

City Council for the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, held a Committee Meeting of the Whole on the above date at 6:15 p.m. to discuss the contents of the City Manager's memo.

Council Members present: Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow

Staff present: Boland, Briley, Butler, Freeman, Juliano, Lambdin, Mannarino, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niermann O'Neil, Sabin, Smith, Trupo, Wong

The Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, met on the above date at 7:36 p.m., Mayor Roe presiding.

Roll Call: Present: Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow

Staff present: Boland, Briley, Butler, Freeman, Juliano, Lambdin, Mannarino, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niermann O'Neil, Sabin, Smith, Trupo, Wong

Mayor Roe stated, "Good evening, everyone. Welcome to the Monday, February 5, 2018 regular meeting of the Cleveland Heights City Council. Thank you all for coming. I would like to ask the Clerk to call the roll of Council members please."

Roll Call: Present: Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow

Laurie Sabin stated, "Seven present."

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you. Everyone is present. So, we have no absent members to excuse this evening. Next, I would to ask... make sure that we approve the minutes of December 4, 2017, January 2, 2018 and January 16, 2018. Did anybody have any corrections to submit to the minutes?"

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "I provided some."

Mayor Roe stated, "Okay, those minutes are approved with those corrections. Next is personal communications from citizens. Do we have anyone who wants to address Council this evening? If you do, please move to the podium, state your name and your address and please try to limit your remarks to three minutes. Go ahead."

Marty Dibitz stated, "Marty Dibitz, 2282 Westminster Road. I appreciate the opportunity to speak and I appreciate the service of Council members. I have questions. Whether they can be answered tonight or in some way in the future would be great, but these are my questions. So, number one, and they all have to do with the sewer rate. Will the new sewer rate be in effect the duration of phase one? – is one question. Second question – will the new sewer rate be made constant while it is in effect? In other words, could it increase between now and 2021? Third question – will there be another increase in the sewer rate during phase two when capital improvements will be made? And my fourth question, my last question is – what is the relationship between the sewer, the Cleveland Water rate and the Heights utilities rate all of which have increased at the same time? So, those are my questions. Again, the answers now or later would be great."

Mayor Roe stated, "So, do you have all those questions written down for us?"

Marty Dibitz stated, "I do."

Mayor Roe stated, "I would like to suggest that you give those questions to the City Manager because if you have those questions, I know that a lot of other citizens have those same questions and we're going to ask that they be addressed on the website."

Tanisha Briley stated, "They currently are, most of those questions, are on the website. So, we can just help you navigate to that or answer your questions separately."

Kyle Whittaker stated, "Good evening. My name is Kyle Whittaker. I live at 3035 Lincoln Boulevard. I'm also here to ask some questions about the sewer plan and provide some narrative from a young father/husband/family perspective in Cleveland Heights. When I got the notification in January from the City Manager, that was my first interaction of the changes that would be implemented with the sewer rates. I realize now that there was communication back as early as May of last year and ongoing changes and I've actually visited the website and looked through the documents and to gather as much information as I could. I still have a couple of questions after reading through some of those things, but first I'd like to note that, you know, the roughly \$20 a month increase is something that my family and I can budget for. We can manage. It's frustrating in that even with six months of notification, it is significant. I tend to look at things in terms of percentages and going from, say, \$7 a month to – what is it now – maybe \$25 a month is a significant percentage increase rather than just saying it's a \$20 a month increase. So, it impacts, you know, the way that our family budgets. It's probably one night out less a month for us, maybe a happy hour in one of our local businesses, and it's also frustrating in the sense that we purchased our home here in Cleveland Heights in 2014. We love living here and I think we swallow our pride a little bit when it comes to the taxes. You know, we enjoy the services that are offered. So, in addition to the recent income tax increase, this feels like another hand in the pockets and it doesn't even qualify as a tax, right? Like this isn't something we got to vote on. It's, with six months' notice, a significant monthly increase in our bills. Now that we have three minutes here, I'll try to get to my questions. One question I have is – is there a sunset provision on the monthly increase meaning once we get past phase two, say? I don't know how long that will be because I don't know how long phase two will be and I don't imagine the Council does either. Do we expect it to go back down to where it was in 2017 and prior to that? And another question I have is – do we have a plan to budget for phase two? Or even the remainder of phase one so that we might be able to decrease the monthly charge on the sewer bill? I know we've had a surplus from 2017. It doesn't feel like a surplus when we have to turn around and plan for \$12 million some other way. That apparently didn't make it into that calculation. So, those are the two questions that I would be interested in getting the answers to. Is there a sunset provision on this sewer rate charge and then, is there a plan to budget for this so that we can actually not charge the citizens directly via the sewer rate bills? Thank you for your time. Thank you for your service."

