

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

Maple Height Senior Center

May 3, 2023

MEETING CAUCUS

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Shenett, Tatum, Madden and Agee. Council Members Jones, Anderson and Trojanski were absent and excused. Also present were Law Director Frank Consolo, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Service Director Tony Ciresi, Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. City Engineer Ed Hren arrived at 6:38 p.m. Mayor Annette M. Blackwell and Human Services Director Linda Vopat were absent and excused.

Mr. Jackson said that Councilman Tatum would have the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance for tonight's meeting. He also said that there was no Addendum and no Communications. Mr. Jackson said although there was a quorum for tonight's meeting, since there were only four (4) Council Members in attendance all the legislation on tonight's Agenda will be on First Reading.

Moving to the legislation on tonight's meeting Agenda, Mr. Jackson asked Police Chief Hansen to discuss **Resolution No. 2023-33** authorizing a purchasing agreement with Tim Lally Chevrolet for the purchase of four (4) Chevrolet Tahoes PPV 4WD vehicles.

In response, Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department was budgeted for two (2) new cars in the current appropriations but now two (2) other police cruisers have been wrecked. He said the City received insurance proceeds of \$36,000.00 for one of the vehicles and \$36,500.00 for a total of approximately \$72,500.00. He said a fully outfitted police vehicle will cost approximately \$53,000.00 so the insurance proceeds will cover the purchase of one (1) of the vehicles, leaving another \$20,000.00 available to use towards the purchase of another car.

Police Chief Hansen said the Police Department had been trying to keep cars on schedule with maintenance agreements, etc. He said police cruisers were hard to come by since Ford was no longer making police cars and Chevrolet production was usually one (1) year out. The Chief said Tim Lally had one (1) of the vehicles currently in their inventory. Police Chief Hansen said there was money available in the MHPD budget to cover the extra cost of the vehicle.

The Police Chief requested passage of this Resolution as soon as possible at the next Council Meeting since two (2) of the vehicles were already in the budget for this year.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-33**.

Councilwoman Agee asked Police Chief Hansen if he would need a special meeting to consider this legislation or could it wait until the next regular meeting to which Chief Hansen responded that it could wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

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

Councilman Shenett asked if all of the new police cars will be black in color to which Chief Hansen responded in the affirmative. The Police Chief said slightly over half of the police vehicles were black and that the two (2) gray color vehicles will be painted black. He said the two (2) blue and one (1) white cruisers will be phased-out as new police cars become available so that most of the fleet will be black-colored cars.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were no other questions or comments on **Resolution No. 2023-33**.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-32** would authorize agreements with Cuyahoga County for the planning and construction for the resurfacing of Rockside Road from East 141st Street to Sector Drive and asked City Engineer Ed Hren to discuss this legislation.

In response, Mr. Hren said this Ordinance would authorize the Mayor to enter into agreements for the resurfacing of Rockside Road from the east and west boundaries of the City. He said Sector Drive was an old roadway that was vacated when the railroad tracks were built. Mr. Hren said this project was scheduled for 2025.

Mr. Hren said approximately \$2.35 million from NOACA will be used for this project that will be administered by the Cuyahoga County Division of Public Works. He said the City will provide the preparation portion of this project, with the County covering 60% of the project costs. Mr. Hren said the construction costs not covered by NOACA will be divided equally between the City and County similar to what was done with the Dunham Road resurfacing project.

Mr. Hren said the City will be submitting a funding application to the OPWC to further reduce the City's portion. He said the balance of funding needed for this project was approximately \$600,000.00.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments on **Ordinance No. 2023-32**. There were no other questions or comments on this legislation.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2023-34** authorizing a water pollution control loan fund (WPCLF) agreement on behalf of the City of Maple Heights, Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Hren to also discuss this Resolution.

