

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

**Maple Height Senior Center**

**April 20, 2022**

**MEETING CAUCUS**

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Jackson, Shenett, Jones, Tatum, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson was absent and excused. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Law Director Frank Consolo, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Police Ex. Lt. Brian Kevern on behalf of Police Chief Todd Hansen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Service Director Bob Gorentz and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. City Engineer Ed Hren was absent and excused.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any final questions regarding **Ordinance No. 2022-25** concerning the use of the pavilions at Stafford Park.

Councilman Shenett said that for the record he was personally concerned about the increase in the pavilion fees at this time, but that this was not an indictment of the Recreation Department. Mr. Shenett said he would not hold up progress on the legislation however.

In response, Mrs. Vopat said she appreciated Mr. Shenett's comments and concerns. Mrs. Vopat said the legislation would need enough votes to be passed on emergency since there were a number of residents interested in renting the pavilions as soon as they were scheduled to open. She said the majority of pavilion rentals were for church groups and family reunions. Mrs. Vopat said the City did not want to charge residents different fee amounts over the year.

Mr. Consolo said that procedurally this legislation was on Third Reading so the first vote to suspend the rules to pass it on emergency would be to make the legislation effective immediately after the Mayor signed it. He said this would require five (5) affirmative votes. Mr. Consolo said the second vote for adoption of the legislation would also require five (5) affirmative votes for it to be effective immediately. He said if the vote for adoption received only four (4) affirmative votes (a simple majority) that would be ordinary passage, and the Ordinance would not go into effect until thirty (30) days after Council passed it.

Councilwoman Jones said she supported the emergency vote and that it was not a significant increase in the pavilion fees. She said it has become a burden for the City to maintain the pavilions as the City's costs have increased.

Mr. Jackson said since this legislation was on Third Reading, he would ask Council to vote on it at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-30** authorizing application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for funding regarding the Jackson Boulevard Recreational Trail Project was on Second Reading and asked if there were any questions.

There being no questions, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this Resolution at tonight's meeting if there were no objections. There were no objections.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-32** regarding the contract for the Stafford Park Fitness Network Station Installation Project would also be on Second Reading and asked if there were any questions. There being no questions, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this Resolution at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2022-36** concerning amendment of Section 452.25 of the Codified Ordinances with regards to towing contracts and rate would be on Second Reading and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Shenett asked if Mr. Consolo could clarify this amendment regarding the towing contracts rates.

In response, Mr. Consolo said this legislation was on Second Reading but the Administration was requesting that it be passed on emergency at tonight's meeting. He said the City no longer paid towing companies. Mr. Consolo said now the customers paid the companies directly for towing and/or storage, so the bid part of the City's current Section 452.25 no longer applied to this process. Mr. Consolo said that a couple of years ago the PUCO took over regulation of towing companies in Ohio. He said that as a result of this the companies were more strictly regulated and must follow State law. Mr. Consolo said the regulations were more burdensome. He said the amendments proposed in **Ordinance No. 2022-36** would help the City to be able to use other towing companies including heavy tow companies for trucks, etc. when necessary.

Mr. Shenett asked if following State law regulated the pricing to which Mr. Consolo responded in the affirmative. Mr. Consolo said State law regulated the amount to be charged per tow and per storage. Mr. Consolo said he would defer to Police Ex. Lt. Brian Kevern for more information regarding the PUCO and the regulation of towing companies in Ohio.

Police Ex. Lt. Brian Kevern said the PUCO did a much better job in terms of regulating the towing companies. He said these companies were required to carry a certain amount of insurance. Ex. Lt. Kevern said the City would still be using our own towing ordinance only for police use. He said the current Code Section regarding tow bids contradicted PUCO regulations.

Mr. Consolo said the important thing for Council to know was that the amendment would allow the City to maintain its ability to waive certain fees if necessary. He said this power would still remain with the Safety Director and Police Chief.