Mayor Roe stated, "Would the City Manager like to respond?"

Tanisha Briley stated, "Sure. We definitely recognize and it's something that we've discussed for quite a while – that this is going to be difficult for all Cleveland Heights' residents including most everyone sitting up there and most everyone sitting in the room. It is a requirement as I'm sure you are aware. The \$12 million will help us to plan for the improvements that we need to make in phase two. We don't know yet what those improvements are, but phase one is geared toward minimizing the cost of phase two by better understanding our system, by increasing and enhancing our maintenance and management of the system, and those costs are about \$12 million. We don't know yet how much phase two will cost and we won't negotiate phase two until 2020. I think beginning 2020."

Jim Juliano stated, "Right."

Tanisha Briley stated, "And so, we're several years out from that. So, our entire goal of phase one is to make phase two as small as it can possibly be and we appreciate the EPA working with us on that front because that's not an agreement that they have with other communities. We're pretty rare in that effort. So, there isn't a sunset clause, but like most utilities, so this is a utility. It's not something that's paid out of your property taxes or any other funding source. So, the surplus and all of that is sort of separate from this utility. So, it should cover its costs and that's how we structured the rate, so that it covers the cost; it covers the debt service that we need when we have to borrow money for large pieces of equipment and that sort of thing. So, it's always right-size to be as small as it can be to cover the cost of the utility. And if you have more questions, I'd be happy to talk with you offline."

Kyle Whittaker stated, "Sure, I appreciate it. I guess the last thing I'll say, just to be clear – I hope this Council considers, you know, phase one is going out into 2021. That is, in my opinion, plenty of time to begin to come up with plans to budget for this in ways that, you know, we might be able to cut the sewer rate bills that go to homes. I know that in the City Manager's note, you know, there'd been mention of being in discussion with this for the last two years. This seems like to me a service that the city offers, right? Maintaining the infrastructure; upgrading the infrastructure. You know, I would like to see this be a part of the budget rather than something that is passed directly to the monthly bills of the citizens. So, if you would consider that, great. If not, well then, so be it I guess. So, thanks for listening."

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you very much."

Bill Bruml stated, "Hi. I'm Bill Bruml of 1768 Middlehurst and I have a few comments on the continuing saga of the fallout from the natural gas aggregation. The last I heard was it was imminent negotiations with NOPEC and I've been sort of out of the loop for a few weeks. So, I don't know where you are and I'd be interested in hearing where the NOPEC negotiations are. At the time Council discussed this before the end of the year, there were a few questions about what was going to happen to us in terms of our natural gas bills and I called Dominion as did several other people I knew and the answer we got was, 'Well, you'll be on the Standard Service Offer, SCO, Standard Choice Offering, and that, after a couple months, we would be put with one of their suppliers but still as on the Standard Choice Offering.' I heard that loud and clear from them. I asked several times to make sure I heard that from them. And, in fact, that's what happened on my bill, but then I got a call from my sister, who is also a Cleveland Heights resident, yesterday. She'd gotten a card and she'd been put on another supplier on

a monthly variable rate. The monthly variable rate she was put on, as far as I can tell, is something like \$3 per therm more than the SCO. She called them up and had a long conversation with them. As far as I can tell, my family is taken care of, but I'm here because I'm very concerned that there are going to be a lot of people who could get stuck at \$6.50 or more per therm with the billing that comes up this month. And, so, there will be some communication needed for... I'm not sure quite what. I'm raising a flag and Councilman Ungar and I have had discussions about these things and I'm sure we'll come up with something, but it sounds like a lot of people need to hear about something and possibly Dominion needs to hear from this Council. So, thank you."

Councilman Ungar stated, "I think it's better to hear from staff. All I can tell you is I hear you. I know you're right in terms of what you just said. It's tragic that some of our citizens are getting whacked. The whole idea of what we've done and what staff has done is to address that. It's going to be an opt-out program. So, by default, everybody's going to be in and have a lot of protection through this NOPEC program which we at Council are chomping at the bit to see deploy. So, we're working on it. Staff will give you some more details."

