

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

Maple Height Senior Center

May 4, 2022

MEETING CAUCUS

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Jackson, Jones, Tatum, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Councilman Shenett arrived at 6:33 p.m. Also present were Assistant Law Director John Thomas on behalf of Law Director Frank Consolo, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Service Director Bob Gorentz and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Law Director Frank Consolo, Finance Director Tinita Tillman and City Engineer Ed Hren were absent and excused.

Mr. Jackson said there was no Addendum for tonight's meeting and that there was one (1) Communication. He said Councilman Shenett would have the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Jackson said that **Ordinance No. 2022-25** concerning the use of the pavilions at Stafford Park was in the Finance Committee.

Councilman Trojanski said it was requested that this legislation be moved out of the Finance Committee at tonight's meeting. Mr. Trojanski said he had talked with the Mayor and this legislation will be removed from Committee and go for a vote tonight.

Mr. Jackson said he would ask Council to vote on this legislation then at tonight's meeting.

Moving to **Ordinance No. 2022-42**, Mr. Jackson said this Ordinance concerned the Alternative Tax Budget Information for the City of Maple Heights would be on First Reading at the request of the Finance Director.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-43** authorizing the City Engineer to begin the preparation of plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the Stafford Park Restoration Project, Phase 1, was discussed by Mr. Hren at Monday's Committee of the Whole Meeting. He said since this Resolution was time-sensitive he would ask Council to vote on it at tonight's meeting if there were no objections from Council. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-44** authorizing a temporary right-of-way and easement and a permanent stormwater easement to the NEORS D at the Stafford Park Stormwater Detention Basin was also discussed by Mr. Hren at the Committee of the Whole Meeting. He said this legislation was also time-sensitive and asked Council to suspend the rules and vote on it at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson said after the Legislation on tonight's agenda there will be a Motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Mr. Joseph Duffy as the Planning and Development Director for the City of Maple Heights.

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 asked if there were any other questions, comments or concerns.

There being no other questions or comments, the Caucus Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Jackson, Shenett, Jones, Tatum, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Assistant Law Director John Thomas on behalf of Law Director Frank Consolo, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Service Director Bob Gorentz and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Law Director Frank Consolo and City Engineer Ed Hren were absent and excused.

Councilman Shenett 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. Shenett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of April 6, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Ms. Jones: Yes; Mr. Tatum: 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.

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

From the Ohio Division of Liquor Control:

Notice regarding an application for the issuance of a new class "C1" liquor permit (Permit No. 26312750225) from FAMILY DOLLAR STORES OF OHIO LLC DBA FAMILY DOLLAR 3198 at 5323 Warrensville Center Road, Maple Heights, Ohio.

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 1.975 and that the Fire Department responded to the following fires:

A house fire at 5247 Erwin Street in Maple Heights at 01:50 p.m. on April 23rd. He said one (1) Firefighter was transported to the hospital where he was treated and released;

A garage fire at 14219 Tabor Avenue in Maple Heights at 01:22 p.m. on April 25th. The Chief said there were no injuries reported.

A house fire at 52 Avalon Drive in Bedford at 04:00 p.m. on April 30th. The Chief said there were no injuries reported.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas said that on April 21st the Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Fire Cadet Matthew Hurst and Fire Cadet Nico Conforte, Lt. Kincaid was promoted to Fire Captain and Firefighter Todd Zeigler was promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant. The Chief said both Cadets had received a 40-hour orientation and were on shift. Fire Chief Kavaliunas congratulated all of these Firefighters and wished them the best of luck in their careers.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas concluded his report by reminding everyone that the Fire Department will begin its annual flushing of hydrants this Thursday, weather permitting. He said the flushing of hydrants will be completed during weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., during the month of May and possibly into June. 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.

Law Department – Assistant Law Director Mr. John Thomas reported that for the month of April the Law Department prosecuted 65 cases and transferred 195 cases to Garfield Heights Municipal Court. He said that approximately 700 cases have been handled to date between himself handling cases on Judge Nicastro's docket and Assistant Prosecutor Ridenour handling cases on Judge Di Geronimo's docket at Garfield Heights Municipal Court.

Mr. Thomas said if anyone had any questions about these cases or the work of the Law Department to see him after the meeting.

Police Department –Police Chief Todd Hansen reported that the Police Department has responded to a total of 8,000 calls for service to date. He said that the number of calls for service per day has averaged about 75 calls per day including about 5 reports a day, 10 tickets per day including parking and moving violations and 2 arrests per day. The Police Chief reported that the Police Department took 10 guns off the streets in the month of April.

Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department has hired two (2) new Police Offices, Officer Terence Duncan and Mario Matash, but lost one (1) Officer, Sgt. Zupancic, who went to Garfield Heights.

Police Chief Hansen concluded his report by announcing that the Police Department will be hosting Coffee With a Cop starting next month at the Northfield Road McDonald's. He said updates regarding this program will be posted on the City's social media. The Police Chief also announced that MH Police Officers at the westside substation had recently participated in the Drug Mart drug turn-in. Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department has a drug turn-in box located in the lobby of the Police Station. He said it was similar to a mailbox and that drugs can

be turned in there 24/7, no questions asked. The Chief said the drugs turned in get picked up regularly by the County Sheriff.

Mr. Jackson asked if the box was locked to which Police Chief Hansen responded in the affirmative.

Human Services Department – Human Services Director Mrs. Linda Vopat said the City had starting renting the pavilions at Stafford Park and they were renting briskly. She said there had been twenty (20) rentals already. Mrs. Vopat said residents interested in renting a pavilion need to call to reserve one.

Mrs. Vopat complimented Councilwoman Jones and Housing Manager Brendan Zak for the wonderful work they did for the Community Resource Fair that was held last Wednesday. She said the Department of Human Services has received a number of calls for assistance. Mrs. Vopat reminded residents that if they receive a utility shut-off notice they need to call as soon as possible so the Department of Human Services can assist them to get on a payment plan. Mrs. Vopat said Cleveland Housing Network (CHN) has an office at the Senior Center. She said CHN does not take walk-in appointments so residents will need to call for an appointment.

Mrs. Vopat announced that the next free Covid Clinic at the Senior Center will be held on Wednesday, May 25th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. She said last month was the largest clinic to date with 76 appointments. Mrs. Vopat 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.

Mrs. Vopat invited everyone to attend the Music In the Park concert series that will be offering four (4) concerts this year beginning with the first concert on Tuesday, June 14th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with music provided by Blue Lunch. She said July 12th will feature Just Charnise, August 9th will feature the band Forecast and the last concert on August 23rd will feature Erin Nicole Neal. Mrs. Vopat said the concerts will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Stafford Park, except for the August 23rd concert which will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Finance Department – Finance Director Ms. Tinita Tillman said the Finance Department was still participating in the City's audit that will be due at the end of June and have started work on the month end report for April.

Ms. Tillman announced that an Audit Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Service Department – Service Director Mr. Bob Gorentz said the Service Department was still patching roads and has used approximately 45 tons of hot patch for this work. He said the Service Department was also continuing to use cold patch and has used approximately 12 tons of this material.

Mr. Gorentz also reported that the Service Department has replaced 12 trash receptacles in high traffic areas of the City as per the Economic Development Department.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Mr. Larry Means of 5422 Elmwood Avenue said he was there to read a letter on behalf of Ms. Christa Schoenknecht residing at 19028 Maple Heights Boulevard who could not attend tonight's meeting in person since she had broken her hip about a month ago.

Ms. Schoenknecht said there was a drainage ditch with a pipe located along the north side of her property on Maple Heights Boulevard that she had been maintaining over the years. She said there was a grassy edge that has now been damaged by trucks driving over it and parents parking their vehicles there to drop-off and pick-up students. Ms. Schoenknecht said this area has become an eyesore to her property and for the City and said it was impossible for her to repair the ditch. She asked if this area could be checked by the Service Department and if a guardrail could be installed to prevent further damage. Ms. Schoenknecht also sent pictures of this area that Mr. Means gave to the Mayor.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said she will send this information to the Service Department and also send it to the School District for their assistance in this matter.

Mr. Al Glontz residing at 5758 Longwood Avenue said he wanted to thank Councilwomen Jones, Madden and Agee for volunteering to lay the flowers for the Memorial Day Service since he could not get this assistance from the American Legion Auxiliary. He announced that Police Chief Todd Hansen will read the names. Mr. Glontz said the observance of Memorial Day in Maple Heights started May 30, 1937 and that there were only two (2) years when parades were not held and that was due to the recent pandemic. He said this year would have been the 85th consecutive parade. Mr. Glontz wished "Happy Mother's Day" to all the mothers.

A resident living at 18417 Lewis Drive said he was concerned with how his neighborhood was changing with rentals and landlords. He said the grass was not being cut and trash and debris was not being pick up. He said a lot of homeowners cannot keep up their properties.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said she would defer to Councilwoman Jones, Chair of the Housing/Economic Development Committee.

