

City Council for the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, held a Committee Meeting of the Whole on the above date at 6:25 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, Lambdin, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niermann O'Neil, Rothenberg, Sabin, Wong

Councilwoman Dunbar moved to begin Executive Session 1) To consider the appointment of a public official; 2) To consider the proposed terms of a contract between the City and a proposed contractee of the City, where the discussions of the terms or proposed terms of such contract, in the judgment of an attorney for the City, might give an unfair competition advantage to proposed contractee. Councilwoman Roe seconded. Executive Session began at 7:28 p.m.

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

Councilwoman Yasinow moved to end Executive Session and Vice Mayor Stein seconded.

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

Nays: None

Executive Session ended at 7:44 p.m.

The Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, met on the above date at 7:55 p.m., Mayor Stephens presiding.

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

Staff present: Boland, Briley, Butler, Freeman, Lambdin, McRae, Mecklenburg, Niermann O'Neil, Rothenberg, Sabin, Wong

Mayor Stephens stated, "Good evening and welcome to Cleveland Heights City Council meeting of Monday, October 2, 2017. Madam Clerk, if you would call the roll please."

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

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. All seven members are present. Next we have the approval of the minutes of City Council meeting. Do our usual scribes have their... have they taken a chance to review and turned in their recommendations?"

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Done."

Councilwoman Roe stated, "Yes."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Moving on, one of the most important times of every one of our Council meetings – it's the personal communication from citizens or concerned individuals. We

welcome anyone and everyone to the microphone to my left and your right. We ask that you speak for three minutes or less after you identify yourself and an address for yourselves. Let's start with the back row today. Welcome."

Amy Rosenbluth stated, "Good evening, members of the Council. My name is Amy Rosenbluth and I live at 2343 Clarendon Road and I am Executive Director at Lake Erie Ink, a writing space for youth and I'm actually here tonight to speak on behalf of the other organizational tenants who are part of the Coventry PEACE Campus and one of the first things really that I wanted to say was – well, thank you for everybody who came out to the community meeting that took place last week. We were overjoyed actually at the numbers that came out. We had more than 100 people, all different areas of the community who came out to learn about what we were proposing and to ask really thoughtful questions and to engage in conversation and it really made us feel very positive and anybody who wasn't there, actually, if you want to find out all the information, we do have a video of that and it's on the [Coventrypeacecampus.org](http://Coventrypeacecampus.org) website and YouTube. So, you can see that, but one of the things that I wanted to say to that is that people showed up and what we realized was that they weren't just showing up just for the building. They were really showing up for us, for the people in the building and the people who come to the building, the people who make things happen in the building and that's what was really inspirational for us is that this proposal is more than a building. It's really about community and it's about the humans in that community. We are a really unique collection of organizations. I think most of you have learned a lot about what we do. Some of us are doing... we are the only organizations doing what we do in Northeast Ohio and to be able to do it in Cleveland Heights with one another supporting each other is really powerful. We are unique and we are valuable and we not only provide opportunity and resources to others, but we provide them to people who work for us. We provide mentorship. We provide training. We provide support for people who might be looking at careers and have interest in the work that we do. So we're a catalyst in the community as well as a source of programming. So, really what we are doing tonight is imploring you to make some decisions and hopefully that decision would be to meet with us and to have a conversation. Time is really of the essence. We are all providing services to people, as I've said, and those people need to know and need to be able to thoughtfully plan in order to tell them what to do. So, we're really looking not just for operational sustainability, but operational security and meeting with you and having a conversation would be really beneficial. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Anyone else on the back row?"

"Good evening. I'm Paul Volpe. I live at 2593 Fairmount Boulevard. I am a part of the gang of creative behind me and those that aren't here. I'm here to maybe position us at a place in time relative to this initiative and this ask which is really very simple and maybe to provide some clarity to all of you including our City Manager relative to what we are really asking for because it's not all that complicated, at least to me. I'm kind of a simple guy. Basically, we're at a stalemate. We were here on September 11; we made a presentation to you. Out of great respect for our City Council, we did not show it to anyone before you. You were the first and one of two to see it. The community saw it last week. It was important that you saw it first. We do respect you and we look forward to your opinions and we