Bill Bruml stated, "Okay, any idea on timing?"

Councilman Ungar stated, "You're going to get that right now. I mean, it's all happening. We did do... there were two or three levels of legislation that had to be enacted. We did that two meetings ago and so, there's a little bit of a process for us to enroll in NOPEC which Tanisha can elaborate on. In the interim, the best we can do is continue to participate aggressively, as I know you do, on that NextDoor neighbor and tell our family and friends to get the heck out of those variables right now because they're killing people. They're just killing people with those rates. They just are. They're in the high \$6 or \$7 an hour rate... or mcf's."

Bill Bruml stated, "As far as I can tell, nobody has been hit with that, is on that rate right now, but we could get people to, this week..."

Councilman Seren stated, "Madam President."

Mayor Roe stated, "So, could I ask the City Manager to respond?"

Councilman Seren stated, "Actually, Madam President, before we get a response, could I ask – did you bring the card that your sister got?"

Bill Bruml stated, "I did not bring it. This was all done by telephone, but, you know..."

Mayor Roe stated, "Could you go up?"

Bill Bruml stated, "Those two initials, those SCO and the MVR, you know, I asked very carefully about that. So, you know, you can, I'm quite certain what that was about."

Tanisha Briley stated, "So, as we know, the aggregation issue continues to be a complex one and even though Council has executed the agreement and everything is moving forward with NOPEC, the

opt-out letters for all of NOPEC customers, opt-out letters were mailed last week. So, they're mailed in batches. So, we're somewhere in the batch and I don't believe Cleveland Heights residents, as far as I can tell, we haven't received our letters yet, but they are on the way – the opt-out letters. So, you'll have 30 days to opt-out. Otherwise, you'll be in the program. Simultaneously, the SCO rate that everyone was defaulted to is expiring, so Dominion is sending out letters to everyone with either their SCO rate and supplier and we saw a copy of that letter today. We had another resident reach out because she was concerned. She thought it was the aggregation letter. It was not. This was the letter from Dominion talking specifically about the supplier that she will have. She was fortunate to get the SCO rate. Some customers are not eligible for SCO if they have had any kind of delinquency in their past billing, and so they might get defaulted to a higher rate or variable rate. Otherwise, if you're eligible for the SCO rate, as calls are coming in to us, and I believe this is on our website as well, we're encouraging them to contact the utility and ask to be placed on the SCO rate until the aggregation program is in place which will happen very soon."

Councilman Stein stated, "So, you're saying those that aren't eligible for that SCO rate that are being defaulted to this higher rate that Mr. Bruml seems to be talking about, you can opt-out of that?"

Tanisha Briley stated, "You can't right now. So, there's a very long list of suppliers that are associated with the gas company and you can be defaulted to any of those suppliers and their rates are very different. As far as I know, there's no formula for that. If you qualify for the Standard Choice, meaning you don't have any delinquency in your past billing, then we're encouraging residents to call and ask to be placed on that rate until our aggregation program kicks in. Then, everyone will default to the lower rate."

Mayor Roe stated, "Okay. Next."

Sruti Basu stated, "Hi. My name is Sruti Basu. I work for FutureHeights. My address is 1719 Coventry Road. I work for FutureHeights, a non-profit organization in Cleveland Heights and our board suggested that I come here and talk about a couple of the programs that we have coming up this spring because many people watch the recordings of City Council meetings. So, the first one we have is the Neighborhood Leadership Workshop Series for residents who are interested in learning about doing a project in their neighborhood or doing some sort of getting involved in some way to better the community. So, that program starts on March 11 and our application deadline is February 28 and our application is on our website. We also have a small grants program. The deadline is March 15 and grants are up to \$1,000 for residents who want to do a project in their neighborhood, an event, a block club, something that builds community, something for the betterment in their own neighborhoods. So, that's all. Thank you."

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you for that information and I'm confident too that that's probably information that's on the FutureHeights website. So, if people want more information, they can go to the FutureHeights website and learn more. Anyone else?"

Councilman Houser stated, "Good evening, Mayor Roe, Vice Mayor Yasinow, Jason, Kahlil, Cheryl, Mary and Mike, I just wanted to come out and introduce myself. I am your guys new County Councilman. My name is Michael J. Houser. I was appointed three weeks ago to replace Councilman Anthony Harrison who was elect to Cleveland City Council. Prior to being appointed, I worked for County Executive Armond Budish, led several initiatives, voting right, re-entry, youth outreach and also worked with Councilman Harrison to get a lot done in the district, Noble Road, Eddy Road, etc. So, I just wanted to come out, introduce myself. I will be visiting you guys over the next couple months, so it was important for me to be here today. If you have any questions, you need me from my office, please don't hesitate to let me know."

