 2021 ballot. He said the County Board of Elections will assign the actual Issue numbers and the Clerk's Office will be publishing the Charter Amendments in The Neighbor News at least fifteen (15) days before the election.

Mr. Consolo announced that the City's health insurance contract will be up for renewal in October so the Law Department had been soliciting proposals from a couple of other insurance brokers in addition to The Fedeli Group. He said one of the proposals was from a broker representing a group of municipalities.

Mr. Consolo reported that the City of Maple Heights will be the lead City for a new discovery process to be used in Judge Nicastro's Courtroom at the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. He said discovery was the process during which Defendants were provided evidence from the Prosecutor's Office. Mr. Consolo said the new process will make this information available online. He said Police Chief Hansen and the Police Department Records Department would also be involved in this pilot program. Mr. Consolo said this program would be at no cost to the City and that only two (2) other municipalities have agreed to participate.

Mr. Consolo said the Law Department had recently completed a neighbor mediation in District 2 and was awaiting the outcome. He said there have been a number of boundary disputes in the City but residents seemed to cooperate more through the mediation process.

<u>Police Department</u> – Police Chief Hansen reported that the Police Department has responded to approximately 2,200 calls for service since the last Council Meeting and over 20,000 calls for service to date. The Chief said that the number of calls for service per day for the Police Department averaged about 80 +calls per day including 4 reports a day and 6 tickets per day. He

said that the Police Department issued 36 parking tickets over the past two (2) weeks. The Police Chief also reported that the Police Department took 15 guns off the streets for the month of August. Chief Hansen said the Police Department continued to receive a lot of parking complaints and said the Department has tried to follow up on them as best as they can. He reminded residents that the Police Department generally cannot tow cars unless there were two (2) outstanding parking tickets for the vehicle.

Chief Hansen announced that the Police Department has hired a new Officer who will be starting on Tuesday. He said the new Officer will be doing his administrative week at the Police Department and then will start his field training. The Chief announced that the Police Department would also be promoting one Corporal to the rank of Sergeant on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Police Chief Hansen concluded his report by stating that he echoed the sentiments of Chief Kavaliunas to remember all those who died in the attacks on September 11<sup>th</sup>. He asked everyone to also remember all service members, especially those recently killed in Afghanistan, and all the safety forces.

<u>Human Services Department</u> – Human Services Director Mrs. Linda Vopat announced that the City-Wide Garage Sale will be held September 9<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> and that permit applications for residents interested in participating were still available from the Senior Center. She said there was a fee of \$5.00 to participate and the City will get the permit and advertise the event for the participants.

Mrs. Vopat said the next Mobile Farmers' Market will be held Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and that in addition to fresh fruits and vegetables there will be frozen food from the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. She said volunteers will deliver the food to participants' cars.

Mrs. Vopat said flu shots will be available at the Senior Center on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to Noon by appointment. Mrs. Vopat said the shingles vaccination and pneumonia shots would also be available. She said Walgreens will be administering the shots and that residents will need to call the Senior Center to schedule their appointment. Mrs. Vopat said Walgreens will accept all forms of insurance except Care Source.

Mrs. Vopat said she wanted to remind residents that the next Community Shred Day will be Saturday, October 9 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church. She said Shred-It will be the company doing the shredding and that residents who bring documents to be shredded will be able to watch the work being done.

Mrs. Vopat concluded her report by stating that the Department of Human Services was still waiting for information regarding the NOACA grant that had been submitted for the purchase of two (2) new handicap accessible vans and that the Department will be submitting a grant to the County Department of Senior and Adult Services for the services provided by the Senior Center.

<u>Finance Department</u> – Finance Director Tinita Tillman announced that a Council Finance Committee Meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow, September 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to be

followed by the first Audit Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m. that will be a Meet and Greet for the Audit Committee Members.

Ms. Tillman said the Finance Department was working on closing the month of August and that the report will be completed by Friday.

<u>Service Department</u> - Service Director Tony Ciresi announced that this coming week trash collection would be delayed one (1) day due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Mr. Ciresi said Service Department staff have been cutting approximately 15-17 lots per day including working in the parks and City-owned vacant lots and cited properties. He said within the last two and half weeks the Service Department has completed 29 Cleveland Water Department dig jobs.

