

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

**Maple Height Senior Center**

**December 7, 2022**

**MEETING CAUCUS**

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following Council members present: Shenett, Tatum, Anderson, Madden and Trojanski. Councilwoman Jones and Councilwoman Agee were absent and excused. Also present were Law Director Frank Consolo, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Service Director Tony Ciresi, Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas arrived at 6:34 p.m. Mayor Annette M. Blackwell and City Engineer Ed Hren were absent and excused.

Mr. Jackson said Councilman Trojanski from District 6 will have the Innovation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance for tonight's meeting. He said there was no Addendum for tonight's meeting and Minutes for Council review.

Mr. Jackson said all of the legislation on the agenda had been discussed by Council at Monday's Committee of the Whole Meeting and requested that Council consider voting on the various items of legislation tonight.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2022-103** repealing Sect. 260.23 of the MH Codified Ordinances concerning compensation, fringe benefits and pension pick-up for safety personnel was on Third Reading so Council will be voting on this legislation tonight. He asked if there were any questions or comments on this Ordinance. There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2022-104** providing for the final amended appropriation for fiscal year 2022 would be on Second Reading at tonight's meeting. He said **Ordinance No. 2022-105** approving the 2023 Budget would also be on Second Reading tonight to allow for further discussion.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2022-113** authorizing Amendment No. 2 to the Maple Heights LPA Agreement with ODOT for the SRTS Infrastructure Project, Mr. Jackson asked if Council was ready to vote on this legislation tonight. It was the consensus of the Council that they were prepared to vote on this legislation.

Mr. Jackson said asked Council if they were prepared to vote on **Resolution No. 2022-114** authorizing an agreement with the NEORS for Community Cost-Share Program Funds for the Southwest Sewer District Sewer Repairs -Dunham Road Project. It was the consensus of the Council that they were prepared to vote on this legislation.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2022-115** authorizing a Member Community Infrastructure Grant Program (MCIP) Agreement with the NEORS for the Southwest Sewer District Sewer Repairs Phase 1A Project, Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections, Council would be voting on this Resolution at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections Council would also be voting on **Resolution No. 2022-116** authorizing a Member Community Infrastructure Grant Program (MCIP) Agreement with the NEORSB for the Southwest Sewer District Sewer Improvements Phase 3 Project. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-117** concerned the use of ARPA funding that had been awarded to Maple Heights authorizing the Engineer to begin the preparation of plans and specifications and advertise for bids for the Maple Heights Senior Center Emergency Generator Project. He said if there were no objections, Council would be voting on this Resolution at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2022-118** authorizing the Engineer and Quality Control Inspection to begin the preparation of plans and specifications and advertise for bids for the Maple Heights Fire Station No. 1 Roof Repair Project. He said if there were no objections, Council would be voting on this Resolution at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-119** authorizing the Engineer and Quality Control Inspection to begin the preparation of plans and specifications and advertise for bids for the Maple Heights Fire Station No. 2 Roof Repair Project. He asked if there were any questions on this Resolution. There were no questions from Council. He asked Council to vote on this legislation at tonight' meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2022-120** authorizing the Engineer and Calvin Singleton and Associates to begin the preparation of plans and specifications and advertise for bids for the Maple Heights Police Department Locker Room Expansion Project. He asked if there were any questions on this Resolution. There being no questions from Council, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this legislation at tonight' meeting.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2022-121** fixing the salary and wage schedule for non-bargaining unit City employees for 2023 would be on First Reading tonight as would **Ordinance No. 2022-122** authorizing agreements with representatives of the City's bargaining unit employees to also increase their salaries and wages by 4.50% effective January 1, 2023.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions regarding **Resolution No. 2022-123** authorizing the amended contract with Senior Transportation Connection (STC) for the calendar year 2023 by increasing the amount to \$1,157.00 per month. There were no questions from Council. Mr. Jacksons aid if there were no objections, Council would be voting on this Resolution at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said all of the finance legislation would be discussed at an upcoming Finance Committee Meeting.

Councilman Trojanski announced that a Finance Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 7, Maple Heights City Hall.