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

Moving to **Resolution No. 2022-37** changing the regular meeting schedule of Council for the months of June, July and August, Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections from Council this Resolution would be passed by unanimous consent. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-38** determining that the unimproved residential lot at 5258 Beech Avenue was not being needed for municipal purposes concerned another Side Yard Program application. He said this property was in District 3 and asked Councilman Tatum if he supported this legislation.

Councilman Tatum said Mrs. Murphy, the Applicant for this Side Yard Application, wanted to purchase this lot to add a garden and fence. Mr. Tatum said he supported this application and asked to be added as a Co-Sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any other discussion on this legislation. There being no other discussion, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this Resolution at tonight's meeting.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2022-39** authorizing the purchase agreement with Liberty Ford Inc. for a 2022 Ford F-350 work truck for the Fire Department, Mr. Jackson asked if there was any discussion on this legislation.

Mr. Consolo said the Administration was requesting that this Resolution be passed on emergency because the dealership will not be able to hold this vehicle for the City. He said the prior legislation needed to be repealed since Tim Lally did not have that particular vehicle available after all.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or discussion. There being no other questions, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this Resolution at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-40** would authorize the Police Chief to trade-in firearms no longer needed for municipal purposes for credit towards the purchase of new replacement firearms. He asked Mr. Consolo to discuss this legislation also.

In response, Mr. Consolo said this legislation repealed the prior **Resolution No. 2022-27** concerning a proposed firearms trade-in and was based upon a question raised by Mr. Shenett at the March 30<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting regarding a third-party issue in that transaction. He said that procedure would not be permitted since it did not track the language of the legislation as it had been written. Mr. Consolo said the change in this Resolution was that it involved only two (2) parties. He said the numbers will be different in this transaction, but it will be a true trade-in of firearms and purchase of new weapons.

Mr. Consolo said Police Chief Hansen worked the best deal possible, based upon the City's financial policies and procedures that required the trade-in and purchase to be with the same company. He said the City will still have a credit balance after the purchase, but just not as much. Mr. Consolo said base upon the purpose of this Resolution, it was being requested that it also pass on emergency.

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

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2022-41** provided for the second amended appropriations and asked if there were any questions on this legislation.

Mr. Shenett said he had a question about the SBA grant listed in the Amended Appropriations.

In response, Ms. Tillman said in 2017 the City received a grant from Cuyahoga County that was for a SBA grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 and that the legislation accepting this grant and creating the grant fund (Fund 255) said the City would add another \$50,00.00 to it.

Ms. Tillman said two (2) SBA loans had been made to local businesses from this fund and one (1) had been repaid. Ms. Tillman said in 2020 Council approved a transfer to Fund 255 but since she transferred funds only if needed, so she did not send \$50,000.00 to that fund. Ms. Tillman said she will need to put this money into the fund now.

Mr. Shenett said the balance in the fund was about \$122,000.00 - \$127,000.00 so with the \$50,000.00 transfer added the fund balance will be about \$177,000.00.

Ms. Tillman said the total for loans to be available should be \$200,000.00. She said one of the loans awarded in 2019 was for \$35,000.00 which has been repaid. Ms. Tillman said Sam Sylk's had been awarded a loan in the amount of \$27,000.00 of which \$12,000.00 has been repaid.

Mayor Blackwell said there had been twelve (12) applications for the SBA loans but only these two (2) applicant received loans under the program.

Mr. Shenett asked Mayor Blackwell if the SBA grants were still open to businesses to which Mayor Blackwell responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Shenett asked if this Ordinance needed to be passed on emergency to which both Mr. Jackson and Ms. Tillman responded in the affirmative.

Moving to the List of Expenditures, Mr. Jackson said there were no Expenditures over \$25,000.00 for review at tonight's meeting, only one (1) Disclosure of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00.

Mr. Jackson said Councilwoman Agee will have the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments.

There being no other questions or comments, the Caucus Meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

### **REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following Council members present: Jackson, Shenett, Jones, Tatum, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson was absent and excused. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell,

Law Director Frank Consolo, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Police Ex. Lt. Brian Kevern on behalf of Police Chief Todd Hansen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Service Director Bob Gorentz and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. City Engineer Ed Hren was absent and excused.