In response, Ms. Jones said that at her recent District 2 meeting she had copies of a Quality of Life brochure that included information on how to be a good neighbor. Ms. Jones said it covered the basic issues such as curfew, trash, etc. She said the City also created and distributed a Landlord/Tenant Handbook that covered the same information.

Mayor Blackwell said new homeowners also received a New Resident Packet. She said there was a process the City must go through when issuing violation notices. The Mayor said if the violations were not corrected then the City will take the owner to Housing Court.

In response, Ms. Agee said she had also distributed a similar Quality of Life brochure in District 7.

Ms. Pearl Parker of 19276 Stockton Avenue said she was trying to understand the Exterior Grant Program and said she had heard a lot of different information. She asked who was eligible, was there a deadline for applications, how would the grants be awarded. Ms. Parker asked if certain streets had been prioritized for this program.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said there was a FAQ document that had been prepared by the Housing Department that will answer these questions. Regarding the streets, the Mayor said there was not a grant program for the streets. She said State streets were maintained by ODOT and County street were maintained by the County.

In response, Mr. Shenett said he thought the resident was referring to streets in the systematic inspection program.

Mayor Blackwell said the streets selected for the systematic inspection program were generated by a computer program for a 4-year cycle.

Mr. Jackson said that any statement about streets being prioritized for the exterior grant program was not true.

Mr. Shenett said his District was first involved with the inspection program last year and that the grant program that was created will take into consideration if a citation has been issued. He said it will be part of the score or calculation used to award the grants.

Mr. Robert Oulds residing at 5318 Hollywood Avenue said he never had problems with his neighbors all the years he was living in Maple Heights but now he has a problem with the landlord next door to him. Mr. Oulds said the landlord has vented the dryer to face toward his side door. He said the tenants use the dryer, but do not clean the lint filter so 2' or 3' of lint will blow at his doorway. Mr. Oulds said this lint was a fire hazard and that the dryer should not be vented toward the neighbor's house.

Mr. Oulds said he also had a question whether police were patrolling the streets with regards to enforcing curfews and the problem of cars being parked on the streets overnight. He said cars were constantly being parked on the street overnight. Mr. Oulds said cars could not be parked on the streets from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. when he first moved here but that had been changed from 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

In response, Mayor Blackwell asked the resident to leave his address and a Code Enforcement Officer will check the venting issue. The Mayor said the Police Department did address the street parking issue whenever possible.

In response, Ms. Agee said she had already requested a Code Enforcement Officer to check on this problem.

Mr. Oliver Allison of 18500 Lewis Drive said Councilwoman Agee has done a lot for the neighborhood but there were still problems with a house on his street that has trees growing out of it and trash and debris all over.

Mr. Allison said cars being parked on the street all times of the day and night was a serious problem in his neighborhood. He said there was a car parked all day and night at the STOP sign at the corner of Beechwood Avenue. He said residents were hearing a lot of excuses from the Mayor.

Mr. Allison said he had called a few times about the Exterior Grant Program and left messages that he has not received any responses to.

Mr. Allison said his last question concerned the recent accident at Maple Heights Boulevard and Thomas Street. He asked if a 4-way STOP sign or stop light could be installed in this area.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said she would respond with facts including that the Police Officers were writing tickets but it was an issue of changing priorities for the Police Department. She said in the past the Police Department had more time to do patrols.

The Mayor said the housing issues were the result of the City not having the staff in the Building Department until the City got out of fiscal emergency. She said the City also has had to deal with the problem of changing staff.

In response to the resident's comment regarding the recent car accident at Maple Heights Boulevard and Thomas Street, Councilwoman Madden said she had talked with the Safety Director to see if a STOP sign or something could be done to reduce the speeding in that area.

A resident of Watercrest Avenue said his street has been cemented over and that the condition of his street was terrible after the new car wash was built on the corner.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said at Monday's Committee of the Whole Meeting Council received a presentation from the City Engineer regarding his firm's work to review the condition of all the City streets and what can be done to get streets repaired.

Mr. Shenett said Mr. Hren and Chagrin Valley Engineering were rating the streets using an ODOT formula called PCR or Pavement Condition Rating. He said the City was looking at all the side streets and will be trying to repair the worst streets first.

Mr. Jackson said the City Engineer will be putting together a list of streets to go out for bid for repairs but that this will depend on the amount of money available.

Ms. Agee said she had talked with the owner of the car wash and the company will work on this problem.

Mr. Ozell Dobbins residing at 19608 Longview Avenue said the problems of cars parking on the streets after hours and problems with rentals were ongoing complaints and still nothing was being done.