Mr. Jackson said there were no expenditures over \$25,000.00 for review, only two (2) disclosures of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments. There being no other questions or comments, the Caucus Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 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: Shenett, Tatum, Anderson, Madden and Trojanski. Councilwoman Toni Jones and Councilwoman Agee were absent and excused. 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, Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. City Engineer Ed Hren was absent and excused.

Councilman Richard Trojanski 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:** Ms. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of November 2, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Mr. Tatum: Yes; Ms. Anderson: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of November 16, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Mr. Tatum: Yes; Ms. Anderson: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** There were no Communications for tonight's meeting:

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** There was one (1) Council Committee Report for tonight's meeting.

#### ***Community Life and Education Committee***

Ms. Anderson, Chairwoman of the Community Life and Education Committee, announced that the Community Life and Education Committee will be sponsoring a Free Photo With Santa Event on Saturday, December 17, 2022 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the Maple Heights Library. Ms. Anderson said this family fun event will also feature music and hot chocolate and cookies.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Fire Department** - Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas reported that Fire Department calls to date were 5,5662 and that the Fire Department responded to the following structure fires:

On November 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:39 a.m. to 5084 Miller Avenue for a house fire with no injuries reported;

On November 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:06 a.m. at 6033 Bear Creek, Bedford Heights for an apartment fire with no injuries reported;

On November 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:52 p.m. at 5828 Linda in Garfield Heights for a house fire with no injuries reported;

On November 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:53 p.m. to 20706 Clare Avenue for a house fire with no injuries reported;

On December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:53 a.m. to 184 Woodrow Avenue in Bedford for a house fire with no injuries reported.

The Fire Chief said that FF Johnny Tetrick of the Cleveland Fire Department was struck and killed on I-90 in Cleveland while operating at the scene of a traffic accident. He said ten (10) members of the MHFD attended Johnny's funeral on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The Chief said that the Cleveland Fire Department was covered by many suburban Departments so their members could attend the funeral services. Fire Chief Kavaliunas said he covered as Battalion 2 with an engine from Garfield Heights at Fire Station No. 13 in the Slavic Village/Broadway Avenue corridor. He asked everyone to remember Johnny and his family in their prayers.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas said that as many people were aware, the MHFD was in partnership with The Cleveland Clinic Stroke Unit. He said in this past quarter the Fire Department had the unit respond 33 times to Maple Heights and transported 6 patients to various hospitals for advanced stroke care.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas said he was happy to report that Maple Engine No. 2 successfully transported Santa to the annual Christmas Lighting at City Hall this past Saturday, mostly due to the talents of the well-seasoned chauffeur assigned to the truck that day. The Fire Chief conclude his report by stating that the Service Department did an awesome job on the lighting display.

**Law Department** –Law Director Mr. Frank Consolo said that the Law Department had received notification regarding the decision from the Ohio Supreme Court in the City's lawsuit against Netflix/Hulu. He said the Ohio Supreme Court had ruled that these entities were not cable providers. He said the Court based its decision on the fact that these companies did not have wires or cables in the City right-of-ways. Mr. Consolo said these companies did have boxes however for broadband, etc. still present. He said although this was not the decision the City was hoping for, he was awaiting the report from the law firm.

**Police Department** –Police Chief Todd Hansen reported that the Police Department responded to approximately 2,200 calls for service since the last Council Meeting. He said the Police Department was investigating the recent homicide on Raymond Street and had a suspect identified. The Chief said this was an isolated incident.

The Police Chief said the Shop With a Cop event was held this past Saturday and that it was very successful. He thanked Mrs. Vopat for the use of the Senior Center for the pizza party for the children afterwards.

Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department also participated in the University Hospital's Mocktail fundraiser. He said MHPD partnered with the GHPD and won the "Crowd Pleaser" mocktail.

Police Chief Hansen concluded his report by announcing that today was Pearl Harbor Day and asked everyone to never forget what happened at Pearl Harbor and to keep these people in our prayers.

**Human Services Department** – Human Services Director Mrs. Linda Vopat said she wanted to draw everyone's attention to the table at the back of the room that memorialized the people and residents who had used the Senior Center services and have died over the past couple of years.