Councilwoman Edwina Agee 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. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of March 16, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Ms. Jones: Yes; Mr. Tatum: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Yes; Ms. Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve the Special Meeting of Council Minutes of March 30, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Ms. Jones: Yes; Mr. Tatum: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Yes; Ms. Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays.

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

***Planning and Zoning Appeal regarding Case No. 2022-PZ-14, Ms. Certuria Dowdy Appellant***

Mr. Jackson asked Ms. Dowdy to present her Appeal to Council.

Ms. Dowdy said she was the owner of Authentic Experience Child Care at 17170 Broadway Avenue and that she was appealing the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission that denied her request for a variance to install a fence on her property. The Appellant said she wanted to install a fence between the two (2) like businesses because routine traffic was confused as to the business entrances. She said parents and delivery people will often park in each other's parking lot and walk across to the business they need to go to.

Ms. Dowdy said this was also a safety issue especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours since children may dart off to the other parking lot.

The Appellant said the fence to be installed would be a 3' black fence as allowed with the City's Zoning Code. She said it would be located between the two (2) business locations so there will be a visual separation between the businesses and to make the parking lots safer.

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

Mr. Shenett said he has had experience having been on Planning and Zoning regarding a fence being proposed for safety as well as distinction of the lots and asked the Appellant if that was the purpose for installing the fence.

Ms. Dowdy said the fence would be for safety as well as distinction of the businesses.

Mr. Shenett said usually the safety issues for day cares and the safe areas will be in place, including a fence for the play area, etc., when the business was first being reviewed for approval.

In response, the Appellant said a fenced-in play area was already in place, but there was no fence between the businesses and this was causing problems for these similar businesses.

Mr. Shenett asked if the issue then was to install the fence to distinguish the business areas only, to which the Appellant responded in the affirmative. Ms. Dowdy said the distinction was important so parents and delivery people pulled into the correct parking area.

Mr. Jackson asked the Appellant if the fence would be in front of the building.

Ms. Dowdy said the fence would run between the buildings of the two (2) businesses.

As a follow-up question Mr. Jackson asked the Appellant where would the fence to be installed begin and end.

Ms. Dowdy said the fence would begin where the buildings of the businesses meet and go towards Broadway Avenue.

Mr. Jackson asked how far would the fence stop from the sidewalk.

With regards to the sidewalk area, Ms. Dowdy said the fence would be installed as per the rules of the City's Zoning Code.

Councilwoman Madden said part of the problem at the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting was the information included in the plans that had been submitted to the Building Department. She said the plans did not comply with the City's Zoning Code so that was why the Chief Building Official referred this application to the Planning and Zoning Commission for approval of the variances that needed to be requested. Ms. Madden said the Commission was only able to go by what was presented to them in the paperwork.

Mr. Sheentt asked Mr. Consolo for clarification as to what Council could consider under the Appeal process.

In response, Mr. Consolo said that whatever was reviewed by Planning and Zoning can be reviewed by Council.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments regarding the Appeal.

There being no other questions or comments, Mr. Jackson said Council will consider the Appeal and discuss it at another meeting before rendering its decision.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** There were no Council Committee Reports for tonight's meeting.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Fire Department** - Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas said that Fire Department calls for service to date were 1.762 and that the Fire Department responded to the following fire at 18809 Harlan Drive in Maple Heights. He said the incident occurred at 8:33 p.m. on April 6<sup>th</sup> and that no injuries were reported.

