



**October 2, 2023
Regular Meeting
7:30 PM**

**Cleveland Heights City Hall
Council Chambers
40 Severance Cir
Cleveland Heights, Ohio**

MEETING MINUTES

1) Meeting called to order by Council President

Start: 7:30pm

2) Roll Call of Council Members

Present: Anthony Mattox Jr., Janine Boyd, Davida Russell, Melody Joy Hart, Craig Cobb, Tony Cuda, Gail Larson

3) Excuse absent members

4) Amendments to the Agenda (if necessary)

Motion to move Ord. 157-2023 to First Readings-Consideration of Adoption

Requested: Craig Cobb

Seconded: Janine Boyd

Yes: Anthony Mattox Jr., Gail Larson, Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Davida Russell, Melody Joy Hart, Tony Cuda

No: None

Abstain: None

5) Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)

a. September 5, 2023

APPROVED

6) Communications from the Mayor

It is announced that Shred Day is October 14, 2023 from 8am-12pm in the rear of city hall. There is a 10 box limit. Enter from Mayfield to enter the queue.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and encourages everybody who might be at risk to get checked.

Cleveland Heights was awarded \$300,000 from the Department of Justice for embarking on a new relationship with Cleveland Peacemakers Alliance which should reduce the amount of city expenses or ARPA funds needed to support these potential violence intervention programs. Other partners in this endeavor are CHUH School District and the Heights Library system. Thanked his staff, Senator Sherrod Brown, and Health Commissioner Dr. Harris for their assistance.

7) Report of the Clerk of Council

Nothing to report

8) Public Comment - Legislative Agenda Items only

(Note: Persons wishing to speak must register in advance. A 3-minute time limit applies. If there are more than 15 speakers, the time will be automatically reduced to 2-minutes. Council President reserves the right to reduce the time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda. Comments unrelated to the agenda may be made after Committee Reports)

Speakers

Peter Zicari	Citizen	Res. 157-2023; comment on plans for Horseshoe Lake
Korbi Roberts	Citizen	Res. 157-2023; comment on plans for Horseshoe Lake
Drew Herzig	Citizen	Res 156-2023; thanked Council for recognizing the importance of LGBTQ+ History Month
Penny Allen	Citizen	Res. 157-2023; comment on plans for Horseshoe Lake
Christine Heggie	Citizen	Res. 157-2023; comment on plans for Horseshoe Lake

9) LEGISLATION

Note: The title for each piece of legislation contains a parenthetical reference to the Council Committee within which the subject matter of the legislation falls. Council Committees are abbreviated as follows: (AS)-Administrative Services; (COTW)-Committee of the Whole; (CRR)-Community Relations and Recreation; (F)-Finance; (HB)-Housing and Building; (MSES)-Municipal Services and Environmental Sustainability; (PD)-Planning and Development; (PSH)-Public

Safety and Health. See Resolution 97-2022 for a list of Council Committee subject matter areas.

a. First Readings – Consideration of Adoption Requested

RESOLUTION NO. 155-2023(PD): First Reading. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit a joint application with the Cities of University Heights and East Cleveland to the Northeast Ohio Area Wide Coordinating Agency (“NOACA”) for a grant under the Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (“TLCI”) Implementation Grant Program to fund the Taylor Road Corridor Road Reconfiguration; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Gail Larson

Yes: Anthony Mattox Jr., Gail Larson, Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Davida Russell, Melody Joy Hart, Tony Cuda

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 156-2023(CRR): First Reading. A Resolution recognizing October, 2023 as *LGBTQ+ History Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Councilmember Russell

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Davida Russell

Discussion

Mayor Seren: A big part of the struggle for equality is the struggle to be seen, and to be welcomed as you are, and not to be forced to pretend to be something else to fit archaic ideas about gender roles and who you can love. Thanked Councilmember Russell for bringing this piece of legislation for consideration.

Councilmember Russell: She introduced this piece of legislation because she believes we need to know the history, and she knows it is an uphill battle in particular in the African American community, as many in that community are not very open and understanding of the LGBTQ+ struggles. Furthermore, all minority populations are under attack, so we must represent everybody in our community.

Yes: Anthony Mattox Jr., Gail Larson, Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Davida Russell, Melody Joy Hart, Tony Cuda

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 157-2023(PD): *First Reading*. A Resolution authorizing the execution of agreements between the City of Cleveland Heights, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (the “District”) and the City of Shaker Heights to authorize the District to proceed with the design of the Doan Brook Restoration Near Horseshoe Lake Park Project, and the design of certain amenities funded by the two Cities, at an approximate design cost to Cleveland Heights of One Hundred Sixty-eight Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-seven Dollars (\$168,327.00); and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

Motion to adopt: Anthony Mattox Jr.

Seconded: Craig Cobb

Discussion

President Hart: She originally was one of the people who wanted to keep Horseshoe Lake and she hoped the Sewer District and the City could come to an amendable agreement for everybody. However, she intends to vote yes because she has realized where we are in the process, and if the lake isn’t going to be there, she would like amenities to be available to residents.

Councilmember Boyd: She has the privilege of serving on the Doan Brook Watershed Board, and there are many people who are dedicated to protecting the species of plants and life that exist there, and to ensuring the integrity of the project.

Yes: Anthony Mattox Jr., Gail Larson, Janine Boyd, Craig Cobb, Melody Joy Hart, Tony Cuda, Davida Russell (no provision for Abstaining)

No: None

LEGISLATION PASSED

b. First Readings Only

ORDINANCE 158-2023(PSH): *First Reading*. An Ordinance authorizing the renewal of an agreement with the Cuyahoga County General Health District for the provision of public health services to the City and its residents; providing compensation therefor; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

Introduced by Mayor Seren

READ INTO THE RECORD

MSES: Next meeting will be October 16th at 10am

HB: Update from the Committee meeting earlier in the evening. The next HB Committee meeting will be rescheduled and a new date will be announced soon. Councilmember Cuda would like to know what the city's process/policy of engaging the public for development projects, like Noble Station, is? He is looking forward to a discussion with his colleagues on this topic so that the next time we are confronted with a decision (like Noble Station) we are prepared.

AS: Will hold a hearing on October 4th at 4:30pm to discuss the Mayor's legislation of establishing an Arts Commission for the City of Cleveland Heights.

CRR: Next Tenant-Landlord Workshop will be October 14th at 10:30am; free CPR classes will start soon, more details to come; November 11 will be the second Pathway to Home-ownership Series.

PD: The committee's next meeting will be October 9th at 5:30pm

11) Public Comment - General

(Note: Persons wishing to speak must register in advance. A 3-minute time limit applies. Council President reserves the right to reduce time limit based on the volume of business on the agenda.)

Speakers

Cameron Cornelison	Citizen	Vacancies on Coventry; ARPA funds request for Coventry Village
Lee Williams	Citizen	Complaint about construction/rehab materials on tree lawn for over a month (3755 Berkeley Rd.)
Joshua Tang	Citizen	Complaint about the responsiveness (or lack of response) of city services; also, would like to see co-working spaces (Coventry)
Michael Bending	Citizen	Complaint about the lack of communication between administration/staff and residents; has had issues contacting the housing/building department on several occasions across different methods of communication

12) Old Business

13) New Business

Cuda: Clarified a statement of his regarding the ABR/Planning Commission on their work regarding the Noble Station Development.

14) Adjournment

End: 8:29pm

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: OCTOBER 16, 2023

APPROVED: 11.6.2023



Melody Joy Hart
President of Council



Addie Balester
Clerk of Council