

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

Maple Height Senior Center

April 5, 2023

MEETING CAUCUS

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

Mr. Jackson said that Councilwoman Agee would have the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance for tonight's meeting. He also said there was no Addendum, no Communications and no Council Committee Reports for tonight's meeting.

Moving to the legislation on tonight's meeting Agenda, Mr. Jackson asked Service Director Ciresi to discuss **Resolution No. 2023-21** authorizing the purchasing participation agreement with ODOT for the purchase of rock salt for contracts to be awarded in 2023.

In response, Mr. Ciresi said this legislation was the standard contract with ODOT for the purchase of rock salt for this year. Mr. Ciresi said he was waiting for an e-mail from ODOT to confirm the price of rock salt for this year and that the order for rock salt will be due May 1. He said since we had a mild winter in this area of Ohio the price of rock salt has continued to go down and was approximately \$30.00 per ton.

Mr. Jackson asked when was the agreement with ODOT due.

Mr. Ciresi said a copy of the legislation and participation agreement needed to be submitted to ODOT by the end of April.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions regarding **Resolution No. 2023-21**. There being no questions from Council, Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections from Council he would ask Council to vote on this legislation at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-22** authorized the First Amended Appropriations for fiscal year 2023. He said this legislation had been discussed at the recent Finance Committee Meeting and asked if there were any other questions from Council. There being no additional questions or comments Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this legislation tonight.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2023-23** would authorize the contract for the Schreiber Road Sewer Improvements and SSO Elimination Project and asked City Engineer Ed Hren to discuss this legislation.

In response, Mr. Hren said this Resolution would authorize the award of the contract for the Schreiber Road Sewer Improvements Project which will be a project to be completed under the WPCLF program through the Ohio EPA (OEPA).

Mr. Hren said this project funding was a little different than other grant programs in that the City was being asked to bid and award it and then the funding would be approved for the project. Mr. Hren said by the language of Section 1 of the Resolution the City was acknowledging that it was entering into this contract and awarding it pending the agreement with the WPCLF program being signed. He said this was different than other grants that were awarded first. Mr. Hren said it was a foregone conclusion that the loan agreement will be executed, but this needed to be stated in the legislation.

Mr. Hren said he would request that Council pass this Resolution on emergency tonight so that a signed copy of it could be forwarded to the OEPA for the loan documents to be prepared for the Mayor to sign.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-23**.

Councilwoman Jones asked Mr. Hren about the language referencing various streets, including Schreiber Road. In response, Mr. Hren said Schreiber Road was the only street in Maple Heights under this project. He said originally the Schreiber Road Project was going to be covered by Cuyahoga County Division of Public Works funding, NEORSD funding and OPWC funding, but last year the NEORSD notified him about the WPCLF program. Mr. Hren said this program was looking for projects that were ready to be bid. He said the City will repurpose the other funding from Cuyahoga County, the NEORSD and the OPWC to other projects in the Southwest Sewer District.

Ms. Jones asked Mr. Hren about the language referencing construction prior to the Dunham Road construction.

In response, Mr. Hren apologized for the error in the language of **Resolution No. 2023-23**. He said the language should have said “to timely meet the OEPA WPCFL program schedule.

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

Councilman Shenett said he appreciated Mr. Hren’s work for the City and especially now on this project. He asked Mr. Hren if this work on Schreiber Road would be enough to request funding for resurfacing Schreiber Road as had been done with other sewer improvement projects, to which Mr. Hren responded in the negative. Mr. Hren said this project would affect only about 100-200 feet of Schreiber Road. He said unfortunately this was not a resurfacing project. Mr. Hren said this project involved the sewer being installed just across this section of Schreiber Road.

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

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions on **Resolution No. 2023-23**. There being no other questions or comments, Mr. Jackson asked Council to vote on this legislation tonight.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2023-24** authorizing application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for funds from the Recreational Trails Program and/or Clean Ohio Trails Fund Program for the installation of a bike path on Southgate Park Boulevard, Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Hren to also discuss this Resolution.

In response, Mr. Hren said this legislation involved funding for the resurfacing of Southgate Park Boulevard. He said that one of the recommendations of the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission in their Southgate Connectivity Study was to reduce the travel lanes for Southgate Park Boulevard and install a bike path along it instead. Mr. Hren said one of the funding sources for this project would be the ODNR through its Recreational Trails Program and/or Clean Ohio Trails Fund Program.