Mr. Ciresi also reported that tomorrow Service Department staff will be out working on asphalt repairs and usually have been able to complete 8 to 12 repair jobs a week.

Mr. Ciresi said that with the recent heavy rains and flooding the Service Department cleared a number of downed trees and said he has been working with City Engineer Ed Hren and the County Sewer District to correct flooding issues in the City.

Mr. Ciresi said the Service Department has received a number of telephone calls regarding cleanouts at rental properties and said bulk pick-ups were only permitted to fill the trash collection bin on the rubbish trucks two (2) times. He said any clean-outs over that amount required that a dumpster to be used.

Mr. Ciresi said that from Friday through Sunday he has been checking the street lights starting with the main streets of the City first and reminded residents that if they notice any streetlights out, they can contact the Service Department or notify First Energy directly through the City's website.

Mr. Ciresi concluded his report by announcing that due to the large number of loose dogs the Animal Warden has been called to take care of the Service Department has purchase a chipreader that will help the City reunite dogs with their owners. He asked dog owners to have their pets chipped to help reduce the number of lost pets.

Mr. Shenett asked Mr. Ciresi if the chip reader detected if the pet was chipped to which Mr. Ciresi responded in the affirmative.

**Economic Development Director:** Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers reported that a number of construction projects were underway in the City including the new Express Car Wash on Warrensville Center Road, site work for the Magic Hair and Beauty expansion project on Libby Road and site work on the construction of the first single-family home by Amato Homes. He said there was more construction planned for later this year and next year so he looked forward to sharing those details as they became available.

Mr. Grogan-Myers announced that the City was working in partnership with the Maple Heights School District and Tri-C to ensure that residents were prepared for their careers. He said there was a one-credit course available through Tri-C designed to help residents identify their strengths and to prepare for entering the workforce in their chosen career. He said the course also identified training opportunities at Tri-C that would prepare residents for their desired career. Mr. Grogan-Myers said that there were scholarship funds available to help cover the cost of the course and that this was a great opportunity for individuals to enter the workforce or to transition to a new career. He said more information on and registration for this program was available on the Tri-C website. Mr. Grogan-Myers said upcoming courses would be starting September 14<sup>th</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Grogan-Myers also announced that GOJO was looking to immediately hire 10 associates for their first shift with starting pay for these positions at \$13.00 per hour with a guaranteed 10 hours of overtime per week. He said more information on this job opportunity was available at Integrity Staffing Services at 330-237-3841.

Mr. Grogan-Myers concluded his report by stating that the Housing Department recently sent out friendly reminder letters to over 180 property owners in the City who missed one or both property tax payments due in 2021. He said this reminder letter notified the property owners of the missed payments and guided these property owners to the County Fiscal Office to make payment on the overdue balance or set up a payment plan to resolve the overdue balance. Mr. Grogan-Myers said one of the best ways for property owners to make sure they do not miss upcoming property tax payments and accrue penalties and interest or face a tax foreclosure action was use of the County's EasyPay Plan. He said this Plan allowed for upcoming property taxes to be withdrawn automatically from a property owner's account monthly, semi-annually or annually. Mr. Grogan-Myers said more information and the link to the EasyPay Plan webpage was available on the homepage of the City's website.

# **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

Mr. Paul Gaebelein residing at 5188 Anthony Street asked about the signs on the fence at Maple Town and said it looked like a flea market. He said another problem was the pop-up signs on tree lawns throughout the City. Regarding the parking situation in the City Mr. Gaebelein asked if the Police Department patrolled at night because there were a lot of cars parked on streets overnight.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the Service Department has picked up signs on the tree lawns and that she will look into the signs at Maple Town.

Ms. Diane Evans of 5151 Greenhurst Drive said there was a problem on her street with a neighbor that did not have a driveway. She said one of the cars has not moved and had an expired tag. Ms. Evans said only two (2) of cars had parking passes but the neighbor now had five (5) cars.

In response, Mr. Ostenson said he knew Ms. Evans and that he had fielded her complaint. Mr. Ostenson said he had been working with the Police Chief regarding this matter and that he had

seen a number of cars on the street. Mr. Ostenson thanked Ms. Evans for attending tonight's meeting.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said that every morning she received the calls for service reports and that the Police Department has been issuing a number of parking tickets. The Mayor said there were Police Officers out on traffic duty and that the City was trying to hire new officers. She said the Police Department was currently down ten (10) officers so there was a priority for calls.