requested that evening a follow-up dialogue which was just said. That hasn't occurred. We've sent Emails. We've made requests. We've had some individual discussions with various Council people and for whatever reason, we have not had our request honored. We don't understand why. That is really all we're asking for now. There's no legislation. There's no request for funding. There's nothing but a meeting and we'd like to meet with Ms. Briley. We'd like to meet with staff, with Richard and Kara and others and Tim and talk intimately about what we're proposing. Here is the way we see it. When it comes to commitment, we are developers. We are people that have done development. Development is more than building buildings. Development starts with programming. It starts with ideas. As Einstein said, I think if I recollect properly that, 'Ideas start with inspiration,' and that's where we began. We had an inspired idea to help our city. That's where commitment comes in. We are absolutely committed to this town and to things that revitalize it and it needs revitalizing and you all know that. The second thing is credibility. We are credible. We talked to the community. There was 110+ people there. Facebook has been going crazy. Some of you Council people have Facebook and we read the responses and so many people have called us and written us and Emailed us and there is not an individual that I think any of us have come in contact with, directly at least, that doesn't love the idea. If that isn't credibility, if that doesn't provide us the entrée to all of you to listen to us and talk with us, I don't know what else can. We're not outsiders. We're not foreigners. We're right here. And the last thing I'll say is – capacity – we know that you wonder, 'How are they going to fund it?' and, 'How are they going to do it?' Do they have the ability and do they schedules. They have this, they have that? Well, frankly, we have a lot of that, but this is not the time or the place to lay that all out on the table. At the Top of the Hill meeting which I attended, none of that was on the table, and that's something you've been working on for a year and a half with 'big time developers,' okay? That's okay. We understand that, but we expect to be held to at least the same standards as others wishing to do things in this community, okay? And we think the standards and the questions that have been asked to us are much greater than we normally hear in public meetings and elsewhere and we think honestly as citizens, as credible committed people, we deserve reciprocal respect in a meeting. So, I'm asking now if we might arrange for a meeting. This week we're prepared; no later than next week. We need to know. We need to know. We need to talk. We want to communicate. We want to sit around a table. We'd like to meet with you. We respect you and want to have a chance to talk to you. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Mr. Volpe. Who's next? We're going to the next row. There's no one in the back row. Yes, sir."

"Hi. My name is Frank Lewis. I live at 2840 Washington Boulevard. I'm directly across the street from the Coventry School. I've been there for 14 years. My children were in the school when it was closed and I became part of what I guess you could call a citizens' uprising that challenged the school district on that (on the closing) and it was divisive. I have no regrets about my involvement or the actions that I and other citizens took regarding that, but it was definitely divisive and it's been a lot more fun I can admit to be involved in something that seems to have overwhelming community support. As Amy Rosenbluth mentioned, more than 100 people came to the community meeting that we held next week. I would have been thrilled with half that number and it wasn't just the numbers, it was the level of engagement from the people there. They were patient with us. They listened to our presentation.

They asked thoughtful questions and the questions were constructive. They just wanted information. I didn't detect any questions that came from a place of skepticism or cynicism and they stayed for about 2 ½ hours and then there were lots of small discussions afterwards. It was a really tremendous experience. I've been in Cleveland Heights for 14 years. I'm not a native; and one of the things I've come to love about Cleveland Heights is that it has high ideals. It has a high sense of itself and I like that and obviously, we're all humans and we don't always live up to it, but I like that ideal exists; and I just want to say that this is an opportunity to live up to those ideals. It's not enough to say we're a walkable community. We have to give people things worth walking to. It's not enough to put on our website that we're the Home of the Arts. We have to embrace the arts every opportunity we get and it's not enough to call ourselves Cleveland Heights if we don't reach higher than anyone else. That's all. And I hope you'll, again, continue to seriously consider this proposition. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Okay, who's next? Moving to the front row – is there anyone who'd like to share anything with us this evening?"

Cecelia Wesley stated, "Hello. My name is Cecelia Wesley. I live at 928 Vineshire Road. This is my first Council meeting. My issue is about the concern on the safety on my street. I have such a small street and one of my biggest issues on..."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Could you speak up? I can't hear you."

Cecelia Wesley stated, "Sorry, you want me to repeat everything?"

Councilwoman Yasinow stated, "Just speak more into the microphone. It makes it better."

Cecelia Wesley stated, "Okay, so one of my biggest... most of my neighbors are these kids that are coming into our neighborhoods, starting fights, and I don't feel like... or destroying property and, you know, when people are called or Police are called, I don't feel like there's nothing being done, like they don't care."

Mayor Stephens stated, "So you don't get Police response?"

Cecelia Wesley state, "No, okay, so my... so what happened was that the Police responded after I called about a fight. My next door neighbor, some other kids and they end up they started fighting and in the street and they ended up in my yard fighting. The Police came. He went to the next door neighbor. The kids ran and I can hear the Police Officer ask the lady, 'Well, what do you want me to do?' And the lady is telling him basically this person goes to this school, this person's name is this and he's basically asking, 'What do you want me to do?' So, they didn't really do anything, and then, after a while, I'm talking to my neighbors across the street. One of the things she's doing – she's cleaning up her flower pots because these kids had destroyed the flower pots. The kids start coming back and I have a video of that on my phone, cussing and calling the next door neighbor's mom inappropriate names and I call the Police back and the gentleman basically - and I told him the people are coming back – the ones I called on you the first time and he says, 'Well, are they committing a crime?' And I said, 'They're coming

back,' and he said, 'Well, are they committing a crime?' And I said, 'You know what, never mind,' and I just hung up. I just don't feel like, you know, they care. That's it."