The Fire Chief said that later that same night at 3:30 a.m. the Fire Department responded to a house fire in Garfield Heights at 4877 E. 86<sup>th</sup> Street where the MHPD engine crew saved and successfully resuscitated the family's puppy.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas said that in the legislation on tonight's agenda the Fire Department will be asking Council to switch purchasing a utility truck from Tim Lally Chevrolet to Liberty Ford. He said the Fire Department has been unsuccessful in getting a truck from Chevrolet and may have an additional delay of 6 to 12 months. The Fire Chief said a truck became available from Ford that was currently at the Maple Heights dealership that fit the Department's original specifications.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas concluded his report by announcing that the Fire Department will begin its annual flushing of hydrants in May that will be completed during weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Fire Chief said it was essential to test the operation of hydrants and identify potential problems. He reminded residents that checking and running their faucets at home until the water flowed clear should alleviate any rust in the water issues. The Fire Chief also reported that the Mendota and Rowena sewer repair projects were continuing and that the number of hydrants that had been replaced will be painted this year.

**Law Department** – Law Director Mr. Frank Consolo said he had a couple of updates from the Law Department for his report. He said the Ohio Supreme Court recently declined to review an Appeals Court decision regarding Ohio House Bill 197 (H.B. 197) and the issue of where employees working remotely from home would be taxed for local income tax purposes. Mr. Consolo said H.B. 197 had deemed remote work performed by an employee working from home during the pandemic to occur at an employer's principal place of business for Ohio local income tax purposes.

Mr. Consolo said the Buckeye Institute challenged H.B. 197 in a case filed in Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. He said the Court held in that case that the Ohio General Assembly had the power to tax Ohio residents or to set appropriate tax limitations between Ohio municipalities.

Mr. Consolo said the Appellate Court agreed with the Trial Court's analysis of the case. He said the Appellate Court found that H.B. 197 was not an incompatible exercise of legislative authority

by the General Assembly. He said this decision was a victory for municipalities and that it was not known why the Ohio Supreme Court refused to hear the Appeal. Mr. Consolo said the Law Department will continue to monitor this issue however, since The Buckeye Institute has filed several similar cases in other Ohio Counties.

Mr. Consolo said the Law Department was also continuing to monitor the process regarding the Ohio redistricting maps. He said the Federal Court had weighed in on this issue and said the maps needed to be completed by April 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Consolo said the Ohio Supreme Court set review of the 4<sup>th</sup> redistricting plan to May 6<sup>th</sup>. He said the Law Department will keep everyone updated on this matter as information becomes available.

**Police Department** – Police Ex. Lt. Brian Kevern on behalf of Police Chief Todd Hansen reported that the Police Department had responded to approximately 876 calls for service since the last Council meeting and a total of 7,200 calls for service to date. Ex. Lt. Kevern said that the number of calls for service per day averaged about 76 calls per day including about 4 reports a day, 10 tickets per day and 2 arrests per day.

Ex. Lt. Kevern concluded his report by announcing that on April 18<sup>th</sup> the Police Department sworn in Officer Terence Duncan as a new member of the Police Department.

**Human Services Department** – Human Services Director Mrs. Linda Vopat reminded everyone that tomorrow, Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> will be the City's next Mobile Farmers' Market at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Vopat said she also wanted to remind everyone that the City will be sponsoring a Community Resource Fair next Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Citadel of Faith Ministries located at 5250 Arch Street. She said a number of different agencies such as the County Treasurer's Office, the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA), the Cleveland Clinic for employment opportunities, utility companies, financial institutions, the Legal Aid Society, Tri-C and City Departments including Building, Housing, Human Services and the Maple Heights Food Pantry will be there to assist residents.

Mrs. Vopat said the next free Covid Clinic at the Senior Center will also be held on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. She said \$100 gift cards will be given for first time Covid vaccinations and that all shots will be administered by staff from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health.

**Finance Department** – Finance Director Ms. Tinita Tillman said the April 18<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee Meeting had been productive and that the legislation for the Amended Appropriations was on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Ms. Tillman said the Finance Department continued to work with the auditors on the City audit.

**Service Department** – Service Director Mr. Bob Gorentz reported that on April 9<sup>th</sup> Court Community Service members picked up thirty-three (33) bags of trash at Broadway, Northfield and Rockside Roads and that this project will continue.