Mr. Jack Denson residing at 5167 Greenhurst Drive concurred about the problem with the five (5) cars and that one (1) car in particular was parking in front of his house. He said the problem was that the neighbor played loud music in the vehicle at night. He said there was also a trash issue in this area.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the City had a Nuisance Abatement Ordinance and said Mr. Grogan-Myers will check on the property owner and address this issue with them.

Ms. Angela Trusso of 14117 Tokay Avenue said she had been a resident of the City for 39 years and complained about the commercial truck traffic from Pennsylvania Avenue driving on the residential streets. She said no one was getting ticketed for this. Ms. Trusso also complained about cars parking on tree lawns and yards.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the Economic Development Director has been working with the Industrial Park to put up signage so the City will discuss this issue with these businesses at their next meeting.

Mr. Shenett said he had been working with the Mayor and Police Chief regarding this same problem in District 1. He said part of the problem with in-bound trucks was the navigational unit the drivers were using that guided them through the city streets. Mr. Shenett said a lot of truckers do not use the commercial units.

Mr. Willie Merrill residing at 5152 Greenhurst Drive said he concurred with the earlier complaints about the parking on the street and said that when the cars parked on the street in winter the snow plow can only come down one side of the street.

Mr. Merrill also said the garage at the corner of Raymond Street at Greenhurst Drive was an eyesore that needed to be addressed.

In response, Mr. Ostenson said he understood the resident's concerns and that he had reached out to the appropriate people to address these problems.

Ms. Connie Rosemond of 20000 Gardenview Drive asked if there was any update concerning the Warrensville Center Road traffic survey and also asked about each of the six (6) Charter Amendments that will be on the ballot for the November election.

In response to Ms. Rosemond's inquiry about the Charter Amendments, Mr. Consolo said that once the Board of Elections assigned the Issue numbers for the amendments the Law Department would prepare a summary of these issues to be distributed to the residents.

Regarding some of the specific Charter Amendments, Mr. Consolo said the amendment regarding the Mayor's signature would allow a Director to sign instead of the Mayor, who currently under the Charter signed all contracts.

Mr. Consolo said the Charter Review Commission recommended the removal of the prohibition on the use of traffic cameras currently in the Charter and that an alternate meeting provision be added to the Charter since currently there was no provision when the first day of the new term fell on a legal holiday.

Mr. Consolo said a lot of the amendments were suggested to update the City Charter and that the language for all six (6) amendments will be published together in The Neighborhood News and on the City website before the November 2, 2021 Election.

In response to Ms. Rosemond's question about an update on the Warrensville Center Road traffic survey, Mr. Jackson said the meeting regarding the Southgate Connectivity Study will be scheduled.

Mr. Robert Gillette residing at 5228 Camden Road thanked everyone for resolving the problem next door to him. He said it took time but that we have a great City.

### **LEGISLATION:**

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-61, As Amended

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 660.16(C) CREATING A COST-SHARING PROGRAM WITH PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS FOR REMOVAL OF DEAD, DISEASED, OR DAMAGED TREES AND THOSE TREES WHOSE ROOTS HAVE ADVERSELY IMPACTED SIDEWALKS AND SEWERS FROM TREE LAWNS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance remained in the Finance Committee upon the recommendation of Mr. Ostenson, Chairman of this Committee.

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-74**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 452.14 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS CONCERNING PROHIBITED PARKING HOURS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was on its Third Reading.

Mr. Shenett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to continue discussion on this Ordinance to the September 15, 2021 Council Meeting.

ROLL CALL on the Motion to continue discussion: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-77**

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER THE SUMS DUE TO THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS WHICH WERE EXPENDED FOR BOARDING UP HOUSES AND OTHER UNSAFE STRUCTURES PURSUANT TO CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTIONS 680.06, 1440.27 AND 1440.28, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shenett, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-78**

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF ASSESSING THE EXPENSE OF GARBAGE AND RUBBISH COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL WITHIN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND CERTIFYING TO THE COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER THE COSTS DUE TO THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS FOR GARBAGE AND RUBBISH COLLECTIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Ostenson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-79**

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER THE SUMS DUE TO THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS WHICH WERE EXPENDED FOR WEED AND GRASS CONTROL PURSUANT TO CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTIONS 660.15 AND 680.05, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-89**