Mayor Stephens stated, "It's Mrs. Wesley?"

Cecelia Wesley stated, "Yes, ma'am."

Mayor Stephens stated, "We'll follow up on that. Thank you for coming in this evening. We're going to ask the Chief of Police, if you're ready to leave, because sometimes people leave after they make their statement. She'll follow you out whenever you leave. Okay? Go back to the microphone."

Cecelia Wesley stated, "Okay, and I wanted to thank Ms. Melissa right there because I was at Zagara's and she introduced herself to me as my Councilwoman. I said, 'My Councilwoman, really? And I said, well let me tell you this story and so, she emailed the Chief of Police who I just happened to meet out there. So, thank you to get me started with this. So, she listened to me and I was just like thank you."

Councilwoman Yasinow stated, "You're welcome."

Vice Mayor Stein stated, "Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you for coming. Okay, is there anyone else who has something they want to share with us this evening? Hello? We haven't seen you in a while."

Dee Spence stated, "Yeah, it has been a while. I've been doing other things, but ..."

Mayor Stephens stated, "For the record."

Dee Spence stated, "Madam Mayor, Councilmembers, residents of Cleveland Heights, I'm a big mouth, okay?"

Mayor Stephens stated, "And for the record, you've got to tell us your name and address."

Dee Spence stated, "Oh, I'm terribly sorry. My name is Dee Spence. My address is 951 Vineshire. It's right on the corner of Vineshire and Noble and that leads me into one of the reasons I'm standing here. The motorcycle issues that I addressed last year near the fall has abated. The noise has abated or had abated since they were resurfacing the street and now that the street is done..."

Mayor Stephens stated, "It's fabulous, isn't it?"

Dee Spence stated, "Oh, you took the words right out of my mouth, I mean, in more ways than one, but the motorcyclists now not only make a lot of noise with their bikes but they have the audacity to have these radios and they're going up and down the street. 3:30 was the last time - 3:30 a.m. that is - is the last time that I saw two of them. Now, I know we have a noise ordinance and I can't say enough great things about our Police Department. I really can't. They respond with alacrity. I mean, I love them, and I just want to know - is there some kind of curfew for these motorcyclists?"

Mayor Stephens stated, "No, there isn't a curfew for the motorcycles, but there is the... the sound ordinance applies."

Dee Spence stated, "That's what I'm talking about."

Mayor Stephens stated, "We'll have to talk with Chief again about making sure that somebody's sitting waiting for them around 2:00/3:00 in the morning."

Dee Spence stated, "That's all I'm asking. I mean, they have a great presence on our street. I mean they're up and down often. I see them all times of the morning and late at night, but they're just ridiculous. Secondly, and forgive me for not introducing myself. I'm just so anxious to get here and address that issue, but it's the terrible neighbors next door. I've talked with Allan Butler. I've called the Police a couple times. Every time the trash is picked up, which is on Friday, these people find a way to put trash on their tree lawn after the pickup and then the critters come along and then they stroll. The whole side of my apartment building on Noble is strewn with garbage."

Mayor Stephens stated, "So, after the meeting today, you need to leave us the address of that property."

Dee Spence stated, "I have it. And I've called the Police on them a couple of times too and they responded. Okay, that's it. Thank you very much."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thanks, Ms. Spence. Is there anyone else who'd like to share something? Yes, sir."

Michael Lehto stated, "Hello. Thank you for having me and all of us. My name is Michael Lehto. I live on 2222 Stillman Road. I do have something I wrote up here that I've sent out to some other folks and have been trying to generate some interest around. So, walking to school the other morning – this is about two weeks ago – my son and I were almost struck by a car while in a marked crosswalk at Fairmount and St. James Parkway. This is not the first close call we've had and not the only crossing where this happened. It terrifies me to think of what might happen to kids that are walking or biking alone and not aware of the unpredictable things that our motorists do that are flying through these streets. Our crosswalks seem to be a serious or deadly accident waiting to happen. The district and our schools have taken some measure to address this issue such as the new crossing guard that is stationed at Lee Road for Boulevard Elementary which is terrific. I believe, however, that we must undertake a more comprehensive look at how our kids get to school safely – one that involves parents, the schools, the community and the City government. So, why am I here? I'm not asking the City to solve our problems. I think that's a problem that we all need to solve together and I did actually send this out to our PTA members, PTA council, a bunch of other people. We talked with Mary Dunbar's committee last week, the Transportation Advisory Council, with the goal there to set up sort of a collaborative relationship and using their expertise in how we find best practices on how to solve these sorts of problems. So, I think what I'm looking for is your support in helping us in some of the initiatives that might come through. That might involve some more crossing guards at some tactical points throughout the city, signage, Police support. I know all those things are available and possible. There might be some

other bigger things. I know that the Transportation Committee is looking at some planning and the way the streetscapes work and things like that; so your support on that. And most of all, I want to have our kids have a safe route to school whether they're walking, they're biking, they're bussing. We're a pass-through community in many ways for motorists coming from other places and don't necessarily think about our community the way that we do. So, thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Mary, this has been referred to your committee already."