Mr. Gorentz said road patching work was continuing and that the Service Department was trying to do it systematically. He said the Service Department will be using hot patch and only send out cold patch for emergency repairs.

Mr. Gorentz also reported that the Service Department delivered four (4) pallets of hazardous household wastes to the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District.

Mr. Gorentz said he wanted to give a special thanks to Brian in the Service Department for coming in on his own time to help with the Shred Day.

Mr. Gorentz concluded his report by announcing that the basketball pole and hoop has been ordered for Southgate Park and that the Service Department has hired two (2) new full-time employees, both residents of Maple Heights.

Mr. Shenett asked if the new employees had CDLs to which Mr. Gorentz responded in the affirmative. He said that was now a job requirement.

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

Ms. Tina Marbury residing at 5223 Homewood Avenue asked what the City signs " Systematic Inspection Program" meant and said there were no dates on these signs.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the signs went up this week and the inspection program will start next week. The Mayor said in past years the City did not have the staff in the Building Department to do such an inspection program but it was needed to check properties to keep property values in the City up. She said it was important for the City to maintain its housing stock, especially with new homes being built in the Maple Heights. The Mayor said the Building Department inspectors will be walking the streets to inspect the homes and issue citations. She said the City had previously put out a press release regarding this program.

In response, Councilwoman Agee asked the Mayor how many Code Enforcement Officers the City had to which the Mayor responded one and half Code Enforcement Officers. The Mayor said there was one (1) full time and one (1) part time Code Enforcement Officer and that an offer had been made to another full time Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Al Glontz of 5758 Longwood Avenue said he wanted to announce that on May 30<sup>th</sup> the Maple Heights Memorial Day Association will be holding a Memorial Day Service 11:00 a.m. at the Veterans' Memorial at City Hall. He invited everyone to attend this service and asked everyone to meet at City Hall at 10:45 a.m. Mr. Glontz said there will not be a Memorial Day Parade this year.

In response, Mayor Blackwell asked Mr. Glontz to give this information to her Office so it will be included on the City's social media.

Ms. Lois Woods residing at 15521 Steinway Avenue said she had sent a letter concerning the issue of traffic and speeding on Steinway Avenue and also the problem of the number of trucks on residential streets in the area.

In response, Ms. Jones said she had received Ms. Woods' letter and that she forwarded it Police Chief Hansen for his input. Ms. Jones said that at the District 2 Town Hall Meeting yesterday this concern was also addressed. She said part of the problem was that the Police Department needed to know when and where these problems were happening. Ms. Jones asked the resident to stay and talk with her after the meeting tonight.

In response, Mr. Shenett said that he also received a copy of this letter and that he had forwarded a copy of it to the Police Chief with regards to the issue of truck traffic on Steinway Boulevard. Mr. Shenett said this has been an ongoing issue in this area that the City has been trying to resolve it by working with Sherwood Food Distributors.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said that at the District 2 Town Hall meeting Police Ex. Lt. Kevern addressed these problems. She said the City has been in contact with Sherwood Foods and the company has been working with the City to resolve the problem of truck drivers using residential GPS devices.

The Mayor said this problem has continued however. She said previously the City also had help from the Ohio State Highway Patrol to enforce the speeding and truck traffic laws, but this assistance was no longer permitted. The Mayor said the State Highway Patrol was only authorized to patrol the State highways.

Mayor Blackwell said an additional problem was the number of Police Officers in the City and that their patrols were hit-and-miss.

With regards to the condition of the streets in this area, the Mayor said the Service Department had a list of streets to be repaired.

Mr. Gerald Arnold of 20709 Bowling Green Boulevard said he was pleased to hear about the exterior inspection process but asked what "teeth" would be in this program. Mr. Arnold said he was glad to hear the City had the inspectors for this program and said the City needed commercial buildings to be inspected also.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said that the City was fully staffed in the Building Department and that the City started a \$50,000.00 Exterior Home Repairs Grant Program for residential properties.