In response, Mr. Hren said this Resolution would authorize a WPCLF agreement for the design of wastewater facilities which were public sewers. He said this program was similar to the loan forgiveness program for the Schreiber Road Project. He said this program was administered by the Ohio EPA (OEPA) and was a five (5) year program offering loan forgiveness for projects located in LMI areas. Mr. Hren said Maple Heights qualified for this program and was trying to get as much of this funding as soon as possible. Mr. Hren said the OEPA offered one (1) loan forgiveness program for each year and would allow the City to roll this funding over. Mr. Hren said if the City was successful with this application, the funding would be used for the design portion of work to be done on Raymond Street and Lee Road which was located in the Millcreek Area. He said in 2025 Cuyahoga County will be replacing the bridge over Millcreek and this

project would be done at the same time. Mr. Hren said after the bridge was repaired the City would apply for funding for Lee Road in 2025 or 2026. He said the part of Lee Road between Broadway Avenue and Libby Road will be resurfaced under the County 50-50 program and the proceeds of an OPWC grant.

Mr. Hren said the WPCLF program will allow the City to apply for up to \$600,000.00 in loan proceeds at 0% interest.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-34**.

Mr. Shenett asked if this legislation would be for construction work between 2025 and 2026, to which Mr. Hren responded in the affirmative. He said the proposed construction would begin in 2025 at the earliest. Mr. Hren said if the bridge would be done in 2024 then the City would start the project earlier.

Mr. Jackson said he hoped the County will maintain the traffic during the bridge construction.

Mr. Hren said the County would prefer to shut down Lee Road between Raymond Street and McCracken and the Interstate to be able to complete the project within a 90-day period of time. He said if the County tried to maintain the traffic, the project would need to go through two (2) construction cycles.

Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Hren to discuss **Resolution No. 2023-36** authorizing the preparation of plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the Stafford Park Restoration Phase 2 Project.

In response, Mr. Hren said this legislation regarding the Stafford Park Restoration Project, Phase 2 was in response to the City's applications for the CDBG grant. Mr. Hren said these grants were to be ready in March, but they have not been awarded as of yet even though the project must be completed by September 30, 2023. He said the legislation to award the grants was before the County Council now. Mr. Hren said the City would be permitted to authorize the start of the plans and specifications and to advertise for project bids, but just cannot award the contract until the legislation has been passed by County Council. Mr. Hren said previous CDBG grant programs permitted projects to be completed by December 31st.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or comments regarding **Resolution No. 2023-36**. There were no questions or comments from Council.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2023-37** authorizing Change Order No. 1 for Fabrizi Trucking and Pavement Co., Inc., Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Hren to discuss this legislation.

Mr. Hren said **Resolution No. 2023-37** would authorize Change Order No. 1 for the Northeast Quadrant Sewer Repairs Phase 3 Project due to additional work being performed by the contractor to install a manhole on Clare Avenue. He said the Change Order will increase the contract by \$14,774.09.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-37**. There were no questions from Council.

Moving to **Resolution No. 2023-38** authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the Southwest Quadrant Sewer Repairs Phase 1 Project, Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Hren to discuss this Resolution also.

Mr. Hren said this was another contract “clean-up” Resolution that authorized a decrease in the contract for this project by \$48,918.21. Mr. Hren said contracts always contained certain estimated quantities of items and if the project would go over this estimate there would need to be an increase in the contract amount. He said with this project not all of the estimated quantities were used, so a decrease was being requested.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-38**. There were no questions from Council.

Mr. Hren said **Resolution No. 2023-39** was another Change Order request, Change Order No. 1 for TC Construction to decrease the contract by \$17,672.29 for the 2022 Concrete Roadway Repair Program, also because of a quantity issue.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on **Resolution No. 2023-39**. There were no questions from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2023-40** would authorize the contract for the Franklin Avenue Watermain Replacement Project and asked Mr. Hren to discuss this legislation.

Mr. Hren said the bids for the Franklin Avenue Watermain Replacement Project were opened on April 27, 2023 and it was determined that the lowest and best bid was submitted by Catts Construction. He said Catts Construction previously worked in the City on the Hollywood Avenue Watermain Replacement Project.

Mr. Hren said this project will be funded in part by the Cleveland Division of Water in the amount of \$850,000.00 and also there will be funding from the OPWC.

Mr. Hren requested that Council pass this legislation at the next council meeting.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions or comments regarding **Resolution No. 2023-40**. There were no questions from Council.

Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Hren to discuss **Resolution No. 2023-41** regarding the City Hall New Vestibule & Elevator Addition Project.