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Transportation Advisory, yeah, but thank you again. Yeah, the Bicycle Coalition is meeting again tomorrow night, so we'll talk about it there as well. It'll be at Mac's Backs in the basement at 7:00. So, yeah, no, we need a concerted effort on this. You know, there's so many distractions, it's hard to really focus, but this is something I try to, in general, make a priority and continue in that. So, thank you."

Michael Lehto stated, "I appreciate that. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Is there... yes, ma'am."

Loretta Feller stated, "Yes, good evening and thank you for the opportunity to speak. I'm Loretta Feller and I live at 2240 Grandview Avenue and I'm seconding Michael's presentation tonight. I ended up at the Transportation Advisory Committee with him and about four other people. A rather spontaneous group of people showed up there and I had not met any of them before and we all have the same concern and that was the safety of the kids coming home from school and I was certainly on fire about the issue because I just come home as school let out at Roxboro Elementary and I was coming down the street and I saw, I'd say, two first grade boys that caused me a lot of concern. One was a little boy just flapping his arms coming down West St. James and I thought, 'Oh, is he going to stop?' He was approaching Grandview and I stopped and watched and he did. I mean, surprising to me given his demeanor, he did stop and look before he crossed the street. And then as I continued down the street, there was a group of five children; two of which live at a house on the other side of the street. A little boy that lived across the street was kneeling in front of the driveway in front of his house in the street and then I kind of stopped the car and he crossed back over and ran between the cars to get back with his sister and the other three children and I was waiting there and then he crossed back again in front of me and then a minute later, his older sister came out with her back towards me, but she did stop and turn around and saw me and waited. So, these kinds of interactions, a small sampling on one day, but they frighten the heck out of me and, you know, the cars park very heavily on Grandview now that we have Barrio there and they come very fast down the street and for me, I was coming, driving down the same street. It's completely parked up and I didn't think I could drive 2 or 3 miles per hour going down that street, that narrow, narrow street; seemed to me too fast when kids were coming out of school. So, it seems like a very dangerous time in the morning and the evening when these children I see are unaccompanied. So, I appreciate Michael's collaborative approach on this issue. I think probably it's overused, but shall we say – a City of Cleveland Heights and all of us to try to get together and try to do something and I was so appreciative of the response of the Transportation Advisory Committee. They were very interested and helpful and again, as Michael said, we just want to present this idea so City

Council is aware of it and any support you can give to efforts that we continue to make, we'd appreciate it."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Is there anyone else who'd like to speak to Council this evening? Yes, ma'am."

"Good evening. My name is Veronica Chapman. I live at 3130 Monticello Boulevard and I have a problem with the trees on my tree lawn that are sending up roots in my lawn. I've had one case where the tree has affected my plumbing in the bathroom. Now they are not only coming up on the lawn; they are causing the concrete slabs on the sidewalk to rise up. I have repaired it once and now it's also rising up my driveway. I am a widow, retired and I need help. I called the city a few times and they said, 'Oh, we will get back with you,' and nobody has come, but I am here because I need help. I cannot afford to fix the driveway and the sidewalk and, if I understand correctly, the city will ask me to pay for it. So, I'm asking for your help. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "I don't see Susanna who is usually..."

Tanisha Briley stated, "Susanna or Allan. Are they in the back, Mary, please? Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Ma'am, we're going to have someone follow up. Ms. Chapman, we're going to have someone follow up with you. Okay? Is there anyone else who'd like to speak with us this evening? If not, I'm going to close the public comment section of our meeting. That completes personal communication to Council this evening. Several of you gave us homework. We understand that some of it is very important for us to follow up on. Next we move to the report of the City Manager. Am I missing something?"

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

Tanisha Briley stated, "I'm sorry. I have nothing to report this evening, Your Honor."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Next we move to the report of the Director of Finance/Clerk of Council."

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

Laurie Sabin stated, "I need to notify Council that a notice has been received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control advising that application has been made by the following: Heights Arts Collaborative, Inc., dba Heights Arts, 2175 Lee Rd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 for a D5H permit; and for this to be a Matter of Record."

#### **Matter of Record**

Mayor Stephens stated, "Okay, I will refer that to the Public Safety and Health Committee of Council. That's an unusual request. Anything else?"

Laurie Sabin stated, "I have nothing further. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Next we will move to the committee reports. First is Finance Committee. Councilman Ungar."