Mr. Hren said the proposed bike path was different than a bike lane in that the bike path would have markers similar to interstate rumble strips as compared to a separate bike lane. He said the ODNR program would fund the creation of the bike path and the resurfacing of Southgate Park Boulevard from Warrensville Center Road to Northfield Road. Mr. Hren said the City has received OPWC funding and will apply for a TCLI grant for additional funding from NOACA.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-24**.

Councilwoman Agee asked if Southgate Park Boulevard will be resurfaced with this project to which Mr. Hren responded in the affirmative. Mr. Hren said Southgate Park Boulevard would be resurfaced since this project will reduce the street to one-lane in each direction with the added bike path.

Ms. Agee asked Mr. Hren when would this project begin. Mr. Hren said the start date for this project would be during the summer of next year.

Mr. Shennet said this project was similar to the funding the City received for Dunham Road when a bike lane was added. He said this was a unique way to secure funding for this area.

Mr. Hren concurred with Mr. Shenett and stated that this project was also suggested by the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission in the Southgate Connectivity Study. He said the City looked at those plans since it was always easier to receive grant money whenever you try to adapt community plans.

Mr. Shenett thanked Mr. Hren for his work on this project.

Mr. Jackson asked if there would be a bike lane on either side of the street to which Mr. Hren responded in the negative. Mr. Hren said the bike path would be a contiguous one with may be some type of barrier. He said this would be looked at during the design-phase of the project.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions. There being no other questions, Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections he would ask Council to vote on this legislation at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-25** would authorize the Mayor to accept the material terms of the 2022 National Opioid Settlements reached with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart and to sign and submit the required participation forms. He said Mr. Consolo had sent information to Council regarding this legislation. Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Ordinance No. 2023-25**. There being no questions, Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections he would ask Council to vote on this legislation at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or comments regarding **Resolution No. 2023-26** authorizing a purchase agreement with Bus Service Incorporated for a 2022 Starlite Transit 350 HD bus for the Department of Human Services. Mr. Jackson said this purchase was discussed at the recent Finance Committee Meeting and that additional information had been forwarded to Council.

Ms. Agee thanked Ms. Tillman and Mrs. Vopat for their work at the Finance Committee Meeting on this matter.

Mr. Shenett said he also appreciated how Ms. Tillman and Mrs. Vopat were working to follow the City's financial policies and regulations. Mr. Shenett commended Mrs. Vopat on her efforts to continue making transportation available for seniors and disabled residents. He said he was thankful that the City was doing its best to help seniors have a good quality of life.

Ms. Jones asked to be added as a Co-Sponsor of this legislation.

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

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

It was the consensus of Council that all of Council would be added as Co-Sponsors.

Mr. Jackson said Council should have received an e-mail from Mr. Consolo explaining the Motion on tonight's agenda regarding the Planning and Zoning Appeal for **Case No. 2023-PZ-10**. Mr. Jackson said Mr. Consolo's e-mail also suggested Council consider a proposed change in the City's Zoning Code to prohibit new information from being submitted to Council during the appeal process. Mr. Jackson said Mr. Consolo also reminded Council that only a simple majority (four (4) votes) would be needed to pass this motion.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions regarding this Motion.

Mr. Shenett asked Ms. Agee if she was good with this Motion to which Ms. Agee responded in the affirmative. Ms. Agee said she had discussed this matter with Mr. Consolo earlier today.

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

Mr. Jackson said there was one (1) Expenditure over \$25,000.00 and four (4) Disclosures of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00 for review at tonight's meeting and asked Ms. Tillman to discuss the expenditures.

In response, Ms. Tillman said that back in March Council had originally approved an expenditure for the Service Department in the amount of \$14,968.00 but the company had been in contact with Mr. Ciresi to notify him that the contract amount had to be increased by \$2,000.00 due to material costs. Ms. Tillman said the revised expenditure would still be under the Mayor's spending limit but that she wanted Council to have the new total which was \$17,768.00.

Ms. Tillman asked if Council had any questions. There were no additional questions from Council.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments from Council. There being no other questions or comments, the Caucus Meeting was adjourned at 6:54 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, Jones, Tatum, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Assistant Law Director Marlene Ridenour on behalf of Law Director Frank Consolo, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, 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. 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 Mr. Shenett, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of March 15, 2023.