Mrs. Vopat said she wanted to thank Mayor Blackwell for the new lights at the Senior Center and announced that a new water fountain had been installed at the Senior Center through the generosity of a family whose parent had received services from the Senior Center. She said this donation was for the purchase and installation of the new water fountain.

Mrs. Vopat announced that the last Mobile Farmers' Market for this year will be held on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Vopat concluded her report by stating that the Holiday Lighting Event held on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> was very nice. Mrs. Vopat said she wanted to thank the Service Department, the Fire Department, the Finance Department and the Law/HR Department for their assistance with this event.

**Finance Department:** Finance Director Ms. Tinita Tillman said the Finance Department reconciled and closed the month of November and had sent out the financial report on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ms. Tillman said she completed the budget meeting with the Mayor today and announced that the Council Finance Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Service Department** – Service Director Mr. Tony Ciresi thanked everyone who attended the Holiday Lighting Event at City Hall and said he wanted to especially recognize Bob Dloniak and Bill Brantsch from the Service Department for all their work on the lighting displays at City Hall and other City buildings.

Mr. Ciresi said the Service Department completed the first round of the leaf collection program and will be starting the second round soon which was the streets south of Libby Road and then will do the westside of the City. He said the Service Department will continue leaf collection until it started snowing.

Councilman Shenett asked if the Service Department would do street cleaning in the fall and winter months, to which Mr. Ciresi responded in the affirmative. Mr. Ciresi said the Service Department did use the street sweeper, but at the present time hid department was low on employees. He said during the spring the street weeper was scheduled out full time.

**Planning and Development Director:** Planning and Development Director Mr. Joe Duffy presented the following report which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

Attorney Stanley Jackson of the Cochran Law Firm said he came to address Council on behalf of his clients, the Catchings Family, whose son was shot by Officer Duncan of the MHPD. He said his firm had done extensive research on this case before he took the case. He said after reviewing this information it was found that Officer Duncan had worked at other police departments before coming to Maple Heights and that he had been reprimanded by previous employers. Mr. Jackson said this Officer should not be on the Maple Heights police force.

Mr. Dean Catching, father of Datwuan Catchings, said he received the tapes he had requested. and said he wanted Council to understand that something was wrong with Officer Duncan. Mr. Catchings said the tape showed Officer Duncan tried to run over his son. He said it was nothing short of attempted murder. Mr. Catchings said he was told there was nothing the Mayor could do since she was only a figurehead. He said Council looked concerned at the last meeting he attended and asked if Council could find out what was going on with the dashcam video and also about his son's car.

Mr. Rick Thompson residing at 5616 Jefferson Avenue said he had a complaint about a business between Jefferson Avenue and Lafayette. He said the Lafayette side looked like a pigpen. Mr. Thompson said there were two (2) houses in back of it that he thought the owner died and there has been a car on the street there for two (2) months with the tires flat. He said there had also been a fire at one of the houses and asked if the house had been checked by the City.

Mr. Thompson complained that there was a hole in the street at Lafayette Avenue to Washington that was about 12" to 18" deep with a barrel in it, but it has been like that for a long time. He said there also was a house at 5624 Jefferson that had a hole in the roof and the gutters were falling down. Mr. Thompson said this was what brought neighborhoods down.

Mr. Thompson said if the City made rules, it needed to enforce them. He said the No Parking on the street from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. did not matter because people parked on the streets, lawns, yards, etc.

Mr. Michael Dennis of 19505 Libby Road said Libby Road was a speedway and that there were always accidents on it. He asked if the City could install "Slow Down" signs on Libby Road.

Mr. Dennis said the property next door to him had an abandoned car that was shot-up parked on the tree lawn. He said there was trash all over the place there that blew up the street. Mr. Dennis

said this house also had a roach problem that had now required him to call an exterminator for his property.

In response to all of the Citizens' Comments, Mr. Shenett said he wanted the residents to know that Council did listen to them. Mr. Shenett said he did not want people to think that silence on the part of Council would mean inaction.