In response, Mr. Shenett said for clarification he wanted residents to know that Council had not shortened the hours cars could not be parked on City streets. He said Council passed legislation last year that actually extended the time from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Ms. Regena Lane residing at 14908 Rockside Road said she was concerned with her neighbor who had ten (10) cars on their property. She said most of the cars have not moved since these residents moved in. Ms. Lane said there was a fence on this property and that three (3) of the cars were parked behind the fence and five more outside it. She said the grass in back yard of this house was as tall as the podium so she was very concerned about rodents, etc.

In response, Ms. Jones said she was the Councilperson for this area and said Code Enforcement Officers were not permitted to go in backyards of properties without consent. She said the inspector would need to be able to see the neighbor's backyard from her backyard and asked if she would give that permission to which the resident responded in the affirmative. Ms. Jones asked the resident to talk with her after the meeting.

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.

As this Ordinance was in the Finance Committee, the Mayor requested that this legislation come out of Committee. Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski to remove this Resolution from Committee.

Ms. Agee asked if the Finance Committee had had a meeting, to which Mr. Trojanski responded in the negative.

Mr. Shenett asked if the first vote would be to remove the legislation from the Finance Committee to which Mr. Jackson responded in the affirmative.

ROLL CALL on the motion to remove from Committee: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays.

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.

Mr. Shenett asked for clarification if the second vote was for the suspension of the rules to which Mr. Jackson responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions on this legislation.

There being no other questions, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules.

ROLL CALL on the vote to suspend the rules: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. Agee: No. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to one (1) nay.

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: No; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: No; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: No. The motion for passage on emergency requiring five (5) affirmative votes failed by the vote of four (4) ayes to three (3) nays. The Ordinance passed by a simple majority and will become law thirty (30) days after passage by Council.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-42

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023; SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE BUDGET COMMISSION OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-43

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE STAFFORD PARK RESTORATION PROJECT, PHASE 1, IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, 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: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: 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. 2022-44

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO GRANT THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT (NEORS) A TEMPORARY RIGHT OF WAY AND EASEMENT AND A PERMANENT STORMWATER EASEMENT, BOTH EASEMENTS TO BE UPON, OVER, AND UNDER PART OF PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 783-09-045 FOR MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT THE STAFFORD PARK STORMWATER DETENTION BASIN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Ms. Jones 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: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: 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.

MOTION: A Motion to Approve the Mayor's Appointment of Mr. Joseph Duffy as Planning and Development Director for the City of Maple Heights.

So moved by Mr. Shenett, seconded by Ms. Anderson.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or discussion on the Motion.

Mr. Shenett said Council had discussed the appointment of Mr. Duffy at great length at Monday's Committee of the Whole Meeting and that he will defer to the Mayor and trust her discernment in this matter.

Mr. Shenett said when the Applicant talked with Council the Applicant had stated that he wanted to be part of a community involved with diversity. Mr. Shenett said he would like to ask Mr. Duffy to explain this comment.

In response, Mr. Duffy said he appreciated this question and that there were a number of reasons why he felt Maple Heights was a diverse community. Mr. Duffy said the storefront renovation program, raising the housing stock, the culture of the community, being released from fiscal

emergency - he said all of this reflected diversity in the City that Maple Heights could build on and he wanted to be part of that.

Ms. Jones said for the benefit of the audience that Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers had left Maple Heights to work as Planning and Development Director for the City of Euclid. She said Mr. Duffy was from the City of Euclid and will be coming here.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments. There being no other questions or comments, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote on the motion to appoint.

ROLL CALL on the motion to appoint: Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: No. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to one (1) nay.

After the vote, Mr. Duffy thanked the Mayor and Council for entrusting him with this position. Mr. Duffy said he was thrilled with this opportunity to the serve the community and was excited to start June 6th. Mr. Duffy said he will be meeting with each Councilperson to learn about the issues in their respective districts. Mr. Duffy said he will also work on a 5-year Plan for the City in conjunction with our Master Plan.

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 instead of her Mayor's Report tonight she wanted to make a Special Presentation to the members of the Maple Heights High School 2022 Academic Challenge Team. The Mayor read a Proclamation to the three (3) student members of this team, David Washington, Devan Parnell and Jacob Pedowski. Mayor Blackwell said these MHHS participated in the Academic Challenge Program that aired on March 19, 2022 and that the Maple Heights team competed against, and beat, teams from Edison and Monroeville.