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 were no Communications for tonight's meeting.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department – Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas said the Fire Department calls to date were 1,427 and that the Fire Department responded to the following working structure fires:

On March 15th at 4:00 a.m. to 13182 Forestdale in Garfield Heights for a house fire;

On March 20th at 12:00 p.m. at 10800 Langton in Garfield Heights for a house fire;

On March 23rd at 10:54 p.m. at Rexwood and E131st Street in Cleveland on the Garfield Heights border for a house fire;

On April 2nd at 7:26 p.m. at 4440 Granada in Warrensville Heights for an apartment fire. The Fire Chief reported that thankfully there were no injuries at any of the fires.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas reminded residents that open burning was prohibited in the City and that the City offered free leaf collection in the Fall.

The Fire Chief concluded his report by stating that the Fire Department would be flushing and servicing fire hydrants in May.

Law Department – Assistant Law Director Ms. Marlene Ridenour on behalf of Mr. Frank Consolo reported that for the first three months of this year the City prosecuted 290 criminal cases and 175 traffic cases in Garfield Heights Municipal Court for a total of 465 cases and another 62 criminal cases and 104 traffic cases in Maple Heights Mayor's Court for a total of 166 cases. Ms. Ridenour said these numbers indicated that the Police Department and Law Department have been busy combating crime in the City.

Police Department – Police Chief Todd Hansen reported that the Police Department has responded to approximately 7,500 calls for service to date and almost 2,600 calls for service during the month of March. The Police Chief said the Police Department issued 115 parking violations and 100 traffic violations during this time. He said with more officers on traffic patrol the Police Department was tracking the areas near E. 141st Street, Thomas, Raymond, South Boulevard, Clare Avenue, etc. The Police Chief said the newest speed sign was currently located on Lee Road by the Police Station for testing.

Police Chief Hansen said the City recently issued an updated police pursuit policy in the City. He said the new policy would limit pursuits outside the City to specific situations and that the new, updated policy tried to balance the various safety considerations.

Police Chief Hansen said that at a recent Civil Service Commission Meeting the Police Department was approved to use a national testing system for new Police Officers. He said the new system was all computerized and that the entrance test would be proctored by the company either at a testing center or at the applicant's home. The Police Chief said the Police Department was still accepting lateral transfers. Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department was currently five (5) Officers down from the budgeted number of Officers. He said the Police Department was actually down seven (7) Officers since two (2) were on extended leave.

The Police Chief concluded his report by stating that he appreciated the invitation to the District 5 Block Watch Meeting and that a lot of good information was discussed. He said the Police Department also had a great time with the kids who attended the Easter Fest.

Human Services Department – Human Services Director Mrs. Linda Vopat reported that for the month of March the Department of Human Services completed 502 round trips and supplied 754 congregate meals and delivered another 1,771 meals. She said during the 12 days in March that the Maple Heights Food Pantry was open approximately 560 households in Maple Heights were served, distributing approximately 23,048 pounds of food. Mrs. Vopat reported that the Maple Heights Mobile Farmers’ Market served 130 households and distributed 8,500 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Mrs. Vopat thanked everyone who participated in the Easter Fest Event that was held on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the MHHS Cafetorium. She said the signs at the back of the room listed the supporters of Easter Fest which allowed this event to be offered at no cost to the City. Mrs. Vopat said four (4) baskets and eight (8) bicycles for children were raffled off at the Easter Fest. She thanked the members of Council’s Housing and Economic Development Committee and the Finance and Law Departments for sponsoring the craft table. Mrs. Vopat also thanked her staff and the staff of the Service, Police and Fire Departments for their participation. Mrs. Vopat acknowledged support from the Maple Heights Library, My Comm, the Maple Heights Boys League and the Maple Heights City Schools.

Finance Department – Finance Director Ms. Tinita Tillman announced that the Finance Department had reconciled the month of March 2023 and that the reports will be out tomorrow or before Monday.

Ms. Tillman also announced that the 2022 Audit and GAAP conversion has begun and that the State Auditors will be out all day tomorrow. Ms. Tillman said the auditors will be busy since she had specifically asked that the audit be completed by the end of next month.