### **Report of the Finance Committee**

Councilman Ungar stated, "Thank you. I have nothing to report this evening. I have two matters I'd like to note. First, on a really pleasant note, I want to thank our Police Chief in absentia since she is not here and our City Manager Tanisha Briley and I suspect our Director of Communications Mary Trupo had something to do with this. The NextDoor neighbor website lit up -for those that follow it, you know what I'm talking about – this past week with this new partnership that we have with Offer Up where the city now is providing a Safe Place for you to complete online transactions. For those who don't know about this, it's just fantastic. It's right here at City Hall. There's a sign on display designating the meet-up spot and for added safety, there's 24-hour surveillance camera there. Folks, I've never seen so many positive comments about our city which is why I chose to mention it this evening; and I've got a few that I just want to note that these are all coming from residents. This is, "Great, thank you." "What a wonderful idea. Thank you very much." "I'll add my thanks to such a smart and useful place. Thanks for being there for us." "Brilliant." "Great idea, love it." "Thank you Cleveland Heights Police Department. This is so awesome. Thank you." And the list goes on and on and I could have brought a number of other pages and I just, I don't know who gets the credit for thinking about this. I don't know who gets the credit specifically for putting it out there the way you did, but I think it's fantastic and I just love it when I see people reacting so favorably to something like that. So, kudos to you and your staff for doing that. And then, speaking of awesome, I just want to piggyback on a few of the comments that we heard this evening and I'm going to urge my colleagues to jump onboard. I strongly agree with the sentiments that we heard from some of the leaders of the Coventry PEACE Campus initiative. I was there and I know other Councilmembers were there last week for that community meeting which you couldn't be at without getting fired up about it. It's obvious that an inordinate amount of work and thought has gone into this by a whole bunch of folks who are wicked talented and far more talented than I am and it's just fantastic and again, I would urge my colleagues to join me in urging our city to respond. I agree with – I don't remember if it was Mr. Volpe or who said it, perhaps the other gentleman said – there needs to be not just a meeting, but there needs to be a real conversation between the leaders of the Coventry PEACE initiative and our city professional staff; not with me certainly, but with the professional advisors to whom we look as Council people for guidance. I will leave it to the City Manager and her excellent judgment and discretion as to whom should be on our team. I suggest it should probably be folks from our terrific Planning Department, our Economic Development Department, whomever else Tanisha and her staff determine to be appropriate, but I really urge that we do so and do so with dispatch. We heard from our friends at the School District last week that there is some urgency with respect to this and we've certainly heard the same message from the Coventry PEACE folks, so I appreciate the fact that you collectively are here this evening. I appreciate hearing what we heard and I agree with all the comments about what happened this week and what will hopefully continue to happen as we have dialogue between us, so thank you very much."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Next we move to Municipal Services. Councilwoman Yasinow."

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

Councilwoman Yasinow stated, "Thank you very much. I have no legislation this evening, but there are a few things I would like to bring up. First, without belaboring the point, I second Councilman Ungar's concerns and sentiments with regard to the Coventry PEACE Campus and I look forward to hearing from our staff after said meeting; number one. Number two, I want to talk a little bit about the wonderful job that our city staff working with the County on the repaving of Noble Road. Before we empowered our City Manager and our Public Works Director to go and get Noble Road repaved, it wasn't even scheduled to be done until 2021, so the fact that we are celebrating its completion this past week is really a milestone and I'm very pleased to report that. I want to give a bit of background on the repaving of Noble Road and what outside funding that we had, so it wasn't, it was a County road, but what we were able to receive in tax dollars from the County and outside sources. Cuyahoga County paid to engineer and to design the work on Noble Road originally at the cost of \$260,000 of County money. The project was then bid out and awarded to C A Agresta Construction of South Euclid for \$2,950,000. The County inspected and administered the project which normally cost 10% of the bid construction price or \$295,000. I'm pleased to report that the County replaced all of the curb on Noble Road and repaired the sidewalks where possible. This resulted in the County providing another \$212,000 worth of additional work into Noble Road for our community and the total project value to date for the Noble Road reconstruction repavement is \$3,500,000 of work, of infrastructure improvements and maintenance going into our city. I am incredibly proud of the work that has been done. The work that was happening with Noble Road is still going to continue. I personally am really eager to see what we can do with bringing in more friendly modes of transportation for pedestrians and bicycles, so we'll see what's happening, but I'm very pleased and proud to announce everything that has happened to date. So, that's the first and foremost. Secondly, I want to remind folks that next week (next Sunday) is the Happy 5K, 10K or One Mile Walk. Also, this is a Fun Run or even funner walk, in my opinion, just because running. Yes, hope to see you there. All of the funds are going to go [to assist those in need]. We have so many merchant teams. We have city teams. I'm on a team. I hope to see you there. It will be a really fun times. The proceeds are going to go to help our Youth Scholarship Fund. I believe last year we raised about \$15,000 for it. I look forward to seeing what happens next time. So, please come. Please support our community. Walk with me there. So, that's the Happy news. I do want to take a moment and acknowledge some of the other events that have happened regionally and nationally. I thought I would only be commenting on one shooting today – what had happened over the weekend on Friday is first and foremost. There was a shooting of two police officers in the City of Willoughby Hills. I'm really happy and proud to report that they are in stable condition, but I do think it is something to remember – that our police officers put their lives on the line for us every single day. This is... most of us don't have jobs where not coming home to your loved ones is a real possibility and it happened to a community that is not far from us. So, as cliché and as trite as it is and can be, my thoughts and prayers go to those officers, go to the City of Willoughby Hills, to its Council, to its residents in coming together at this time and I wish I was not doing this, but we have had now the largest mass shooting in the United States with

