

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

Maple Heights Senior Center

November 15, 2023

MEETING CAUCUS

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Jackson, Jones, Tatum, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Councilman Shenett arrived at 6:33 p.m. Also present were Law Director Frank Consolo, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy, Housing Administrator Sharra Thomas and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Fire Chief Dan Syphen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Service Director Tony Ciresi and City Engineer Ed Hren were absent and excused.

Mr. Jackson said that Councilwoman Madden would have the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance for tonight's meeting. He also said there was no Addendum for tonight's meeting but there were minutes for Council to approve and there was one (1) Communication regarding a Planning and Zoning Appeal.

Moving to the legislation on tonight's meeting Agenda, Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-92** amending Sect. 220.01(c)(9) of Council's Rules of Order concerning "Comments from City Residents" was on Third Reading and asked Council to vote on this legislation at tonight's meeting. He asked if there were any other questions or comments on this Ordinance. There were no other questions or comments from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-94** amending Section 276.01 of the MH Codified Ordinances to increase the compensation for members of the Civil Service Commission from a rate of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) per meeting to Ninety Dollars (\$90.00) per meeting effective January 1, 2024 was on Third Reading. He asked if there were any other questions on this legislation.

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

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinances No. 2023-95** amending Section 1262.03(A) of the MH Codified Ordinances, effective January 1, 2024, to increase the compensation for members of the Planning and Zoning Commission from a rate of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) per meeting to Ninety Dollars (\$90.00) per meeting, and the rate for the Chairperson from Eighty-Five Dollars (\$85.00) per meeting to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per meeting was also on Third Reading. He asked if there were any other questions on this legislation.

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

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinances No. 2023-96** amending Section 1262.045(B)(2) of the MH Codified Ordinances to increase the compensation for members of the Architectural Review Board from a rate of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) per hour to Ninety Dollars (\$90.00) per hour effective January 1, 2024 was also on Third Reading. He asked if there were any other questions from Council on this legislation.

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

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-105** adding New Section 1282.02(O) to the Zoning Code providing for Trucking and Hauling as a Principally Permitted Use in the Central Business District (CBD) Zoning District would be on Second Reading at tonight's meeting. He asked if there were any questions on **Ordinance No. 2023-105**. There were no questions.

Moving to **Ordinance No. 2023-106** providing for Amendment No. 4 dated November 15, 2023 of the Annual Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2023, Mr. Jackson asked Finance Director Tillman to discuss this legislation.

In response, Ms. Tillman said these amended appropriations concerned two (2) funds that had previously been approved. She said it was a formality now to budget for the money to be expended.

Ms. Tillman said Fund 222 was the Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which included the ARPA funding that had been split into two (2) payments. She said the amendment to Fund 222 would allow a reallocation from the "Other" fund category to the Police and Fire "Personal" category.

Ms. Tillman said the other appropriations amendment concerned Fund 230 and was an increase for vehicle payment for the Police Department. She said this year the Police Department had two (2) totaled vehicle losses for which the City's insurance company paid a total of \$72,000.00 on the claims. Ms. Tillman said some of these funds had already been appropriated so now the balance needed to be appropriated for the budget.

Ms. Tillman respectfully requested that Council pass this legislation on emergency at tonight's meeting.

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

Councilman Shenett asked Ms. Tillman to expound on her discussion regarding the Police Department vehicle purchase.

In response, Ms. Tillman said the Police Department had been approved to purchase four (4) vehicles but had been budgeted for only two (2) vehicles. She said when the City received the \$72,000.00 in insurance proceeds, \$40,000.00 had already been appropriated, so the Finance Department needed to increase the appropriations by \$30,000.00. Ms. Tillman reiterated that the \$72,000.00 was insurance proceeds and not City funds.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were no other questions or comments. Mr. Jackson said if there were no objections from Council, he would ask that Council vote on **Ordinance No. 2023-106** at tonight's meeting. There were no objections from Council.

Mr. Jackson said **Ordinance No. 2023-107** providing for Amendment of the Annual Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2023 and **Ordinance No. 2023-108** to make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024 would both be on First Reading tonight at the request of the Finance Department.

Moving to the List of Expenditures on tonight's Agenda, Mr. Jackson said there was one (1) Expenditure over \$25,000.00 for review, but no Disclosures of Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00. He asked Ms. Tillman to discuss this Expenditure.