Service Department – Service Director Mr. Tony Ciresi said the Service Department was busy with clean-ups after the high winds that occurred over the last couple of weekends. He said the priority when trees come down was to clear streets first for Police and Fire access and then the second priority was to clear trees blocking residents’ driveways.

Mr. Ciresi said the heavy rain had also washed out much of the cold patch repairs and that the Service Department just started working with hot patch today since the asphalt plants were now open.

Mr. Ciresi concluded his report by announcing that the Service Department will start grass cutting for City properties in late April. He also announced that the first Service Department Community Shred Day will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at Stafford Park.

Planning and Development Director -- Planning and Development Director Mr. Joe Duffy announced that the Combined or Integrated Planning and Development, Building and Housing Departments Annual Report for 2022 has been posted to the City website and on the Planning and Development Page as well.

Mr. Duffy said there have been a number of inquiries regarding the popular Exterior Home Repair Grant Program but the City had been waiting for the Cuyahoga County Council to vote on the applications submitted in 2022 for approval and allocation. He said the Housing Department will be prepared to roll out this program once this County grant funding has been committed to the City. Mr. Duffy said the new County Executive's Administration has listened to community feedback and was verbally committed to home repair as a funding priority so the City will stay tuned for other opportunities.

Mr. Duffy said the City had begun preliminary discussions with local business owners, residents and colleagues who have expressed an interest in the creation of a potential Chamber of Commerce specific to the needs of Maple Heights. He said the Planning and Development Department was seeking input and participation via a five-minute survey available at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S39NR8N>. Mr. Duffy said the Chamber of Commerce survey was also available on the City's website at the Planning and Development Department section.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Started at 7:16 p.m.

Mr. Ozell Dobbins III, residing at 19608 Longview Avenue said he had a question regarding who would be responsible for the new trees to be planted on the tree lawns on Hansen, Raymond and Watson.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the City had been notified by the County that it needed more trees to increase the oxygen in the air and improve residents' health. She said the City received a grant for the trees from the County's Healthy Tree Canopy Program (HTCP) for this project. The Mayor said the trees will be no cost to the City and will be planted on public property.

In response, Mr. Ciresi said the species of trees to be planted under this grant will be selected to be low-maintenance and will not affect sidewalks, sewers, etc. Mr. Ciresi said the Service Department was currently working to have dead and diseased trees removed throughout the City.

Dolores Catchings of Cleveland said she was Datwuan Catchings aunt and asked what was next with regards to Officer Duncan and whether he'll keep his job or step down. Ms. Catchings said she did not understand this. She said the Mayor/City hired him so they could have fired him.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said she had extended her condolences to the Catchings Family and that she was committed to do the right thing. The Mayor said the City needed to follow the process of justice. She said the grand jury made its decision and that the City was making changes and looking at everything. Mayor Blackwell said the City's police pursuit policy had been in the process of being revised by the City and that the Administration continued to make decisions based upon trends, information and research.

Ms. Bickerstaff of Cleveland said she was speaking on behalf of her clients and stated that suburban police officers were getting out of hand. She said Cleveland took control of this situation by placing the creation of a Police Accountability Board on the ballot. Ms. Bickerstaff said Akron has also done this and that may be Maple Heights needed to adopt legislation to create a Police Commission.

Mr. James Kidd residing at 19027 Maple Heights Boulevard said he moved here in 2021 and that one of the biggest issues has been the terrible condition of Maple Height Boulevard. He said the cold patch was all missing and that driving his 2014 F150 pick-up truck was like driving off-road.

Mr. Kidd also complained about the number of Police Officers who go through the STOP sign at Maple Heights Boulevard and Gardenview without stopping and with no lights flashing or sirens being used.

Ms. Deva Walker, Branch Manager of the Maple Heights Library, announced that the Library will again be working with Ohio Means Jobs to help people get jobs and/or training for new positions.

Ms. Walker also announce that on June 1, 2023 the Library will be starting a Movie Series at the Library and that a list of movies will be available for residents.

Ms. Walker announced that the Library's Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Distribution will be starting again the second Tuesday of each month. She said the first distribution will be April 11th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

Ms. Lyla Parker of the Single Payor Action Network (SPAN) said she wanted to introduce herself to Council. Ms. Parker said she was available to assist with lead abatement and also to help residents receive medical benefits.