Mr. Hren said this was another “clean-up” Resolution that would authorize Change Order No. 5 for Metis Construction Service to increase the contract by \$29,800.87. Mr. Hren said additional items to be done were discovered during the construction process including additional footer drain repairs, electrical work and repairs to existing conditions that were not Code compliant.

Mr. Hren requested that Council also pass this legislation at the next council meeting.

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

Moving back to **Resolution No. 2023-35** authorizing a contract with Sixmo Inc. for the Fire Stations No. 1 and No. 2 Roof Repair Projects, Mr. Jackson asked Law Director Consolo to discuss this legislation.

In response, Mr. Consolo said under this legislation Sixmo will be authorized to design the plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the Fire Stations No. 1 and No. 2 Roof Repair Projects, which was similar to the role Mr. Hren performed for the City's infrastructure projects.

Mr. Consolo said these projects will be covered by ARPA funding including \$480,000.00 for the Fire Station No. 1 Roof Repair Project and \$80,000.00 for the Fire Station No. 2 Roof Repair Project for a total amount of \$560,000.00.

Mr. Consolo said if this legislation was approved Sixmo would be hired to run these two (2) projects.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were other questions on **Resolution No. 2023-35**. There were no questions from Council.

Mr. Jackson reiterated that all of the legislation on tonight's meeting agenda will be on First reading.

Mr. Jackson said there were no Expenditure over \$25,000.00 for review, only three (3) Disclosures of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00.

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, Tatum, Madden and Agee. Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Anderson and Councilman Trojanski were absent and excused. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Law Director Frank Consolo, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Fire Chief Vito Kavaliunas, Service Director Tony Ciresi, Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Finance Director Tinita Tillman and City Engineer Ed Hren were absent and excused.

Councilman Timothy Tatum 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. Tatum, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of April 19, 2023.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Mr. Tatum: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Ms. Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays.

COMMUNICATIONS: There were two (2) Communications for tonight's meeting:

Planning and Zoning Appeal regarding Case No. 2023-PZ-10

Due to a miscommunication, Appellant Michelle Beden-Payne or a representative for the Appellant failed to appear before Council at tonight's meeting to present her appeal regarding **Case No. 2023-PZ-10**. This Appeal will be continued to the May 17, 2023 Council meeting.

Planning and Zoning Appeal regarding Case No. 2023-PZ-18

Mr. Chuck Heaton, Vice-President of AMAROK, LLC, on behalf of Appellant Michelle Affronti, appeared before Council to present her appeal regarding **Case No. 2023-PZ-18**, requesting relief under Sect. 1262.03(F) of the Maple Heights Codified Ordinances from the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission rendered in this Case at the April 10, 2023 Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting.

Mr. Heaton said the Commission had denied Appellant's request for a variance to install a high security fence within the existing perimeter fence on property located at 16008 Libby Road, Maple Heights, Ohio. Mr. Heaton said their customer, Interstate Towing, had contacted the company regarding the installation of 10' tall 12v/dc battery sensor (electrified) perimeter security system.

Mr. Heaton said their company had submitted additional information with their Planning and Zoning application describing the authority under the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) to allow battery sensor fences in non-residential areas for the purpose of protecting persons and property. He said currently the City prohibited electrified fences.

Mr. Heaton said the fence to be installed by AMAROK LLC in the instant Case would be done within the ORC requirements and said that their customer did not take this decision lightly since it is not an inexpensive option to combat theft from its property. He said Interstate Towing has sustained approximately \$7,000.00 in catalytic converter losses since November of 2022. Mr. Heaton said the towing company performed towing services for a number of area Police Departments, including Maple Heights.

Mr. Heaton concluded his presentation by requesting reconsideration by Council of the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission in this Case. Mr. Heaton said would also like to engage in further discussions with Council regarding this issue.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions from Council regarding the Appeal in **Case No. 2023-PZ-18**.

Mr. Shenett asked Mr. Consolo the reason the Commission had denied this request.

In response, Mr. Consolo said the Commission based their decision on the fact that the City Code prohibited this type of fence in all zoning districts. He said although the ORC permitted electrified fences with specific requirements, the City was a Charter City with home rule authority. Mr. Consolo said the City had the authority to prohibit these fences. He said the Applicant was advised of the City Code.

Mr. Shenett asked if there was also a height issue with the 10' fence to which Mr. Consolo responded in the affirmative. He said the Applicant was also requesting a variance for the height of the fence.