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you, Councilman Houser for being with us this evening. Is there anyone else who would like to address Council this evening? Seeing no one come to the mic, we'll move on to the agenda, the report of the City Manager."

### **Report of the City Manager**

Tanisha Briley stated, "Nothing to report this evening, Your Honor."

Mayor Roe stated, "Next is the report of the Director of Finance/Clerk of Council."

### **Report of the Director of Finance/Clerk of Council**

Laurie Sabin stated, "Just one thing. I need to Notify Council that a Resolution of the Board of Zoning Appeals has been received pertaining to variances in the Zoning Code and is requested by the following: BZA Cal. No. 3441: Hanna Commercial Real Estate/Charles Zuchowski, 2490 Lee Boulevard, to permit a 16 square foot 'available for lease' freestanding sign; and to make this a Matter of Record."

### **Matter of Record**

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you and that will be referred to the Public Safety Committee. Public Safety and Health Committee and Councilman Seren will talk about this when we get to his report."

Tanisha Briley stated, "Mayor Roe, it's the Planning and Development Committee."

Mayor Roe stated, "There's been a different arrangement made."

Tanisha Briley stated, "Okay."

Mayor Roe stated, "Next we have the Administrative Services Committee Report. Councilman Ungar."

### **Report of the Administrative Services Committee**

Councilman Ungar stated, "Yes, is that my cue to talk about..."

Mayor Roe stated, "Yes, this is your cue to talk about the appointments."

Councilman Ungar stated, "Okay, I'm happy to do that and I notice that we even have some of the new appointees in the audience this evening which is great. So, I have the privilege of identifying some wonderful citizens who have agreed to be appointed by this Council to various committees and boards and I'm told in the interest of efficiency that I will also read the names of those who will be reappointed to certain boards and committees as well. So, without further ado, let me give you first the new appointees. Dennis R. Porcelli to the BZA; Jonathan Kurtz to ABR which is Architectural Board of Review, first one is Board of Zoning Appeals. C.J. Nash, who is with us this evening – raise your hand C.J. so everybody on TV can see you – has graciously agreed to be appointed to the CAC. By the way, if anybody else is here in the audience this evening and I don't have the privilege of knowing you, raise your hand so we can acknowledge you. And then, last but not least on the new appointees, we have Michelle Miller, likewise joining C.J. on CAC. Okay, and then, the following reappointments are going to be made subject to Council's approval of this list, to CAC. Cheryl reminded me; I asked why are these terms so short, and the answer is because they're one-year terms on CAC. So, and the reappointees on CAC are David Benson, Vetella Camper, Kim DeNero-Ackroyd, Bradley Eckert, Dawn Ellis, Cory Farmer, Jonathan Goldman, Christine Henry, Gail Larson, Allison McCallum, Gretchen Mettler, Marian Morton, T. Nadas, Donalene Poduska, Steve Tichenal, Meg Vanderbilt and Parker Zabell. There are two names that are not on your list. Members of Council, I was advised just before we began the Committee of the Whole meeting, are nonetheless wish to be appointed and there's room for that and those two individuals are Robin Koslen and Menachem Lubling. So, with that, my list is complete. I'm also told by Susanna to advise you that there is one vacancy on CAC remaining; two vacancies on Parks and Recreation Board. Those openings, and for those that are watching this evening who may be interested, those are going to be advertised on our website on Tuesday and we, as a Council, would encourage people to apply for those positions if you have interest. So, with that, what do I need to do? Make a motion? I move that we approve those appointees and reappointees to the positions identified."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Second."

Mayor Roe stated, "It's been moved and seconded these appointments be made. Any discussion? Hearing none, could the Clerk call the roll?"

Laurie Sabin stated, "Yes, Your Honor."

Roll Call: Ayes: Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow

Nays: None

**Motion Passed**

Laurie Sabin stated, "Seven ayes, Your Honor."

Mayor Roe stated, "The motion has passed. Do you have anything else to share with us?"

Councilman Ungar stated, "No, I don't think so. Do I? No, I don't have anything else from Administrative Services."