In response, Ms. Tillman said the expenditure listed was only in the amount of \$5,000.00 so it technically was not over \$25,000.00, but said this was a transparency issue so she wanted to make Council aware of.

Ms. Tillman said the expenditure was for the City's 2023 Grass cutting Program that used three (3) vendors to cut grass throughout the City. She said each vendor was permitted to expend \$25,000.00 and that everything invoiced to the City had been paid to date. Ms. Tillman said \$75,000.00 had been allocated for this program, but only \$34,005.00 had been expended.

Ms. Tillman said the Planning and Development/Building Department asked one (1) of the three (3) vendors if he could cut more, so the \$5,000.00 expenditure when added to the \$25,000.00 already paid to this vendor who be greater than the \$25,000.00 spending limit.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions on the List of Expenditures.

In response, Mr. Shenett asked if this vendor had more workers and/ or more properties to cut during the grass cutting season.

Ms. Tillman said she would defer to Mr. Duffy to respond to this question.

In response, Planning and Development Director Duffy said there had been a shortfall with one (1) of the City's other grass cutting vendors when he experienced problems with his equipment so this shift of work to one of the other vendors was necessary to meet the needs of the Grass cutting Program. Mr. Duffy said Mr. Lemon took over for this other vendor.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions on the List of Expenditures. There were no other questions from Council.

Returning back to the Legislation on tonight's meeting agenda, Mr. Jackson said **Resolution No. 2023-109** would authorize the Mayor, Planning and Development Director and Housing Administrator to make application to the Cuyahoga County Department of Development

Community Development Supplemental Grant Program (CDSG) for 2024. He asked Mr. Duffy to discuss this legislation.

In response, Mr. Duffy said the CDSG grant program was designed for the distribution of casino revenues received by the County. He said this grant award would be in the amount of \$50,000.00 and the proposed use was similar to that on last year's CDSG application. He said the \$50,000.00 from this County Grant Program would again be used to partially fund the City's Exterior Home Repair Grant Program which would be the third consecutive year for this program.

Mr. Duffy respectfully requested that Council pass this Resolution on emergency at tonight's meeting to give Housing Administrator Thomas time to complete and submit the grant application within the deadline.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions for Mr. Duffy.

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

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

Mr. Jackson asked if any residents who had submitted applications last year but were not considered for the program would those applications be carried over for next year.

In response, Ms. Thomas said several applications had been received after the grant money had already been used up. She said the program will be able to roll-over those applications once the HUD income guidelines were known and if those applicants fell within these guidelines for next year.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions on **Resolution No. 2023-109**.

Councilman Tatum also asked to be added as a Co-Sponsor of this Resolution.

Mr. Shenett said he was aware that the issue of prior applications rolling over for the next year had been an issue for the grant program the past couple of years and that he was glad this issue was being rectified.

Councilwoman Madden asked if the grant amount for the 2024 program will be increased or will the amount of funding be the same as past programs.

In response, Ms. Thomas said the CDSG grant award would be \$50,000.00, the same as last year.

Ms. Madden said that last year several residents had problems getting contractors for their projects which caused a problem for people being accepted into the grant program. Ms. Madden said some of the contractors were not registered with the City. Ms. Madden asked how would this problem be handled this year.

Ms. Thomas said she was aware that some residents had problems finding contractors to give them estimates. She said Applicants were required to receive three (3) estimates if the project cost was over \$500.00. Ms. Thomas said the Building/Housing Departments provided lists of contractors registered with the City to the Applicants, but that the City cannot steer residents to any particular contractors. Ms. Thomas said the majority of payments to contractors were through the program.

Ms. Madden asked if the contractor list could at least be condensed, to which Ms. Thomas responded that the City had considered doing that.

Mr. Shenett said several contractors were difficult to obtain, especially concrete contractors and asked if there was any way to identify these specialized trades.

Ms. Thomas said the difficulty was that contractors will go with the larger projects. She said residents needed to check contractors for good reviews, whether the contractor was currently registered with the City and if they were familiar with the grant program.

Ms. Thomas said for the 2023 Exterior Home Repair Program, 44 total projects were completed under the program, representing an approximate \$141,000.00 of reinvestment in housing in the City. She said \$99,839.00 was grant funding and \$41,448.00 was homeowner money.

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

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 6:55 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Council President Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Jackson, Shenett, Jones, Tatum, Anderson, Madden, Trojanski and Agee. Also present were Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Law Director Frank Consolo, Police Chief Todd Hansen, Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy and Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella Johnson. Fire Chief Dan Syphen, Human Services Director Linda Vopat, Finance Director Tinita Tillman, Service Director Tony Ciresi, and City Engineer Ed Hren were absent and excused.

Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden 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 Ms. Jones, to approve the Regular Meeting of Council Minutes of November 1, 2023.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Shenett: Yes; Ms. Jones: Yes; Mr. Tatum: Yes; Ms. Anderson: Yes; Ms. Madden: Yes; Mr. Trojanski: Abstain; Ms. Agee: Yes. The motion passed by the vote of six (6) ayes to zero (0) nays with one (1) abstention.

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

Planning and Zoning Appeal regarding Case No. 2023-PZ-44

Appellant Ms. Connie Freeman appeared before Council to present her appeal regarding **Case No. 2023-PZ-44**, requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit under Sect. 1282.04 of the MH Codified Ordinances to operate a Doggie Day Care & Overnight Boarding business which is not specifically listed as a Conditionally Permitted Use on property located in the Central Business District (CBD) Zoning District at 15450 Broadway Avenue, Maple Heights, Ohio.

Ms. Freeman said at the time she appeared before the Planning and Zoning Commission at the October 16, 2023 Meeting she was not sure how to address the concerns of the Commission regarding her proposed doggie day care and boarding facility. The Appellant said her facility would be for approximately thirty (30) dogs or perhaps down to twenty (20) dogs. She said the size of the building would probably hold about fifty (50) dogs since the inside square footage of the building was 2,552 sq. ft. and the outside area was 21,128 sq. ft.

Ms. Freeman said she currently was doing doggie day care at home through the Rover app and handled ten (10) dogs at home. The Appellant said she took care of small and medium-sized dogs and usually did not care for large-sized dogs. She said her usual procedure was that the dog needed to spend one day with her to see how the dog reacted to the environment.

The Appellant said doggie day cares were available in other communities and that this property would be perfect for such a facility given the size of the property. Ms. Freeman said if her business was approved, she would enclose the outside space with a fence.

Ms. Freeman said she loved animals and that she proposed this business since whenever she traveled it was difficult for her to find a place to board her dogs. The Appellant said she already had a client base from her doggie day care from her home and that this would be a good business for the City.

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

Mr. Shenett asked for clarification as to why the Appellant was denied the conditional use permit by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

In response, Mr. Consolo said that the proposed location was in the Central Business District (CBD) Zoning District and that district was not zoned for this type of business. Mr. Consolo said the Commission denied the conditional use permit since this was not a permitted use in the CBD Zoning District.

Mr. Jackson asked if there were any other questions.

There being no other questions from Council, Mr. Jackson advised the Appellant that Council would consider her Appeal at an upcoming Committee of the Whole Meeting and be prepared to make a decision at the second Council Meeting of December.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: There were no Department Reports for tonight’s meeting due to a change in the meeting format to present Department Reports only the first Council Meeting of the month.

COMMENTS FROM CITY RESIDENTS: Comments from City Residents opened at 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Keith McKenney residing at 5607 South Boulevard said another area of concern in the City was the old nursing home building on the corner of Lee Road and Broadway Avenue. He said it was becoming an eyesore with all the graffiti, etc. He asked if the City could buy the property and make it into a trade school for automotive technicians, carpentry, etc. Mr. McKenney suggested that young people who were currently incarcerated could help clean up the property and refurbish or remodel it for this use.

In response, Mayor Blackwell said that building was private property and that it has had a number of different owners, including a group of equity investors and has had a number of brokers. She said it could not be purchased by the City because of the cost of the property. The Mayor said there was a current offer of \$850,000.00 on the property to turn it into apartments.

Mr. Lawrence Lane of 14908 Rockside Road congratulated Mayor Blackwell on her re-election and said he hoped all can work together. He said if he had offended anyone at the polls yesterday, he apologized.

Comments from City Residents closed at 7:19 p.m.

LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-92

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING COUNCIL’S RULES OF ORDER CONCERNING “COMMENTS FROM CITY RESIDENTS” SET FORTH IN SECTION 220.01(c)(9) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF 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 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.

Ms. Anderson asked Mr. Jackson to explain this rule change to the residents.