In response, Mr. Heaton said the fence to be installed needed to be 2' higher than the current fence.

Mr. Consolo said that was another reason why this Case was denied by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mr. Jackson thanked Mr. Heaton for attending tonight's meeting and said Council will take this Appeal under consideration. He said the Appellant will be notified by the Clerk when Council will be making its decision in this matter.

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 1,775 with 1,353 calls being EMS and 422 being fire related calls. The Fire Chief reported that the Fire Department responded to the following working structure fires:

On April 7th to West Glendale in Bedford for a house fire;

On April 8th to 20812 Hillgrove Avenue for a house fire and later in the day to Garfield Heights on Osborne for another house fire;

On April 15th to Country Lane in Warrensville Heights for an apartment fire that unfortunately resulted in one (1) fatality;

On April 26th to Garfield Heights on Shady Oak for a house fire and later that day to Bedford on Rockside and Warrensville Center Road for a fire in a medical building;

On April 27th to Garfield Heights on Forestdale for a house fire.

Fire Chief Kavaliunas announced that Maple Heights Firefighters Association Local 1184 raised \$1,305.00 for the 2023 #climb Cleveland fight for air climb at Progressive Field. He said six (6) members completed the task of climbing up and down the stairs at Cleveland Stadium. The Fire Chief congratulated everyone who participated on a great job and thanked everyone who donated to this cause.

The Fire Chief concluded his report by stating that hydrant flushing in the City started this past Monday and will continue until all hydrants were done. He said the flushing will be completed weekdays only from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Law Department – Law Director Mr. Frank Consolo said the City received a letter from the Garfield Heights Finance Director regarding the annual report for Garfield Heights Municipal Court (GHMC). He said the report indicated that the Court had a deficit of \$300,000.00 last year which meant the Court’s expenses were \$300,000.00 more than the revenue the Court took in. Mr. Consolo said he will be attending a meeting at Garfield Heights on May 17th with Finance Director Tillman to discuss a proposal that each member community served by the Court will be required to pay a participating share based upon the number of cases from that City that were handled by the Garfield Heights Municipal Court system. He said that based upon Maple Heights having 5% of the cases for last year, the City’s share would be approximately \$15,000.00. Mr. Consolo said by comparison the City of Garfield Heights accounted for 15% of the cases and Newburgh Heights had the highest number of cases at 70% as a result of the number of camera cases in Court. He said Newburgh Heights had approximately 34,000 camera tickets on last year’s Court docket which would include a filing fee for each case. Mr. Consolo said he was told that Maple Heights had 900 criminal cases and 1,150 civil cases on the GHMC docket for 2022. Mr. Consolo said he will be verifying these numbers since he did not think they were accurate.

Police Department – Police Chief Todd Hansen reported that the Police Department has responded to just under 10,000 calls for service to date and that Police Officers were handling about 80+ calls a day. The Police Chief said that the Police Department took 11 guns off the streets last month and that Officers were involved in a large narcotics raid on Clare Avenue that resulted in the seizure of \$12,000.00 in cash, 350 g of cocaine and one (1) gun.

Police Chief Hansen said he and Ex. Lt. Keven attended the annual conference for Police Chiefs and Executive Officers that included training in collective bargaining law and employment law. He said these conferences were an opportunity for them to network with other Police Department personnel and counted towards their continuing education requirements.

Police Chief Hansen announced that the Police Department had recently given out retention bonus grants to some of the Officers that will include a 2-year work requirement with the City of Maple Heights Police Department. He said currently the Police Department was six (6) officers below the budgeted number of officers. The Police Chief said the new national testing system was up and running and that the City had some new candidates and lateral transfers in the process

The Police Chief announced that the Police Department will also be using the new virtual training system that the Police Department received through a grant. He said this new training system included a use-of-force training system and practice in de-escalation techniques. Police Chief Hansen said the new training system will save time and that the Police Department hoped to be able to do a demonstration for Council.

Police Chief Hansen concluded his report by reminding everyone that Police Memorial Week will be the middle week of May and that May 15th was Police Memorial Day. He asked everyone to remember all the Officers who have died in the line of duty. Police Chief Hansen also invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day Service to be held at City Hall on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2023 at 10:45 a.m.