Mayor Roe stated, "Okay, Community Relations and Recreation Committee."

### **Report of the Community Relations and Recreation Committee**

Councilman Stein stated, "Your Honor, I have Resolution Number 4-2018; a resolution recognizing February 2018 as National African American History Month. The City of Cleveland Heights is rich in its diversity of cultures and races; and the citizens of Cleveland Heights take great pride in the harmonious relationships that exist among and within the City's many diverse communities; and this Council recognizes the importance of explaining and sharing the rich cultural and spiritual heritage of each of the City's various ethnic groups in order to foster and encourage harmony and understanding among these groups; and the month of February is recognized as National African American History Month by communities throughout the United States in order to honor and review the accomplishments and contributions of African Americans to the United States. Therefore, the month of February 2018 is hereby designated National African American History Month in the City of Cleveland Heights in recognition of the accomplishments and contributions of African American citizens to this community and to our country. The City hereby reaffirms its commitment to maintain Cleveland Heights as a truly integrated community and to continue the tradition of appreciation and respect of our cultural diversity. I offer Resolution 4-2018 for passage tonight."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Second."

Mayor Roe stated, "It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion on the resolution? Could you call the roll please?"

Laurie Sabin stated, "Yes, Your Honor."

Roll Call:       Ayes:   Roe, Seren, Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow, Dunbar

Nays:   None

### **Resolution Passed**

Laurie Sabin stated, "Seven ayes, Your Honor."

Mayor Roe stated, "The motion has passed."

Councilman Seren stated, "Okay, I also have Resolution Number 5-2018; a Resolution proclaiming February 2018, American Heart Month. Cardiovascular disease is responsible for approximately one (1) in four (4) deaths in the United States and is the leading cause of death among both men and women; and the risk factors for cardiovascular disease include smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, physical inactivity, diabetes, family history and age; and the research is clear that there are tools available to increase survival rates of cardiovascular disease, with the American Heart Association encouraging citizens to help save lives by calling 9-1-1 if symptoms occur, becoming trained in CPR, and supporting comprehensive automated external defibrillator ("AED") programs in their communities; and the American Heart Association and numerous governmental

entities are celebrating February 2018 as American Heart Month and encouraging citizens to learn the warning signs of heart attack and stroke; and this Council therefore hereby proclaims February 2018, American Heart Month, in the City of Cleveland Heights in order to promote education and awareness with the goal of reducing cardiovascular deaths in this community and nationwide. I offer Resolution Number 5-2018 for passage tonight.”

Mayor Roe stated, “Do I hear a second?”

Vice Mayor Yasinow stated, “Second.”

Mayor Roe stated, “Is there any discussion? Hearing none, would the Clerk please call the roll?”

Roll Call:       Ayes:   Seren, Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow, Dunbar, Roe

                  Nays:   None

**Resolution Passed**

Laurie Sabin stated, “Seven ayes, Your Honor.”

Mayor Roe stated, “The motion has passed. Do you have anything else to share with us, Councilman Stein?”

Councilman Stein stated, “That’s all I have.”

Mayor Roe stated, “Thank you.”

Councilman Stein stated, “Thank you.”

Mayor Roe stated, “Finance Committee, Councilman Ungar, do you have anything to share from Finance?”

**Report of the Finance Committee**

Councilman Ungar stated, “That last part, I don’t have anything to share from Finance. I do just want to make one quick remark which is, and it’s a shout out to our staff, and primarily to Susanna who of course isn’t around to hear it unfortunately, but and I’ve said this to a couple of people. I continue to be impressed with the way we, as a city, run the Martin Luther King event. You know, this year, the celebration of life and legacy of Martin Luther King, you know, is something that my guess is most cities put on, but I’m not sure there are too many cities out there that can execute it with the authenticity and the panache that our city does and I had the privilege of participating in this year’s event with Carol and Melissa and whole bunch of city staff too, and Mary. It’s just, I don’t know how you guys felt about it, it just gives me goose bumps just to be there and see it happening. It’s everything that’s right in our city. It belongs on Bob Brown’s list of the Top 10 reasons why we all love Cleveland Heights. My guess is there’s a video of it somewhere, right? Is it on our website somewhere? Oh, I probably should know that. It’s somewhere. It will be up tomorrow for those that weren’t able to make it. I would commend you to

watch it. I just thought it was fantastic. Councilman Houser, I would strongly urge you to take a look at it and see why this is just such an amazing city. And the kids were fantastic. The Barbershoppers – do I have that right – the Barbershoppers from Heights High were unbelievable, and the pride of the parents whose kids in many instances are getting up and addressing a crowd for the very first time and it's just one of those all-good things. So, I'll just leave it at that and it was great and it happens. Everybody watches it happen and thinks this happens easily or magically and it's obvious to me that it only happens because of our amazing staff who choreographed everything from beginning to end. So, kudos to you, Tanisha and your entire staff who put it on. So, thank you."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "I would just add that I think it was the best one ever."