In response, Mr. Jackson said the proposed legislation added to and clarified Council's 220 Rules by adding new wording that identified "resident" for purposes of the Council Meeting Agenda item "Comments made by City Residents." He said City Residents included Maple Heights residents, but added other people who would now be permitted to speak at Council Meetings, such as people who owned property in Maple Heights, representatives of governmental and non-profit agencies and business owners in Maple Heights. Mr. Jackson said Council was trying to make the 220 Rules conform to people who have a stake in the City, even if they were not residents.

Mr. Jackson said the second part of the change would be the use of a Sign-In Sheet to facilitate the application of the amended 220 Rule.

Mr. Shenett said he wanted to thank Mr. Consolo for the excellent memo he had presented to Council that explained the justifications for these changes to the 220 Rules.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any other 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: Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-94

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 276.01 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION FROM A RATE OF SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$75) PER MEETING TO NINETY DOLLARS (\$90) PER MEETING, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024, 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.

Mayor Blackwell said this Ordinance was one of three (3) Ordinances that proposed increases in the compensation of the members of the Civil Service Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission and Architectural Review Board. The Mayor said the Administration felt that it

was appropriate to adjust the compensation of these Commission/Board members as well, since the City employees had already received raises.

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 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: Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-95

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1262.03(A) OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024, TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FROM A RATE OF SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$75) PER MEETING TO NINETY DOLLARS (\$90) PER MEETING, AND THE RATE FOR THE CHAIRPERSON FROM EIGHTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$85) PER MEETING TO ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) PER MEETING 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. Shenett 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 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: Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-96

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1262.045(B)(2) OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD FROM A RATE OF SIXTY DOLLARS (\$60) PER HOUR TO NINETY DOLLARS (\$90) PER HOUR, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson, 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: Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-105

AN ORDINANCE ADDING NEW SECTION 1282.02(O) TO THE ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS PROVIDING FOR TRUCKING AND HAULING AS A PRINCIPALLY PERMITTED USE IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD) ZONING DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was on Second Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-106

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT NO. 4 DATED NOVEMBER 15, 2023 OF THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Anderson 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 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: Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-107

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was on First Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-108

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was on First Reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-109

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ADMINISTRATOR TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM (CDSG) FOR 2024, AND AUTHORIZING THE SIGNING OF CONTRACTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT THERETO, 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.

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 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: Madden: Yes; Trojanski: Yes; Agee: Yes; Shenett: Yes; Jones: Yes; Tatum: Yes; Anderson: 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.

EXPENDITURES OVER \$25,000.00:

Mr. Jackson said there was one (1) Expenditures over \$25,000.00 and no 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, Mr. Jackson asked for the vote to approve. Ms. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tatum, 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 thanked everyone for coming out to vote last week.

The Mayor reminded the residents that there were no Directors Reports on the agenda for the second Council Meeting of the month. She said earlier this year Council and the Administration discussed the change to only one (1) Directors Reports per month at the first Council Meeting of the month. Mayor Blackwell said Directors would attend the second Council Meeting of the month if their department had legislation on the agenda to discuss with Council or to present information as may be necessary.

Mayor Blackwell said she and her office have been receiving so many calls from residents that she cannot respond to them all. The Mayor said residents needed to contact their councilperson first since the councilperson was the first line of representation for residents. She said council people also distributed newsletters and hold Block Watch Meetings to keep residents informed.

Mayor Blackwell concluded her report by wishing everyone a Blessed and Safe Thanksgiving.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, District 5 said she wanted to remind residents that the Service Department had a dedicated telephone number that was updated regularly with a recorded message to let residents know where leaves will be picked up that week. She said the telephone number was 216-587-9015.

Ms. Madden also announced that there were post cards being sent by district to let residents know the streets to be repaired under the City's Road Repair Program.

Ms. Madden concluded her report by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilman Richard Trojanski, District 6 said the District 4 and District 6 Town Hall Meeting was held on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at the Maple Heights Library and that he wanted to thank Mayor Blackwell, Council President Jackson and Police Chief Hansen for attending this meeting.

Mr. Trojanski said he was working on the District 6 Newsletter that will be distributed shortly.

Mr. Trojanski announced that there will be two (2) Finance Committee Meetings scheduled on Thursday, November 30, 2023 and Thursday, December 7, 2023 to discuss the 2024 budget. He said the meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mr. Trojanski concluded his report by wishing everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

Councilwoman Edwina Agee, District 7 announced that the last District 7 Block Watch Meeting for 2023 will be held tomorrow, November 16, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Alpine Senior Living located at 5500 Northfield Road, Maple Heights, Ohio.