Ms. Tina Marbury of Homewood Avenue announced that her non-profit organization "Rooted in the Community" was up and running and will be offering PPE, home care products, clothing and furniture to those in need. Ms. Marbury said her organization will continue to do Christmas for Youth.

Mr. Robert Gillette residing at 5228 Camden Road said the storm sewer/catch basin at Gardenview and Camden Roads must be blocked. He said with the recent storms it looked like a lake in that area.

Mr. Dean Catchings of Cleveland said he was Datwuan Catchings father and said he had told the City that Officer Duncan would cause problems again and that the officer did.

A resident of Thomas Street said he has been a licensed realtor for over 20 years and asked what was the City doing to attract homeowners. He also asked about the Store Front Renovation Program in the City.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said Mr. Duffy would be able to talk with the resident after the meeting tonight. With regards to the Store Front Renovation Program, the Mayor said that was a County Program and that she was not sure if the County would be funding it this year.

With regards to homeowner programs, Mayor Blackwell said the City had been talking with local banks to provide homeowner loan payment assistance. The Mayor said a Resource Fair will be coming soon.

In response, Mr. Shenett thanked the resident for his comments and said that back in 2020 he and the Mayor had introduced Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) legislation as a way to attract homeowners by applying for tax abatement for new home construction. Mr. Shenett said he was also working with Mr. Duffy to look for other ways to attract homeowners.

Citizens Comments closed at 7:43 p.m.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-21

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASING PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) FOR THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE (ROCK SALT) FOR CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2023 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 and pass this Resolution on emergency. 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-22

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT NO. 1 DATED APRIL 5, 2023 OF THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

There being no questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency. 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-23

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SCHREIBER ROAD SEWER IMPROVEMENTS & SSO ELIMINATION PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Shenett 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 and pass this Resolution on emergency. 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: 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. 2023-24

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR) FOR FUNDS FROM THE RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM AND/OR CLEAN OHIO TRAILS FUND PROGRAM 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 and pass this Resolution on emergency. 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Resolution passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-25

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE 2022 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENTS REACHED WITH TEVA, ALLERGAN, CVS, WALGREENS AND WALMART AND TO SIGN AND SUBMIT REQUIRED PARTICIPATIONS FORMS, 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.

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 other questions or discussion, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to suspend the rules and pass this Ordinance on emergency. 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. The Ordinance passed on emergency and will become law upon the Mayor's signature.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH BUS SERVICE INCORPORATED FOR A 2022 STARLITE

TRANSIT 350 HD BUS IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED TWELVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SIXTEEN DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$112,916.00) THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, 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 and pass this Resolution on emergency. 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 were any other questions or discussion.

Mayor Blackwell said she wanted to explain that a portion of the total amount of this contract will be coming from a grant from NOACA in the amount of \$64,00.00.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any other 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: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: 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 PURSUANT TO CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1262.03(F) TO REFER CASE NO. 2023-PZ-10 BACK TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR CONSIDERATION OF NEW EVIDENCE PRESENTED BY THE APPLICANT.

So moved by Mr. Trojanski and seconded by Ms. Jones.

Mr. Jackson asked if there any questions or discussion regarding this Motion. There being no questions or discussion Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to approve this Motion.

ROLL CALL on the motion: Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: Yes; Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of seven (7) ayes to zero (0) nays. **Case No. 2023-PZ-10** will be added to the agenda of the April 10, 2023 Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting.

EXPENDITURES OVER \$25,000.00:

Mr. Jackson said there was one (1) Expenditure over \$25,000.00 and four (4) Disclosures of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00 for review at tonight's meeting. He asked if there were any questions or discussion regarding the **List of Expenditures over \$25,000.00**. There being no

questions or discussion, Ms. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Trojanski, to approve the **List of Expenditures over \$25,000.00.**

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

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Blackwell said she would yield her time for her Report to Ms. Miranda Rodgers, Founder and President of Pregnant with Possibilities Resource Center located at 20700 Southgate Park Boulevard, Maple Heights, Ohio.

Ms. Rodgers discussed the issue of infant mortality and the need to assist pregnant women and their families through health education programs, full care natal support, bi-monthly community distributions of baby items, etc. Ms. Rodgers said her Resource Center also offered a toy distribution for babies and young children.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7 announced that the following two (2) new businesses have opened at Southgate: Red Velvet Cupcake and Blue Community Fitness Center.