Human Services Department – Mayor Blackwell, on behalf of Human Services Director Mrs. Linda Vopat, reported that for the month of April the Department of Human Services provided 641 congregate meals and delivered approximately 1,500 meals. The Mayor said the Department of Human Services registered 14 new meal clients during this time and that the Maple Heights Food Pantry served an average of 200 to 250 households. She said 27 new clients were registered for the Food Pantry. Mayor Blackwell reported that the Maple Heights Mobile Farmers’ Market distributed approximately 5,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables and added 150 new families.

With regards to the transportation services, Mayor Blackwell reported that the Department of Human Services completed 700 one-way trips including those for doctor appointments, shopping and church services. She said there were 70 transportation clients and the City registered 11 new transportation clients during April. The Mayor announced that on April 28th the Department of Human Services received a new 7-passenger van.

The Mayor also stated that the Department of Human Services handled 20 calls for a variety of issues including utility assistance, elder abuse, Medicare and Medicaid. Mayor Blackwell said there were a number of calls concerning food insecurity due to the reduction in the SNAP benefits.

Mayor Blackwell said the NOPEC information meeting in conjunction with Garfield Heights was held last night and that she wanted to let residents know that if they wanted to continue with NOPEC as their electric supplier they did not need to do anything. She said the initial price with NOPEC to June 2023 will be .0645/kwh. The Mayor said she was informed that the price may change with the new meter reading in December 2023. Mayor Blackwell said the City will post the new video from NOPEC on the City’s website and said she wanted to remind residents that they have the option to opt-out of NOPEC.

Finance Department – Mayor Blackwell, on behalf of Finance Director Ms. Tinita Tillman announced that the Finance Department closed the month of April and that the unexpended balance in the General Fund as of April 30th was approximately \$7,800,000.00 and that the unexpended balance of All Funds was approximately \$20,000,000.00.

Service Department – Service Director Mr. Tony Ciresi said the Service Department Community Shred Day was held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at Stafford Park and that four (4) Service Department employees filled approximately 96 bins comparable to the Waste Management trash containers.

Mr. Ciresi said he wanted to remind residents that the allowance for trash per household was the two (2) Waste Management trash containers for rubbish and recycling and two (2) additional

items. He said limiting the amount of trash helped reduce injuries to the drivers and helped Waste Management with driver retention.

Mr. Ciresi said the Service Department had started grass-cutting and that crews were using approximately 4 tons of asphalt everyday for street repairs. He announced that the traffic striping was on hold due to the weather.

Mr. Ciresi concluded his report by announcing that the Service Department was looking to hire four (4) new employees by the end of the month.

Planning and Development Director -- Planning and Development Director Mr. Joe Duffy announced that the City of Maple Heights Housing Department will be hosting a Housing Resource Fair on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Maple Heights High School. He said there will be a number of agencies and vendors available to provide assistance, resources, information and programming to City residents.

Mr. Duffy said as a follow-up regarding the Exterior Home Repair Grant Program, on April 25, 2023 the Cuyahoga County Council referred all CDSG and CDBG requests back to the Council's Community Development Committee. Mr. Duffy said he had been informed that this past Monday the Committee recommended approval of these requests and voted to send the legislation back to the County Council for second reading on May 9th, with acceptance expected on third reading scheduled for May 23rd. He said the Housing Department will be prepared to roll out this program once the County grant funding has been committed to the City and that Housing Administrator Sharra Thomas will be in charge of the program logistics. Mr. Duffy said Ms. Thomas will be available to answer any questions about the program. He said the City would like to get this program started as soon as possible.

Mr. Duffy said the Planning and Development Department was working with three (3) developers and will be expecting to have six (6) land bank parcel sales in que for legislation to be presented to Council at the next Council Meeting.

Mr. Duffy concluded his report by announcing that the City welcomed a new business on Broadway Avenue in District 5, Journey Barber College. He said the ribbon cutting ceremony was this past weekend.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Started at 7:29 p.m.