Councilman Ungar stated, "Fantastic."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "And the posters that were prepared by the children are posted up here in the hallway. So, when you go out tonight, take a look in the hallway at the posters that the kids did."

Tanisha Briley stated, "Well, on behalf of Susanna, I'm going to thank you for those comments. Susanna and her team work extremely hard every year to put on a really fantastic program, so I'm happy to hear those comments in absence."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "And those videos will capture the poetry and essays that get read, so..."

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you. Next is the Municipal Services Committee, Councilwoman Yasinow."

### **Report of the Municipal Services Committee**

Vice Mayor Yasinow stated, "Your Honor, I have no legislation this evening, but I do want to take a moment and just acknowledge a few things. First off, with the Martin Luther King Day celebration, just to also add that our celebration which was, as always, excellent, this time around featured the female barber shop group for the first time ever. So, it's growing. I'm very happy to see that happen with our vocal arts performance organization here in Cleveland Heights. So, that's number one. Number two, I heard there was a football game last night. I believe, I mean it's really cold outside, so I guess we're all Eagles fans now and so I'm very pleased with how that went and most importantly, I'd like to just take a moment to shout out to three gentlemen from Cleveland Heights who are now Super Bowl champions. We have Jason Kelce, Shelton Gibson and Najee Goode who are all on the Eagles and Cleveland Heights born and bred and I believe Mr. Kelce also did graduate from Heights High. So, that's pretty awesome. We have three Super Bowl champs here from Cleveland Heights, or at least from Cleveland Heights, so I'm quite happy to announce that. So, that's number two. Number three – Bananagrams, Lake Erie Ink is going to be hosting the giant Bananagrams tournament on February 24. This is an opportunity for Lake Erie Ink which provides some excellent programs for our youth here in Cleveland Heights, to raise some funds. I will be joining a team of my college alumni. I'm not certain of their name and I've never played

Bananagrams before, so obviously, we will win. It's something like Scrabble, Millennials hipster Scrabble. I'm not quite certain, but we're going to have fun with it and on top of it, I also want to commend my colleague Mary Dunbar who is helping sponsor a team for this Bananagrams tournament as well. So, that's going to be fun and I'm very excited to help a wonderful organization here in Cleveland Heights and finally, as always, I would be remiss if I did not encourage people to please take time and be proactive about your safety here in Cleveland Heights, particularly when it comes to your vehicles. With this cold weather, it's often, people think, 'Oh, I'll just go and start my car, get it nice and warm, go back in the house.' Their car is running; their keys are in the ignition; the door is unlocked. Please don't do that. Likewise, please take a moment, lock your car if you're keeping it outside or hide your valuables. Cleveland Heights is a wonderful community. It's a safe community, but sometimes, you know, people who don't have the best of intentions, they just see, you know, something really easy and I'd like that to not happen here. So, that is everything for my report this evening and that's all."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "I just wanted to say my team is called the Dunbar Dynamos and it's going to be, the team is going to be, youth that participate in the Lake Erie Ink program. So, I don't have to do it, but they'll have fun."

Vice Mayor Yasinow stated, "I'll let you know how it goes."

Mayor Roe stated, "Okay, next, we go to Public Safety and Health Committee, Councilman Seren."

#### **Report of the Public Safety and Health Committee**

Councilman Seren stated, "Thank you, Madam President. First, I'd like to move that we approve Board of Zoning Appeals Resolution Calendar Number 3441: Hanna Commercial Real Estate/Charles Zuchowski, 2490 Lee Boulevard, to permit a 16-square-foot freestanding sign that says 'available for lease' where no freestanding sign is permitted, only a window signage, for 12 months from the effective date of variance."

Mayor Roe stated, "Is there a second?"

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Second."

Mayor Roe stated, "Is there any discussion about the motion? Hearing none, we'll vote. Would the Clerk call the roll?"