Ms. Agee said that last year she and Councilman Shenett contacted Dollar Tree management to discuss the condition of their stores within their districts. Ms. Agee said that at a recent meeting they were informed that Dollar Tree will be changing its name to Dollar Tree Plus and will include two (2) aisles of items priced from \$3.00 to \$5.00 each. Ms. Agee said she and Mr. Shenett will continue to keep residents updated on this matter.

Ms. Agee said that the March 23, 2023 District 7 Block Watch Meeting was well-attended and that residents discussed their concerns regarding cars being parked on grass, removal of trees, garbage cans left on the streets, pit bull dogs and move-outs.

Ms. Agee concluded her report by stating that on April 3rd she met with residents on Stockton Avenue concerned about the street being closed during the Dominion East Ohio Gas Company work in the area. Ms. Agee said that on Tuesday she talked with the Foreman for this project and that he apologized for the inconvenience to the residents and would have the project completed by this Friday.

Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, District 1 said he sympathized with the Catchings Family and said that as legislators Council has heard their concerns and was listening to them. Mr. Shenett said he continued to pray for them and asked the Catchings Family to continue to ask questions in an effort to find answers.

Mr. Shenett reported that District 1 was affected by high winds during the recent storms. He said a utility pole with a transformer on it was leaning. Mr. Shenett thanked First Energy representatives and employees for their work to fix this problem. Mr. Shenett said some residents also had wind damage to their homes with meters being pulled off. He advised

residents that they will need to go through a claims process with their homeowners' insurance company since he had been notified that First Energy will not do these repairs.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by thanking everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 2 thanked the Service Department for manning their trucks to remove a couple of trees that came down in District 2 as a result of the high winds.

Ms. Jones said she had a challenging area in her district because of condos located there consisting of 4-unit conjoined buildings which meant that there were 4 units in one building. She said the amount of trash, bulk items and move-outs was a lot in this area. Ms. Jones thanked the Service Department for cleaning the trash from this area. Ms. Jones said she contacted Waste Management and the company did a special pick-up for that area, Ms. Jones said that on Monday she sent a letter to owners notifying them of the trash schedule, rules regarding bulk items, etc. Ms. Jones announced that she was looking for volunteers to help paint the addresses on the trash containers.

Ms. Jones concluded her report by announcing that she has tentatively scheduled a District 2 Meeting, "Bringing City Hall to District 2" for May 18th at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church.

Councilman Timothy Tatum, District 3 thanked Mr. Ciresi for the Service Department work to take care of all the downed trees during the storm.

Mr. Tatum said the Easter Fest was an amazing event and provided a lot of resources to the kids.

Mr. Tatum announced that the District 3 Newsletter will be out next month and that another Chat and Chew Meeting for District 3 residents will be scheduled.

Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson, District 4 said she wanted to remind residents that beds, mattresses and couches placed out for trash needed to be wrapped as a safety precaution for the Waste Management drivers.

Ms. Anderson announced that on My 2nd the District 4 and District 6 Town Hall Meeting will be held at the Maple Heights Library from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5 thanked all of the residents who attended the March 16th District 5 Block Watch Meeting. She said a lot of information was discussed.

Ms. Madden said she will be walking her District to distribute important information from Fire Chief Kavaliunas regarding railroad safety in the City.

Ms. Madden announced that the next free Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Distribution will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the same Southgate location.

Ms. Madden concluded her report by wishing everyone a Happy and Safe Easter Holiday.

Councilman Richard Trojanski, District 6 announced that a new business has opened in District 6 named Starr Alteration located at 5266 Warrensville Center Road.

Mr. Trojanski reported that all of the permits have been pulled for the two (2) new homes to be built in District 6. He said construction was expected to begin sometime next week,

Mr. Trojanski concluded his report by announcing that he will be hosting an educational workshop, "Recycle Right" on Tuesday, April 18th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Castle High School.

Council President Ron Jackson offered prayers of healing and comfort to the Catchings Family.

Mr. Jackson said he had a good time at the Easter Fest and concluded his report by wishing everyone a Happy Easter.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Passed: April 19, 2023

ATTEST:

S/S Leonette Cicirella Johnson
Leonette Cicirella Johnson, Clerk of Council