Mayor Blackwell also recognized Mr. Dan Kovalak, Social Studies Teacher at MHHS and also Advisor for the Academic Challenge Team.

In addition to the Proclamation the Mayor presented each student with a key to the City.

Mr. Kovalak and the students thanked the Mayor for the Proclamation and the keys to the City. They said it had been an honor to make it to the Academic Challenge show and were surprised they had won. One of the students said winning was something big for them, for their school and for their City.

Ms. Anderson said she was very proud of these students and told them "well done."

Mr. Shenett said he could not say how ecstatic he was to see these three (3) young men before him. He said these students should be very proud of themselves and that they will be representing us. Mr. Shenett said we should take the time to thank these students.

Mayor Blackwell concluded her report by congratulating the new Firefighters and Police Officers who were sworn in recently. The Mayor said the City was celebrating and still fighting our way back.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, District 1 announced that his District 1 Newsletter was out at a number of locations including Huntington Bank and China Wok in Turney-Dunham Plaza, Beverage Store at 6191 Dunham Road and One Stop Gas Station at Turney and Dunham. He said it has also been posted to the City website.

Mr. Shenett said infrastructure work was still being done in District 1 and that the City was continuing to work on the streets so he asked residents to be patient while this work was being done.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by announcing that the next District 1 Block Watch Meeting had been rescheduled and will be held on Saturday, May 21st at St. Martin of Tours Church from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 2 congratulated the MHHS Academic Challenge Team and welcomed Mr. Duffy to the City.

In response to questions on the Exterior Home Repair Grant Program, Ms. Jones said the Building Department had prepared a list of Frequently Asked Questions. She said the City was holding off reviewing the application however until May 16th.

Ms. Jones said a lot of people have had questions about the streets and said she wanted residents to know that the City Engineer's firm had graded the streets with regards to their condition. She said the engineers actually looked at and graded the streets to their base. She said this was a more in-depth program than in the past. Ms. Jones said the City Engineer will do an evaluation and rate the streets based upon condition and then let Council, know which streets will be chosen to be repaired or resurfaced with the money that was available. She said the Service Department will continue working to fill the pot holes. Ms. Jones said the City was trying to do the best it could do.

Councilman Timothy Tatum, District 3 congratulated the Academic Challenge Team and said he was very proud of them. He also congratulated Mr. Duffy on his appointment.

Mr. Tatum said he had contacted a few of his residents regarding the Exterior Home Repair Grant Program.

Mt. Tatum thanked the Fire Department for their work in responding to the garage fire at 14219 Tabor Avenue.

Mr. Tatum concluded his report by announcing that the opening day for the Maple Heights Boys League will be May 21st and asked everyone to come out and support the teams.

Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson, District 4 welcomed Mr. Duffy to the City and said that this past Saturday, April 30th, the District 4 and District 6 Clean-Up Day took place. Ms. Anderson thanked all the volunteers who participated and said the areas looked good.

Ms. Anderson said the residents really appreciated the Community Resource Fair and that there was a lot of information available from it.

Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5 thanked her colleagues and the members of the City Administration who attended her recent meeting regarding Ohio's new concealed carry gun law. Ms. Madden said she especially wanted to thank Sen. Kenny Yuko for attending this meeting as Guest Speaker. She said Mr. Yuko expressed his concerns regarding the amount of violence, especially gun violence, in Ohio.

Ms. Madden concluded her report by wishing each and every mother a Happy Mother's Day.

Councilman Richard Trojanski, District 6 said the volunteers who participated in the District 6 Community Clean-Up Day this past Saturday cleared portions of Maple Heights Boulevard and Raymond Street.

Mr. Trojanski said spring was the time of year when residents should really take an interest in their properties and how they look, so he will once again be sponsoring a Best Yard Contest in District 6. Mr. Trojanski said to help his residents with their outdoor projects he has partnered with Gales Garden Center on Lee Road to offer a 10% discount on one item. He said this offer was limited to District 6 residents only.

Mr. Trojanski concluded his report by wishing all the mothers Happy Mother's Day.

Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7 – No Report.

Council President Ron Jackson said he was very proud of the Maple Heights High School students who were members of the 2022 Academic Challenge Team.

Mr. Jackson said the City's Engineer and his firm have been checking the condition of our streets and will be deciding sometime in June how many streets will be bid for this year's pavement program.

Mr. Jackson congratulated Mr. Duffy on his appointment as Planning and Development Director for the City of Maple Heights and concluded his report by wishing every mother a Happy Mother's Day.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Passed: May 18, 2022

ATTEST:

S/S
Leonette Cicirella Johnson Clerk of Council