at least 59 confirmed dead in Las Vegas all done by one single individual and, I mean, I don't know what to say. I'm tired of saying thoughts and prayers personally on that regard. We thought the Pulse Massacre was the latest, most horrible thing and before that, that Sandy Hook was the latest and most horrible thing and now this is the latest, most horrible thing and I know many members of the community here are very involved when it comes to tackling gun violence. I know we had Moms Demand Action, Every Town for Gun Safety at our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Safety Forces Night to focus on addressing accidental shootings in our community and just to come think of it, a 4-year-old boy in Parma accidentally shot himself and died not even but two weeks ago. So, I'm not certain what to say. I'm not certain I have any answers. I just want to say that this is a problem that has affected our entire region and at least myself, I don't know if I can speak on all of Council's behalf, but it's a problem and it's real and if here in City Council we could wave a magic wand and have this travesty – this completely unnecessary loss of life – come to an end, we would. I know we urge our elected representatives at the state and local level to pass some meaningful legislation to bring this to an end. So, to those watching, please contact your state and your federal legislatures to get something done. We're here. We're waiting as well and on a truly mundane aspect, please do lock your cars and keep your valuables hidden. That's just how I always end my spiels. Thank you."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Councilwoman Yasinow. Planning and Development Committee. Councilwoman Dunbar."

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

Councilwoman Dunbar stated, "Yes. Tonight on first reading, I'm introducing Ordinance Number 105-2017. It's an ordinance amending the various sections of Part Eleven, Zoning Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights. It seems like tonight we're giving out a lot of kudos, so I would like to add some kudos as well. I'd like to thank and congratulate our Planning Department on their revisions of these Zoning Codes to reflect current conditions. It is a big project. So, just so you know, this is what our book of Codified Ordinances looks like and everybody on City Council gets a copy of that for our reading pleasure and reference. It's good at putting you to sleep at night I guess. Anyway, one of the items in the Master Plan we just completed is to go through and update this and so the revisions we've been given are not for the entire Planning or Zoning Code, but it's a start or it's a piece of it and it will be ongoing. So, I would like to thank the people in the Planning and Development Department for doing this. You know, it's kind of scary to think that all 59 communities in Cuyahoga County perhaps have similar compilations to this, but anyway, it can get out of date, so they're updating it. There's a couple of other things that I would like to say. This Sunday's Plain Dealer had several articles about police becoming the people charged with dealing with our mentally ill people as well as those with drug and alcohol addictions. Today I had the opportunity to see the Cleveland Heights Police dealing with one of these. I was sitting by the front window of Phoenix Coffee Shop on Lee Road reading my Council briefing materials. A young man, maybe in his late 20s or 30s, was inserting himself into a group seated at a table in front of the coffee shop and was talking to them non-stop. He was obviously unbalanced and assertive, so the police were called. Pretty soon there were a half dozen police listening to the guy and dealing with him patiently. I think it took about an hour, but they eventually took him off

and they got him into a University Heights Medical van and set off with two police cars for escorts, lights flashing and so on. I spoke to one of the police involved who said the guy did not belong in jail, so I think they took him to a hospital for evaluation. The officer I spoke to said they just had to take time to manage these situations. I was impressed; nothing physical, but the police were ready and there if needed and they took their time about it and it worked out. So, I think we should be proud of how our police handled this situation. In reading my briefing materials, I noticed that our Public Works Department is painting fire hydrants in various parts around town and I'd like to praise them for doing that too. It bothers me to see rusty fire hydrants. I'd also like to congratulate the Canterbury PTA and School and Heights Bicycle Coalition for their weekend event this Sunday afternoon called All Geared Up. It was a family bicycling event that involved a four-mile bike ride for families, a bike rodeo, teaching bike safety, giving out bike helmets and selling pre-owned bicycles and so on and they also introduced a new logo this year which they gave me a copy of. We usually come all professional these things, but I just wanted to show you. It's a slightly understated tee shirt. So, anyway, it was a wonderful event. They all had a good time and they also used our new bike fleet that the City of Cleveland Heights has provided to our public schools to use in teaching bike safety and conducting bike rides. It's being used in P.E. classes now and I had a comment from the P.E. teacher at Coventry. One of the third graders told her, 'This is the best thing I've ever done in school;' was having classes on how to ride a bike and so on. So, we're making progress in that regard. October 4 this Wednesday is Walk or Bike to School Day. Our City is providing fliers to all the elementary or middle schools for that event which encourages healthy activity of walking and biking to school and also reduced congestion and pollution around our schools. There are a couple of bike events that I have to mention of course that are coming up. After the 5K, if you still have any energy after Happy 5K on Sunday, there's going to be a Ghost Stream Ride which will trace Dugway Brook which is mostly buried in the Heights. It's completely buried in Cleveland, but there are traces of it that can be seen in the Heights. So, the ride will follow those traces and there will also be discussion of EPA requirements for our watersheds. So, this is being co-sponsored by a number of groups including the Historical Society, Heights Bicycle Coalition, Doan Brook Watershed and more. There's reservations required. It's led by a guy who's really an expert and people just love learning from him. He has a PhD in archaeology and he's an environmental consultant, so I encourage people to go on the Ghost Stream Ride if they would like to. It will meet at the Coventry Library and then the second one is on October 15, there's going to be a ride into downtown Cleveland stopping at several coffee shops along the way. The ride is called Biking Has Its Perks, so after you ride down and stop at coffee shops along the way beginning at 9:00 a.m. from the corner of Coventry Road and North Park Boulevard, you can either ride your bike back up into the Heights or you can put your bike on an RTA bus because they all have slots for three bikes on them and that will carry you uphill to the Heights. Of course, you have to pay RTA for using their bus. There's information about these on the Heights Bicycle Coalition Facebook page or website. I've said more than enough, so I guess I better stop."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Councilwoman Dunbar. Next we have the Public Safety and Health Committee. Councilman Seren."