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE UNIMPROVED RESIDENTIAL LOT OWNED BY THE CITY ON CATO STREET, PPN 782-01-123, IS NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections, this Resolution would pass by Unanimous Consent. There being no objections, this Resolution was passed by Unanimous Consent.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-90**

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE UNIMPROVED RESIDENTIAL LOT OWNED BY THE CITY ON HILLGROVE AVENUE, PPN 782-14-110, IS NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN

#### EMERGENCY.

Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections, this Resolution would pass by Unanimous Consent. There being no objections, this Resolution was passed by Unanimous Consent.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-91**

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE UNIMPROVED RESIDENTIAL LOT OWNED BY THE CITY ON THEODORE STREET, PPN 781-21-027, IS NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections, this Resolution would pass by Unanimous Consent. There being no objections, this Resolution was passed by Unanimous Consent.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-92**

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE UNIMPROVED RESIDENTIAL LOT OWNED BY THE CITY ON CATO STREET, PPN 782-01-139, IS NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections, this Resolution would pass by Unanimous Consent. There being no objections, this Resolution was passed by Unanimous Consent.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-93**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY TO THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FOR A POTENTIAL GRANT FOR THE FUNDING OF CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shenett, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

# **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-94**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE 2021 ROADWAY REPAIR PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-95**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH Z-SCAPE LLC TO INSTALL TREES ON DUNHAM ROAD, FROM MENDOTA AVENUE TO THE SOUTH CORPORATION LINE, AS PART OF THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTHY TREE CANOPY PROGRAM (HTCP) DUNHAM ROAD GREENWAY TREE PLANTING PROJECT (COUNTY PROJECT NO. MAP-21-01), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Shenett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

Mr. Shenett thanked Mr. Hren and his team who worked on this project. He said this will beautify the area without negatively affecting the properties because of the type of trees selected. Mr. Shenett said he was excited about this project.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or discussion. There being no further questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-96**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH H&H LAND CLEARING LLC TO PROVIDE FOR THE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF WOODY DEBRIS FROM THE DUNHAM ROAD SERVICE CENTER IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Ostenson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-97**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 FOR METIS CONSTRUCTION SERVICE, INCREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$87,273.70 FOR THE CITY HALL NEW VESTIBULE & ELEVATOR ADDITION PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-98**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR UNITED SURVEY, INC., DECREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$42,772.17, FOR THE NORTHEAST QUADRANT SEWER REPAIRS PHASE 2 PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

### ORDINANCE NO. 2021-99

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 244.01(d) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SERGEANTS ABLE TO BE APPOINTED TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM UP TO FOUR TO UP TO FIVE SERGEANTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Ostenson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

Mr. Shenett asked Police Chief Hansen if there would be promotions within the year to which Chief Hansen responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Ordinance. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-100**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE QUOTE FROM SIGNAL SERVICE TO INSTALL ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS FOR UP TO THIRTY-TWO (32) FLOCK GROUP INC CAMERAS ON LIGHT POSTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY, AT A COST OF ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,100.00) PER INSTALLATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Ostenson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

Mayor Blackwell thanked Police Chief Hansen for his presentation and said this was one of several safety initiatives for the City. She said a number of other cities have this program. The Mayor said the Administration has vetted this program and that the Finance Director was good at finding money for these programs. The Mayor said the City needed to compete with other cities and that she hoped Council would pass these Ordinances tonight to make our City safer.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or discussion. There being no further questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Ordinance. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-101**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A SERVICES AGREEMENT ORDER FORM AND TWO (2) YEAR CUSTOMER AGREEMENT WITH FLOCK GROUP INC. TO PROVIDE AND INSTALL THIRTY-TWO (32) CAMERAS ON LIGHT POSTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY, WITH RELATED HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, AT A TOTAL COST OF ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$168,000.00), TO BE USED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE DETECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CRIME AWARENESS AND PREVENTION AND ARCHIVING FOR EVIDENCE GATHERING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Ordinance. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-102**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PREPARE BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING SERVICES IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAID SERVICE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on this legislation.

Mr. Shenett said he hoped Council would have the opportunity to discuss their concerns regarding City trash collection.