Roll Call: Ayes: Stein, Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow, Dunbar, Roe, Seren

Nays: None

#### **BZA Resolution Passed**

Laurie Sabin stated, "Seven ayes, Your Honor."

Mayor Roe stated, "Okay, the motion has passed. Do you have anything else to share with us?"

Councilman Seren stated, “Just one brief mention. I wanted to alert the Council and the community that the Ohio Fair Lending in vital communities, Ohio Fair Lending Coalition is holding their first brown bag forum at the Cleveland Marshall College of Law. First of the year, they’re going to be talking about the five city property survey that has recently gotten some press. These are the cities of South Euclid, Euclid, Garfield Heights, Maple Heights and Warrensville Heights. They all went in together and got a grant from Cleveland Foundation to perform what has been performed in East Cleveland and the City of Cleveland and various other cities. The Western Reserve Land Conservancy goes in and they do a property survey of all the residential properties. They take pictures, geocode it, and give them sort of a grade based on the condition of the house. It’s a really helpful snapshot of an inventory of properties that the city has. They’ll be going over this project and providing some insight as to what cities potentially can learn from what they’ve done. So, this will be on February 13, 12:00 – 2:00 at Cleveland Marshall College of Law. I think they’re going to be holding it in their Moot Courtroom. They had to change the location because of the demand for this particular forum, so it was closed. Registration was closed, but they reopened it with a larger venue. So, you feel free to Google that – either Ohio Fair Lending Coalition or you might be able to find it through the Levine College of Urban Affairs and I welcome you all and invite you to attend.”

Mayor Roe stated, “Thank you. Now we move to the Planning and Development Committee, Councilwoman Dunbar.”

#### **Report of the Planning and Development Committee**

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, “Yes, I have two pieces of legislation tonight. First is Ordinance Number 6-2018. It’s an ordinance amending Ordinance Number 25-2009, as amended by Ordinance No. 39 from last year, 2017, to add certain fees pertaining to the administration of the Zoning Code; and declaring an emergency; and basically this ordinance is going to add a few administrative fees and then update other fees to ensure that the businesses affected or operations affected have the right sort of certifications. So, I would recommend to my fellow Councilperson that we approve this. I so move.”

Councilwoman Stephens stated, “Second.”

Mayor Roe stated, “It’s been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, we ask the Clerk to call the roll.”

Roll Call:       Ayes:   Stephens, Ungar, Yasinow, Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein

Nays:   None

#### **Ordinance Passed**

Laurie Sabin stated, “Seven ayes, Your Honor.”

Mayor Roe stated, “Okay, the motion has passed.”

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "The second ordinance I have tonight is Number 7-2018. It's an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a development agreement with F & C Development, Inc.; and declaring an emergency; and this is basically about moving forward on the Top of the Hill Development to get that moving forward and this is the first reading. Yeah, so there's no motion at this point."

Mayor Roe stated, "Thank you. Do you have anything else to share with us?"

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "I do not."

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Roe stated, "Okay, do any other Council members wish to add anything this evening that they haven't addressed? Okay, just some closing kind of remarks. Even though the Cleveland Heights City Council and the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District have different areas of jurisdiction, it is really in everyone's best interest if our Board of Education and our City Council collaborate around mutual issues. So, I wanted to just remind people that we do have three meetings a year with the School Board and as part of our discussions for the coming year in terms of our Council priorities, we are attempting to move in some directions with specific strategies with the School Board to address some of our common issues. So, I would just call your attention to that to look for more word about that later as we have identified that our work with the School Board is one of this Council's priorities for this coming year. Along with that, I would call your attention to the State of the Schools Address that is being given by the Superintendent of the schools at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21 at the high school and that would be an opportunity for people to come and get tours of the new high school in addition to some other activities that are taking place that evening. So, if you have not had an opportunity to see our new high school, it really is another one of those things on the 10 reasons that everybody should live in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and this is a very beautiful modern school and I encourage you to take the opportunity that's being offered if you haven't had it. More information about the event can be found on the school's website if you're so interested in having more information and making plans to attend. And, with that, I adjourn this meeting and advise you that our next meeting of City Council is Tuesday, February 20. The meeting is on Tuesday in honor of Presidents Day the day before. So, God bless everybody and God bless Cleveland Heights. This meeting is adjourned."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carol Roe, Mayor

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Laurie Sabin, Clerk of Council

/jkw