Mr. Wayne Grundy said he had lived in Maple Heights and still owned six (6) properties in the City. He said he saw new trees on tree lawns on Hansen Road and Raymond Street and asked with the economy and rising costs why were these new trees planted. Mr. Grundy said that twice he had to replace sidewalk blocks because of tree roots and also had problems with roots in the drain tiles. Mr. Grundy said he tried to maintain his properties and keep the rent for his tenants around \$900.00 or \$950.00 per month.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the trees planted on Hansen, Watson and Raymond were part of the Northeast Quadrant Tree Planting Project that was funded by a grant from the County

under their Healthy Tree Canopy Program (HTCP). The Mayor said the County had performed a review of the trees in our City and determined that Maple Heights was below the canopy due to the amount of tree loss. She said the decision regarding the areas to receive new trees was made after discussions with the Service Department and City Engineer.

In response, Mr. Ciresi said trees increased homes values so now County sewer and resurfacing projects also included tree planting projects. He said the tree species selected are low-growth flowering trees whose roots will not affect the sewers. Mr. Ciresi said when trees are included with sewer and street resurfacing projects the City received additional points on the grant applications. Mr. Ciresi said with these projects the City Engineer worked with County agencies that included an arborist.

Mr. Ozell Dobbins III, residing at 19608 Longview Avenue said Maple Heights Boulevard was in terrible condition. Mr. Dobbins said he concurred with the previous resident comment regarding the tree roots affecting the sewers. Mr. Dobbins said when he worked for Cleveland Water the tree roots affected the water boxes. Mr. Dobbins said he also had a question about who was responsible for the tree lawn trees. He said at one-time he was told the resident was responsible, but said he heard the City was now responsible.

In response, Mayor Blackwell asked Mr. Consolo to respond about the tree lawns being the responsibility of the homeowner.

In response, Mr. Consolo said the Law Department and Service Department had reviewed the Codified Ordinances and determined that the homeowner was responsible for the tree lawn trees, however, if a tree was diseased or dangerous the City will take care of the tree in that instance.

Ms. Phyllis Dumas of 14705 Corridon Avenue said the speeding on Corridon and E. 141st streets was terrible. She said about 2 years ago a car hit a house and last summer a vehicle hit a pole. Ms. Dumas said the City needed to install speed tables and asked if that had been considered. Ms. Dumas said she was also concerned that drivers speed through the STOP sign at the corner of E.141st and Corridon.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said the Traffic Calming Seminar held last month included discussions on all these possibilities but no decisions have been made to address the speeding problem. The Mayor said she would defer to Police Chief Hansen to respond to Ms. Dumas.

In response, Police Chief Hansen said currently the Police Department has used overtime traffic patrols or "saturation patrols" to control speeding in the City. He said a number of solutions were discussed including the addition of STOP signs, guardrails, etc. but cities were required to follow the rules for traffic control devices as established by the Ohio Traffic Manual. The Police Chief said the City also looked at speed tables/speed bumps and will be waiting to see the results of a pilot program in the City of Cleveland to control the traffic on side streets and walking traffic.

Police Chief Hansen said the City was also reviewing traffic studies and that later in the year there will be another meeting to announce what the City will be able to do to address this

problem. He said in the meantime residents should continue to call or e-mail the Police Department regarding speeding problems. The Police Chief said the speed signs placed in the City also take speed counts and traffic counts. He said the data indicated that most speeding was about 10 mph over the posted speed limit.

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. She said there will be a number of job fairs and that there were programs available to pay for job training.

Ms. Walker also announced that on Monday work will begin on a new roof at the Maple Heights Library that will take about 8 to 10 weeks to complete. She said Library Lane and the Library will be opened during this time, but at least one entrance will be closed while the work was being completed.

Mr. Thomas Woods residing at 17307 Maple Heights Boulevard asked if there have been any discussions to return the new gym at Maple Heights High School back to the residents. Mr. Woods also said it was sad that the condition of Maple Heights Boulevard, Lee Road and Warrensville Center Road have deteriorated since that had been the City's parade route.

Citizens Comments closed at 7:50 p.m.

LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-32

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY FOR THE PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE RESURFACING OF ROCKSIDE ROAD FROM EAST 141ST STREET TO SECTOR DRIVE IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-33

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM WITH TIM LALLY CHEVROLET FOR FOUR (4) CHEVROLET TAHOES PPV 4 WD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-34

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS FOR DESIGN OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES, DEDSIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN, AND AUTHORIZING THE SIGNING OF CONTRACTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-35

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SIXMO, INC. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE FIRE STATION NO. 1 AND NO. 2 ROOF REPAIR PROJECTS IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, INCLUDING THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR REPAIR WORK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-36

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 2 IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-37

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR FABRIZI TRUCKING AND PAVING CO., INC. INCREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$14,774.09, FOR THE NORTHEAST QUADRANT SEWER REPAIRS PHASE 3 PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-38

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR FABRIZI TRUCKING AND PAVING CO., INC. DECREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$48,918.21,

FOR THE SOUTHWEST QUADRANT SEWER REPAIRS PHASE 1 PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-39

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR TC CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. DECREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$17,672.29, FOR THE 2022 CONCRETE ROADWAY REPAIR PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-40

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE FRANKLIN AVENUE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-41

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 5 FOR METIS CONSTRUCTION SERVICE INCREASING THE CONTRACT BY \$29,800.87, FOR THE CITY HALL NEW VESTIBULE & ELEVATOR ADDITION PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Resolution was on First Reading.

EXPENDITURES OVER \$25,000.00:

Mr. Jackson said there were no Expenditure over \$25,000.00 for review at tonight's meeting, only three (3) Disclosures of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Blackwell said during her report this evening she wanted to recognize and acknowledge Mr. Corwyn Collier, an alumnus, educator and head track coach in Maple Heights. The Mayor said Mr. Collier was recently named Men's Health Magazine Ultimate Guy and featured on the cover of the magazine.

Mr. Collier thanked the Mayor and the City and said he has been a History teacher in Maple Heights for 10 years. Mr. Collier said he valued what the City gave him and that he loved this City.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Timothy Tatum, District 3 thanked Mr. Collier for his service to our country and our community.

Mr. Tatum announced that the District 3 Newsletter will be out next week and there will be activities scheduled for District 3 residents including another Chat and Chew Meeting to discuss the “State of the City” and how we can move forward.

Mr. Tatum said our State Rep. has announced that legislation has been introduced in the Ohio House regarding gun control to help curb the violence.

Mr. Tatum thanked Casey from Waste Management for his help with a trash situation in his District and that the grass looked good in District 3.

Mr. Tatum concluded his report by stating that he loved the Mayor and thanked the Mayor for all her work for the City.

Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5 thanked everyone for attending tonight’s meeting and announced that the next free Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Distribution will be held on Friday, May 19, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. at the same Southgate location.

Ms. Madden said she felt the residents’ pain about the speeding and the condition of the roads and said that these were problems she has been complaining about for a number of years. Ms. Madden said there have also been problems with companies that made deliveries in the City. Ms. Madden said she wanted residents to know that she was also concerned about the streets that did not get repaired.

Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7 said she has received a complaint about homeless persons at the Southgate RTA Transit Station so she has scheduled a meeting with RTA with herself and Mr. Shenett to discuss this situation.

Ms. Agee announced that the District 7 Block Watch Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Maple Heights Library, Large Meeting Room.

Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, District 1 congratulated Mr. Collier and thanked him for attending tonight’s meeting.

Mr. Shenett announced that the Districts 1 and 7 Safety Initiative Meeting in conjunction with the Lutheran Church of the Covenant and Equipose Corporation will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Covenant located at 19000 Libby Road.

Mr. Shenett thanked City Engineer Ed Hren and the engineers working with him for their work to correct the serious sewer conditions on Schreiber Road. Mr. Shenett said he was looking forward to this repair project being completed.

Mr. Shenett thanked the Service Department for checking on the trees in his District and including certain trees on the list to be reviewed.

Mr. Shenett said he had shared the NOPEC information with his residents and will discuss it at his next District 1 meeting

Mr. Shenett said he wanted to remind residents about the grass height limitation and the City requirement to keep grass and weeds maintained.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by thanking everyone who attended tonight's meeting.

Council President Ron Jackson said the City has had problems with streets since for years nothing got done. He said last year the City spent \$1 million dollars on road repairs and that this year more than a \$2 million dollars has been budgeted. Mr. Jackson said the City just did not have enough money to fix all of the streets.

To Mr. Collier, Mr. Jackson said the magazine cover was very impressive.

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

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Dated: June 7, 2023

ATTEST:

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