To the Catchings Family, Mr. Shenett said he extended his condolences again and said that as legislators they do care and they do listen. He said they also have discussions when possible but sometimes it took time for legislators to address difficult cases.

In response to the Catchings Family, Mayor Blackwell said she was transparent when she talked with them and also extended her condolences to them now publicly. She said the investigation was ongoing regarding this matter. The Mayor said as the Safety Director she was not a figurehead. Mayor Blackwell said information has been sent to the Attorney General's Office who will be looking at City procedures. Mayor Blackwell said she was not ignoring the Catchings Family, but that she was very limited with what can be said. The Mayor said decisions needed to be based on all the facts and therefore she could not speak prematurely.

### **LEGISLATION:**

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2022-103**

#### **AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 260.23 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS CONCERNING COMPENSATION, FRINGE BENEFITS, AND PENSION PICK-UP FOR SAFETY PERSONNEL EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Trojanski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shenett, 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-104**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

This Ordinance was on Second Reading.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-105**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

This Ordinance was on Second Reading.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-113**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE MAPLE HEIGHTS LPA AGREEMENT WITH ODOT (AGREEMENT NO. 35618) FOR THE SRTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Ms. Anderson 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-114**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT (NEORS) FOR COMMUNITY COST-SHARE PROGRAM FUNDS FOR THE SOUTHWEST SEWER DISTRICT SEWER REPAIRS - DUNHAM ROAD PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Trojanski 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.

Mr. Shenett asked to be added as a Co-Sponsor of this legislation.

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

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-115**

#### **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMBER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM (MCIP) AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT (NEORS) FOR THE SOUTHWEST SEWER DISTRICT SEWER REPAIRS PHASE 1A 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-116**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMBER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM (MCIP) AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT (NEORS) FOR THE SOUTHWEST SEWER DISTRICT SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 3 PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Shenett 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-117**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE MAPLE HEIGHTS SENIOR CENTER EMERGENCY GENERATOR 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.

Mr. Tatum asked to be added as a Co-Sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or discussion. 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-118**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER AND QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTION TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE MAPLE HEIGHTS FIRE STATION NO. 1 ROOF REPAIR PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Trojanski 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

**RESOLUTIONNO. 2022-119**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER AND QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTION TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE MAPLE HEIGHTS FIRE STATION NO. 2 ROOF REPAIR PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Trojanski 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-120**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER AND CALVIN SINGLETON AND ASSOCIATES TO BEGIN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE MAPLE HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT LOCKER ROOM EXPANSION PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Trojanski 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-121**

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARY AND WAGE SCHEDULE FOR NON-BARGAINING UNIT CITY EMPLOYEES FOR 2023, AND PROVIDING A HIGH DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN WITH A HEALTHCARE SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA) AND ESTABLISHING CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS TO THE HSA ACCOUNTS FOR NON-BARGAINING UNIT CITY EMPLOYEES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

This Ordinance was on First Reading.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-122**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY'S BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES TO INCREASE THEIR SALARIES AND WAGES BY 4.50% EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

This Ordinance was on First Reading.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-123**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED CONTRACT WITH SENIOR TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION (STC) TO CONDUCT THE DAY-TO-DAY CALL CENTER AND SCHEDULING OPERATIONS OF THE CITY'S SENIOR TRANSIT OPERATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$1,157.00) PER MONTH, 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.

Mr. Tatum asked to be added as a Co-Sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or discussion. 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 additional discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote for passage on emergency.

ROLL CALL on the vote for passage on emergency: Trojanski: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of five (5) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution 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 **two (2) Disclosures of Purchases Orders over \$10,000.00.**

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Blackwell said she wanted to acknowledge County Councilman Pernel Joes, Jr. whose office provided the City of Maple Heights with approximately \$750,000.00 in ARPA funding to fund the following projects approved by Council at tonight's meeting: Resolutions Nos. 2022-117, 2022-118, 2022-119 and 2022-120. She said none of the money for these projects will come out of the General Fund.