Ms. Agee also announced that the next Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Distribution will be changed to Monday, November 20, 2023 because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Ms. Agee said the produce distribution will be held at 5345 Warrensville Center Road from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Stafford Shenett, District 1 said the District 1 Block Watch Meeting was held on Saturday, November 4, 2023 and that a number of items were discussed on the agenda. He thanked Police Chief Hansen for attending this meeting and sharing a lot of information with the residents.

Mr. Shenett said residents were also informed that the road resurfacing project to resurface E. 146th Street in District 1 was completed and that residents will continue to be updated regarding the repair work on Longvale and Woodbrook Avenues.

Mr. Shenett said the District was also updated on the recent thefts at Theresa's Pizza and Dollar General. He said the same suspect robbed both locations and that residents were informed that the police had identified the suspect and was working on an arrest warrant. Mr. Shenett said the Administration and Council will continue to work to keep the City safe. Mr. Shenett said he will also continue to work with the Police Department regarding the Westside Police Substation which has not been able to stay opened due to the decrease in the number of police officers and also an electrical problem at the facility that needed to be corrected.

Mr. Shenett said residents were also informed that Dollar General will be closing the location at Turney-Dunham Plaza and that he would continue to work with the Mayor and the Planning and Development Director to promote businesses in District 1.

Mr. Shenett said the first round of leaf collection was started in District 1 and that the second round of leaf collection was also starting in the district. He asked residents to be mindful of the equipment used during leaf collection.

Mr. Shenett said residents also discussed various quality of life issues within the community and said residents needed to be courteous of each other. He said there had been a number of dog issues in the City and reminded residents to contact the Animal Warden who was now under the Police Department and to also let their Councilperson know about any problems with dogs.

Mr. Shenett said residents were reminded to not put their snow on their neighbors' yards, to not park on the street and block trash containers on trash collection day and to not park their vehicles on the streets overnight.

Mr. Shenett concluded his report by thanking all the resident who attended this Block Watch Meeting.

Police Chief Hansen announced that the Police Department had arrested the robbery suspect with assistance from the Garfield Heights and Warrensville Heights Police Departments.

Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 2 announced that there would be a Housing and Economic Development Committee Meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 7, Maple Heights City Hall.

Ms. Jones said the Maple Heights Police Department would be participating again this year in the University Hospitals/Rainbow Babies and Children's Holiday Mocktail and Safe Kids Fundraiser that will be held tomorrow, November 16, 2023 at the IX Center. She said the event started at 5:30 p.m. and that this was the second or third year that the City participated in this fundraiser.

Ms. Jones concluded her report by wishing everyone a Blessed Thanksgiving Holiday.

Councilman Timothy Tatum, District 3 said the Pease Road resurfacing project has been completed and that the Dunham Road Phase 2 Repair Project was pretty much finished.

Mr. Tatum announced that the 2nd Annual Seniors Christmas Party will be held this year.

Mr. Tatum said he also wanted to thank the Service Director for his assistance with a problem in District 3.

Mr. Tatum said he had received a number of calls from neighbors regarding the same issue of trash on a property so he went and cleaned up the area. He said neighbors needed to get along.

Mr. Tatum concluded his report by announcing that if anyone was in need of a holiday turkey to please see him after the meeting or to call, text or e-mail him.

Councilwoman Dana D. Anderson, District 4 said there was still a problem with rubbish not being picked up because of residents having too much rubbish out for collection. She reminded residents that only two (2) extra bags or items of rubbish were allowed. Ms. Anderson said residents were able to purchase an extra container from Waste Management if needed.

Ms. Anderson reported that the repairs to Longview Avenue have been completed.

Ms. Anderson thanked Mayor Blackwell and Police Chief Hansen for attending the Districts 4 and 6 Town Hall Meeting.

Ms. Anderson announced that the Community Life and Education Committee will be sponsoring Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Maple Heights Library, Second Floor Meeting Room, on Saturday, December 16, 2023 from Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Anderson concluded her report by wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Council President Ron Jackson announced that the City's Annual Holiday Lighting Event will be held on Sunday, November 26, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. He encouraged everyone to come and enjoy the evening.

Mr. Jackson said he wanted to leave the meeting with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from his 1964 Peace Prize Acceptance Speech: "We have learned to fly the air like birds and to swim the sea like fish, but we have not learned the simple art of living together as brothers."

Mr. Jackson thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Jackson thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Dated: December 6, 2023

ATTEST:

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