Report of the Public Safety and Health Committee

Councilman Seren stated, "Thank you, Madam President. I have one piece of legislation this evening that I'm introducing for first reading only and that is Ordinance Number 106-2017; and ordinance amending Chapter 525, 'Law Enforcement and Public Office,' of the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland Heights by enacting a new Section 525.18, 'Civil Immigration Enforcement.' Just a bit about this piece of legislation – it provides some guidelines within which our public servants, both law enforcement and other city employees and public officials like us, how we interact with and coordinate with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Border Protection providing certain requirements for detaining or transporting or prolonging the detention of individuals. Also, creating some guidelines around how we interrogate, who we interrogate and why, who we surveil and why, and certain other ways that we transmit personally identifiable information unrelated to immigration status. So, this piece of legislation will have its first reading this evening. I'm doing that now, and then in the very near future, probably within the next couple weeks, the Public Safety and Health Committee will hold a hearing. I invite you all to come. I invite all of my colleagues to attend as well and make your voice heard about the legislation. I'm hoping for some substantive input from the community related to any of the subsections that are listed here. I'm open to reasonable amendment. I have a particular aim that I'm hoping for with this legislation and that is to ensure that our public officials, our public servants here on the local level are not conscripted into an agenda that is not our own and also is not our responsibility under federalism, and so, in the interest of that, in the interest of focusing our attention on the crimes that really matter like the motorcycles or the kids who are destroying property in a woman's yard or fighting on someone's lawn and some other pretty bad things that can happen in a community, you know, focusing our attention on those instances instead of being pulled into some national debate. I think this provides a bit of a guideline for our public officials and public employees throughout city government and so I welcome everybody's input. You can find this – the full text of the legislation – on the city's website and I invite you to take a read. So, that's first reading for Ordinance Number 106-[2017]."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Is there anything else you'd like to share with us this evening?"

Councilman Seren stated, "You know, there are a couple things and at the risk of echoing my colleagues, for one I'd like to express my sorrow not only at the tragedy that has occurred in the latest tragedy that has occurred in Las Vegas, but also at our obvious unwillingness as a nation to address the issues as we see them happening over and over again and, in fact, the apparent eagerness and dedication to pursuing policy goals that would, in fact, increase the damage that events like this could inflict on our society. For instance, you know, making silencers or suppressors more readily available. There are people who are actively working to make it easier for the man in Las Vegas to do what he did even to the point where there's a coordinated (a continued coordinated) offense against the automatic weapons ban. So, I just want to express my sorrow to all of the victims that we have not seen clear to prevent recurrence of these sorts of things or at least minimize these recurrence of these sorts of things. This doesn't happen elsewhere. So, there's a reason why it happens here. So, that's the first thing I'd like to echo my colleague's thoughts on that; and also express my whole-hearted agreement with Councilman Ungar on our need, our urgent need I think, to really reach some sort of more well thought

out agreement with the current denizens of the Coventry PEACE Campus. I think we need to not only have a meeting, because you can have meetings all day and you can have continued meetings and decide nothing, you can have meetings to discuss possibilities and come down on no side and I think that we need to have a meeting that creates an agreement, the framework for an agreement that we can then take a look at here on Council and determine whether or not the agreement is something that we can get behind, whether or not there need to be some amendments to it. I think we need to sit down and have a really substantive sort of workshop instead of just a meeting. Let's have a workshop where we get some specifics onto a piece of paper that Council can take a look at and say okay, this is how we would transfer it, this is who we would transfer it to, this is what it would be used for, these are some assurances that the city can have; and if this doesn't work, then we can take another bite at this apple and figure out what the highest best use of this property is. You know, some more real substantial decision points that we need to make. I think that's the meeting that we need to have and so I really encourage our staff to take a look at that and have that meeting, have that conversation, come out with some action steps, come out of it with a draft agreement, even just the framework for an agreement, even just the framework for a Memorandum of Understanding between the parties would make my day. So, that's my encouragement and that's my last piece that I'd like to share with the community."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Councilman Seren. Next we move to Administrative Services Committee. Councilwoman Roe."