Mr. Jackson said these concerns can be discussed at a Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Ms. Jones asked if the bid specification included the same service dates or could the service dates be changed as part of the bid process. Ms. Jones said she was concerned that with the current Friday service date sometimes the trash was not picked up that day and would Saturday be a regularly scheduled work day for the trash collection company.

In response, Mr. Ciresi said that was the first thing he brought to Waste Management's attention with the current contract. Mr. Ciresi said he was hesitant to change the collection date so as not to confuse the residents.

Mayor Blackwell said Waste Management faced several challenges over the years that were not the Company's fault. The Mayor said the problem of vehicles parked on the streets made it difficult for the WM truck to get to the trash to pick it up. She said another issue was the problem of residents not sure of the recycling calendar.

The Mayor said that not matter which company will be awarded the contract the City and residents will need to do our part. Mayor Blackwell said another issue for trash collection companies has been the fact that they cannot hire enough employees. She said all cities were having these same problems.

Mr. Ostenson said some of residents received notices from Waste Management regarding their trash.

Ms. Jones asked if a new contract will affect the assessment for the trash collection and disposal fee that was passed in **Resolution No. 2021-78.** 

In response, Ms. Tillman said there was enough money in this fund to cover the current collection costs and that of a new contract.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or discussion. There being no further questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules. On the motion to suspend the rules and pass this Resolution on emergency, all voted aye, none opposed, the motion passed.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this Resolution. There being no discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-103**

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE

# CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on its First Reading.

# **EXPENDITURES OVER \$3,500.00**: 2021-040 through 2021-041

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion regarding the List of Expenditures over \$3,500.00: 2021-040 through 2021-041. There were no questions or discussion.

There being no questions or discussion on the List of Expenditures over \$3,500.00, Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ostenson, to approve the List of Expenditures over \$3,500.00.

ROLL CALL on the motion to approve the List of Expenditures: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Ostenson: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion to approve passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays.

<u>MAYOR'S REPORT:</u> Mayor Blackwell thanked Council for approving the expenditure for diversity and inclusion training for City employees. The Mayor said the City wanted to address the issue of inherent bias holistically and that she had asked Mr. Consolo to bring in this training,

The Mayor announced that the City of Maple Heights grew in population by 2.4% according to the recent census conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. She said the population under the 2010 Census was 23,138 compared to 23,700 in the 2020 Census. Mayor Blackwell said it was likely that the City population increase was greater than 2.4% since the response rate to the Census was 65%. She said the City was growing and with this growth came problems with parking, dog issues, etc.

Mayor Blackwell announced that the City was one of 41 applicants for the Cuyahoga County Public Works grant to correct water and waste water back-up. She said the City was one of ten (10) communities selected and that these grant projects would be looking at both the north and south quadrants of the City.

Regarding the City's Road Repair Program, the Mayor said she had worked with City Engineer Ed Hren and Service Director Ciresi to rate the condition of the streets. She said some of the streets in very poor condition were not selected for this program since they will be repaired later after infrastructure repairs in those areas were completed. Mayor Blackwell said the City used grants to make these repairs to relieve the General Fund. The Mayor said State routes were taken care of by ODOT and Cuyahoga County maintained County routes. She said the City side streets selected to be repaired had been rated as being in the worst conditions and would be repaired with funds received from the gasoline tax.

Mayor Blackwell said that she would be receiving information from the County regarding the triannual property tax appraisal. She said values from this mid-cycle property reappraisal will be improving which will correlate to an increase in property taxes for property owners.

The Mayor said 250 Beautiful Yard signs were distributed in the City that recognized residents' investments in their properties. Mayor Blackwell said she was happy to announce that Gale's Garden Center would be offering a 10% discount to these winners.

Mayor Blackwell said this year's Music in the Park program was the most successful ever and that the recent once-a-month program was supported by grants, corporate sponsors and donations.

Mayor Blackwell announced that she would be hosting a Community Meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup> to talk about the good things in our City. The Mayor said she wanted to balance the good and the bad. Mayor Blackwell said she has invited several people to attend including representatives of Rid-All Green Partnership, Jeep Invaders, etc. and that the flyer for this event would be out shortly.

The Mayor concluded her report by announcing that she will be presenting a 2-Year State of the City Address that will cover both 2020 and 2021. She said at this State of the City Address she will be recognizing the Maple Heights Business of the Year and the Maple Heights Citizen of the Year.