Regarding the commercial properties, the Mayor said Fire Chief Kavaliunas and the Fire Department has taken the lead in this process. She said the Fire Department was preparing full reports with their commercial inspections and was filling this gap for the Building Department. Mayor Blackwell said the Fire Department inspectors were forwarding these reports to the Building Department for further inspections.

Mayor Blackwell said the City was also continuing to partner with the Cleveland Housing Network (CHN) and Fifth Third Bank to bring resources to residents to remedy citations and make the repairs.

**LEGISLATION:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-25**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1062.07(e) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS REGARDING THE USE OF THE PAVILIONS AT STAFFORD PARK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

This Ordinance was placed in the Finance Committee at the request of the Mayor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-30**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR) RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM AND/OR CLEAN OHIO TRAILS FUND PROGRAM FOR THE JACKSON BOULEVARD RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROJECT 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-32**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE STAFFORD PARK FITNESS NETWORK STATION INSTALLATION PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Shenett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski, 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2022-36**

#### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING SECTION 452.25 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS CONCERNING TOWING CONTRACTS AND RATES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski, 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-37**

#### **A RESOLUTION CHANGING THE REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

This Resolution was Passed by Unanimous Consent of Council.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-38**

**A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE UNIMPROVED RESIDENTIAL LOT OWNED BY THE CITY AT 5258 BEECH AVENUE, PPN 784-28-033, IS NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Tatum 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-39**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH LIBERTY FORD INC. FOR A 2022 FORD F-350 WORK TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOW PACKAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$49,136.00), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Trojanski 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-40**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO TRADE-IN \$47,795.00 WORTH OF FIREARMS THAT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES TO KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY FOR CREDIT TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF \$45,869.20 WORTH OF NEW REPLACEMENT FIREARMS, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-27, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tatum. 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-41**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT NO. 2 DATED APRIL 20, 2022 OF THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Shenett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski, 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**EXPENDITURES OVER \$25,000.00:**

Mr. Jackson said there were no **Expenditures over \$25,000.00** for review at tonight's meeting, only one (1) Disclosure of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Blackwell said she was pleased to announce that once again Music In the Park will be held at Stafford Park this year with a series of four (4) concerts. The Mayor said the first Music In the Park concert will be held June 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with music provided by Blue Lunch. She said July 12<sup>th</sup> will feature Just Charnise, August 9<sup>th</sup> will feature the band Forecast and the last concert on August 23<sup>rd</sup> will feature Erin Nicole Neal.

The Mayor said the concerts will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., except for the August 23<sup>rd</sup> concert which will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. She said food will be available for purchase from Heights Soul Food and Grill and that the rain out location for the Music In the Park program will be The Lanes located at 21400 Southgate Park Boulevard.

Mayor Blackwell said these concerts were free because of the generous donations the City has received for this program. She said the largest donor was NOPEC.

Mayor Blackwell concluded her report by announcing that the City has hired a Communications Coordinator who will be working part-time to maintain and keep updated all of the City's social media.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7** announced that the District 7 Block Watch Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Maple Heights Library, Large Meeting Room. Ms. Agee said she looked forward to hearing from her residents.

**Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, District 1** thanked the Administration and the Service Department for their work to improve the flooding issues on Dunham Road. He also thanked the Law Department for their help in several areas including their assistance with a couple of nuisance properties in District 1.

Mr. Shenett said he was looking forward to attending his colleague's meeting to discuss the State's new concealed carry gun law, Senate Bill 215, to be held Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Milkovich Middle School. He said this should be a very informative meeting.

Mr. Shenett said he also wanted to thank the Police Department for assisting him with the problem of residents parking on their front lawns. He said parking the vehicles on the front yards tore up the grass and damaged the yard. He said the Police did cite the residents for parking on the grass.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by announcing that the next District 1 Block Watch Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Martin of Tours Church on Turney Road from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 2** said the Districts 2 and 3 Town Hall Meeting that was held April 19<sup>th</sup> was well-attended. Ms. Jones thanked the Mayor and Ex. Lt. Kevern for attending.