The Mayor said Ordinance No. 2022-121 was legislation presented tonight to adjust the City's salary and wage schedule for non-bargaining unit employees to make wages more competitive to attract and keep qualified employees. Mayor Blackwell said the wages in Maple Heights were lower than in other municipalities but the City did offer good health insurance benefits with high-deductible HSA accounts. She said this Ordinance will increase wages for 2023 by 4.50%

The Mayor said Ordinance No. 2022-122 will also authorize the City to enter into agreements with the representatives of the City's bargaining unit employees to also increase their salaries and wages by 4.50%.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Councilman Richard Trojanski, District 6** said the Districts 6 and 4 Community Food Giveaway was held from 9:50 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. on November 19<sup>th</sup> and distributed 100 food boxes. He thanked Mr. Bob Gillette for his help during the food giveaway.

Mr. Trojanski announced that there was a new take-out restaurant in District 6. He said Tee Dee's was located at 5229 Warrensville Center Road offering gourmet soul food. He said the restaurant was opened Monday through Sunday.

Mr. Trojanski concluded his report by announcing that he would be hosting District 6 Office Hours on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and that a Finance Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall Room 7.

**Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, District 1** said he and Council Members Madden and Agee held the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Food Giveaway that served 353 families. Mr. Shenett apologized that the event was scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. but all the food had been distributed by 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Shenett thanked the Service Department for doing its best with the leaf collection program despite equipment break-downs. He also thanked Mrs. Vopat and her staff for assisting residents in District 1 with their utilities.

Mr. Shenett said Mendota and Rowena have been resurfaced and the new curbs have been completed. He said that are looked very beautiful now.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by wishing everyone many blessings.

**Councilman Timothy Tatum, District 3** said the District 3 Newsletter came out last week and that he also held a "Chat and Chew" with residents. Mr. Tatum said residents were encouraged to talk with him about any issues, concerns or problems in the City.

Mr. Tatum announced that the District 3 Holiday Party will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Grantwood Party Center in Solon and that reservations were needed for the Winter Wonderland Senior Brunch to be held at the Senior Center. He said residents could contact Mrs. Vopat to make their reservations.

Mr. Tatum said on December 22<sup>nd</sup> he will be distributing toys to the children from one of the day cares in the City of Maple Heights.

Mr. Tatum said he talked with the owners of the old Tommy's property on Libby/Granger Road and the sign has been removed.

Mr. Tatum concluded his report by congratulating Coach Ted Ginn, Sr. and Glenville High School for winning their first State Football Championship.

**Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson, District 4** announced that the Districts 4 and 6 Coat Giveaway and More will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Castle High School from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. She thanked everyone who donated to this event and said all were welcome.

Ms. Anderson also reminded everyone that on December 17<sup>th</sup> the Community Life and Education Committee will be sponsoring free Pictures With Santa from Noon to 2:00 p.m.

**Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5** extended her condolences to the Catchings Family again.

Ms. Madden thanked all of the volunteers who assisted with the recent food giveaway.

In response to Mr. Thompson, Ms. Madden said the hole in the street has been reported and that she has also talked with the business owner regarding the condition of the property there. With regards to the house on Lafayette, Ms. Madden said unfortunately it will take time for the property to go through the probate process, but she had brought the condition of this property to the attention of both the Building Department and Planning and Development Director.

Ms. Madden concluded her report by wishing everyone a wonderful evening.

**Council President Ron Jackson** also extended his condolences to the Catchings Family.

Mr. Jackson said there was a lot of sewer work in the City as Maple Heights continued to improve its infrastructure on both the east and west sides. Mr. Jackson said these projects were not costing the City any money since the work would be funded by grant money secured by City Engineer Ed Hren. Mr. Jackson said this work will be scheduled to begin in 2023.

Mr. Jackson said the Holiday Lighting Event was a good time, a good evening and the lights looked nice.

Mr. Jackson said this time of year seemed to be the friendliest time of the year from Thanksgiving to New Year's, but asked what about the other ten (10) months of the year.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Approved: January 4, 2023

ATTEST:

S/S Leonette Cicirella Johnson Clerk of Council