# **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, District 1 said he was excited about the new homes in District 1 to be built by Amato Homes LLC. Mr. Shenett said he talked with Mr. Amato and the first project will be on Dunham Road. He thanked Mr. Grogan-Myers for working with Mr. Amato to do this project.

Mr. Shenett announced that the District 1 Newsletter was on the City website and was also available at several businesses in the district.

Mr. Shenett said he has continued to address the nuisance issues regarding vacant homes in District 1 and that a number of these homes were owned by investors. He said these vacant homes were not being maintained by the owners and thanked the Building Department and Fire Department for their work to review possible nuisance issues.

Mr. Shenett also thanked Mr. Ciresi and his crew for his quick response to complete the water dig jobs.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by wishing everyone a good evening.

Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 2 thanked Mr. Ciresi for completing the dig job on James Avenue. Ms. Jones said she was also thankful that Wheeler Road was eligible for the Road Repair Program that was scheduled to start at the end of this month.

Ms. Jones also thanked Mr. Grogan-Myers for the update regarding the demolition of the Northwood house and the property tax information that Mr. Grogan-Myers mentioned in his

report. Ms. Jones said another property tax assistance option was ESOP's Senior Loan Program for property owners age 55 and older.

Ms. Jones said hardship loans were also available under a State program for anything that was considered a hardship such as medications, utilities, etc. and that Mrs. Vopat had additional information regarding these programs.

Ms. Jones announced that at the end of September Districts 2 and 3 would be hosting a neighborhood forum at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church.

Ms. Jones concluded her report by wishing everyone a Happy Labor Day and reminding everyone to remember those who suffered on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

# Councilman Christian Ostenson, District 3 – No Report.

Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson, District 4 said she was pleased to hear that a house in District 4 sold for \$145,000.00 and that a rehabbed house on Raymond Street was under contract for \$140,000.00.

Ms. Anderson thanked the residents for purchasing the side lots in the City and said that helped the neighborhoods.

Ms. Anderson concluded her report by stating that she volunteered at the Maple Heights Food Pantry and that it was a good experience. She said the Pantry was in need of volunteers and said anyone interesting in volunteering can call the Food Pantry at 216-365-2842 for more information.

Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5 thanked the residents who attended the Hazelwood Court Project Community Meetings to become more informed about the project.

Ms. Madden announced that the Maple Heights Regional Library has started a library fines forgiveness program for young adults age 18 and younger. She said under this program outstanding fines will be erased. Ms. Madden said the Maple Heights Library was also looking for volunteers for their new Homework Tutoring Program that will be starting September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Madden concluded her report by wishing everyone a Happy Labor Day Holiday.

Councilman Richard Trojanski, District 6 reported that he had received the results of the recent traffic study performed on Raymond Street that collected speed data over a three (3) week period of time. Mr. Trojanski said the data did not indicate a speeding problem in this area of Raymond Street with only a few fast out-layers throughout the time periods that were monitored. He said the average speed recorded was under the posted speed limit and that a speed of 30 MPH was reported in only twelve (12) of the half-hour increments. Mr. Trojanski said the traffic engineers who reviewed this data concluded that increased law enforcement may be a possible solution. Mr. Trojanski said he would share the raw data he had received from this study upon request.

Mr. Trojanski said he was happy to announce that 5074 Warrensville Center Road will be occupied by a new business. He said a child day care center will be opening at this location at the beginning of 2022.

Mr. Trojanski reported that last month Districts 6 and 4 sponsored a Resource Fair to provide residents with information regarding various support services, etc. and that he had partnered with the Maple Heights Regional Library for a Back to School Supply Drive from August 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Trojanski concluded his report by announcing that the Ice Cream Social with Dedicated Senior Medical that had been cancelled due to inclement weather was rescheduled to September 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. at East Castle High School on Warrensville Center Road. He said there will be free health screenings available at this event.

Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7 – No Report.

Council President Ron Jackson said Labor Day should remind everyone to be thankful. Mr. Jackson said his heart was heavy at this time however for the families of those who died recently in Afghanistan.

Mr. Jackson concluded his report by thanking everyone who attended the meeting tonight.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Dated: October 6, 2021 ATTEST:

S/S Leonette Cicirella Johnson Clerk of Council