Regarding the upcoming Community Resource Fair, Ms. Jones said she wanted to remind residents that not all of the help to be offered would be geared to low to moderate income individuals.

Ms. Jones said she supported the systemic enforcement of the property maintenance code. She said it was important that this was being done, especially since such a program had not been done in years. Ms. Jones said the Administration did recognize however, that notice of these violations cannot be given without offering assistance. She said the City had created the Exterior Home Repair Grant Program with the help of a County grant. Ms. Jones said this was a \$100,000.00 grant program that offered individual grants up to \$3,000.00 based on a sliding scale. She said the Resource Fair to be held next Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> will help residents find the rest of the money needed for their project after receipt of a grant.

Ms. Jones said the Exterior Home Repair Grant Program was a very flexible program that will cover work for trees, roofs, sidewalks, etc. Ms. Jones said there were also a number of other programs available to help with home repairs, including the Third Federal Savings and Loan "Fixer-Upper Program." She said this program currently offered a 20-year loan for home improvements at an interest rate of 2.9%.

**Councilman Timothy Tatum, District 3** said the Districts 2 and 3 Town Hall Meeting was well-attended. He also thanked the Mayor for attending.

Mr. Tatum announced that his District 3 Newsletter had been distributed that included information about the City and that his Newsletters will be coming out quarterly.

Mr. Tatum said he was looking forward to the Resource Fair on April 27<sup>th</sup> and announced that on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> the Maple Heights Schools would be hosting a Parent and Community Summit from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Maple Heights High School. He said lunch will be provided and that reservations were required to attend.

Mr. Tatum also announced that the Urban League of Cleveland will be sponsoring a youth program this summer to educate teenagers about business and encourage entrepreneurship. He also announced that Hope Alliance Baptist Church will be hosting the Convoy of Hope on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He said this event will include a drive-thru food distribution.

Mr. Tatum concluded his report by asking everyone to support the Maple Heights Boys League.

**Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5** thanked Lauren and other staff from Dedicated Seniors for their tremendous help and assistance at the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Distribution last Friday.



Ms. Madden said the Community Meeting to discuss Ohio's new gun law will be held next Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Milkovich Middle School from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ms. Madden announced that Sen. Kenny Yuko will be the Guest Speaker for this event and that other City Officials will also be participating in this meeting. She said the meeting will help residents to better understand Senate Bill 215 and its effect on our community.

Ms. Madden said a recent accident at Thomas Street and Maple Heights Boulevard was horrendous. She said the impact of the accident sent debris into one of the homes. Ms. Madden said she thanked God no one got killed in this accident. She said this has not been the first accident in this area and that she has been asked by residents if it would be possible to have a 4-way STOP sign installed there. Ms. Madden said it was important to let residents know that Council did not establish the location of traffic signs and asked how this process worked.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said that NOACA which was the transportation agency for the County and the City Engineer would have to conduct a traffic study for the area. She said this request would be a hard sell since it was a residential street. The Mayor said any approval for a STOP sign would come from NOACA and ODOT, but the City did have a Traffic Safety Engineer who could review this area.

**Councilman Richard Trojanski, District 6** said he just wanted to remind residents of District 6 that the District 6 Clean Up Day will be held Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. He asked participants to meet at Longview and Maple Heights Boulevard at 10:00 a.m. and said that gloves and garbage bags will be provided.

Mr. Trojanski said he has been busy addressing issues with garbage cans and housing problems so it was a pleasant change to be able to meet with students at Castle High School to learn how to start a community garden. He said Castle High School has partnered with Rid-All Green Partnership to teach students how to become self-sufficient and entrepreneurial through gardening.

**Council President Ron Jackson** said he wanted to remind everyone with the weather changing to be careful of children playing in and near the streets. He said people will be getting out more in the nice weather also and asked residents to report any suspicious activities they may see to the Police Department.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Passed: May 18, 2022

ATTEST:

S/S

Leonette Cicirella Johnson Clerk of Council