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

Councilwoman Roe stated, "I don't have any legislation. I just wanted to follow up on a couple of items from Councilwoman Yasinow. I had the opportunity to celebrate the opening of Noble Road with the other Noble neighbors and truly, it really is a very big encouragement for the people who live in that neighborhood and so, in answer to one of the questions that I received there, there is still a small section of Warrensville Center Road, the section between Noble and Mayfield, which needs to be paved and that will be happening very soon. Secondly, I wanted to follow up on both Melissa and Kahlil's comments about the violence with guns and yesterday I had the opportunity to participate in a symposium on gun violence and, if anyone is interested in pursuing some of the resources - in terms of the resources, in terms of the groups that are available, some of them local, that are very committed to working on this issue at the grassroots kind of level to influence our policy makers. So, please talk to me if you have such an interest."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Councilwoman Roe. Next we move to the Community Relations and Recreation Committee. Vice Mayor Stein."

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

Vice Mayor Stein stated, "Thank you, Your Honor. I have Resolution Number 107-2017; a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant agreement with Cuyahoga County to establish and fund the Cleveland Heights Small Business Performance Grant Program establishing the guidelines for said program. The City seeks to establish the Cleveland Heights-SBA Small Business

Performance Grant Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program"), whereby the City shall provide performance grants in the form of forgivable loans to qualifying small businesses that are seeking SBA-guaranteed bank loans that meet certain guidelines. the City seeks to establish a Cleveland Heights-Cuyahoga County Credit Enhancement Fund (hereinafter referred to as the "Fund") pool to provide the capital necessary to make the Performance Grants to qualifying small businesses through the Program; and the City has committed funding resources totaling \$50,000 which are dedicated exclusively to capitalizing the Fund pool; and the City has requested from the County a grant of \$150,000 to further capitalize the Fund; and the City Manager shall be and is hereby authorized to enter into a Grant Agreement between Cuyahoga County and the City to fund the Cleveland Heights-SBA Small Business Performance Grant Program. And if you're interested in learning more about this Small Business Loan Program, there is Exhibit A. It's three pages, I believe, about three pages long, available on our website and it has the guidelines for qualifying for one of the Small Business Loans. This loan is another tool in the box to support businesses in Cleveland Heights and it's another example of how Cleveland Heights is business friendly. I offer Resolution Number 107-2017 for passage."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Is there a second?"

Councilwoman Yasinow stated, "Second."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Seren stated, "Council President?"

Mayor Stephens stated, "Is there a comment?"

Councilman Seren stated, "Yes, I'd just like to make a very brief comment about this program. I had the privilege of being on the early conversations related to the creation of this program at the County and I was disappointed at the time that Cleveland Heights was not one of the cities that was chosen to participate at the outset, instead that honor went to our neighbors, Shaker Heights and Cleveland, and so I just want to express my delight that we were one of the cities chosen by the county to participate in what I think is a really great program. That's all."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Any other comments? If not, if you would call the roll please."

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

Nays: None

Laurie Sabin stated, "You have seven ayes, Your Honor."

**Resolution Passed**

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you. Resolution Number 107-2017 passes. Is there any other..."

Vice Mayor Stein stated, "A comment please. I just also wanted to voice my support of my colleagues request to have the city meet with the Coventry PEACE folk. I had on my Facebook page, a question over the last few days as to – what would the residents of Cleveland Heights like to see at Coventry? And I gave a few examples. One was the Coventry PEACE vision and then a redevelopment and then a mixed use redevelopment and clearly, the overwhelming response which I actually got quite a lot of responses was they're very interested in the PEACE vision. So, this is something that I think we need to further explore, so I'm lending my support to that and I hope you meet with them soon."

Mayor Stephens stated, "Okay, is there anything else?"

Vice Mayor Stein stated, "That is all I have."

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Stephens stated, "Thank you, Councilman Stein. Next we move to the Mayor's report. At this time, I would like to share our agenda, remind some folks about our agenda. We have a second executive session, but before we go into the executive session, I will ask my colleagues and the City Manager to work on a specific couple of dates to meet with Coventry PEACE folks so that you can have a response for a meeting within 24 hours. We won't have a meeting tomorrow, but we will give you a specific date. Next, I'd like to remind folks that this is a community that tries to work together and one of the things that we work together on is that election time is coming up. We're one of the communities that votes most significantly. Two years ago, when we did our income tax levy, we had some of the highest turnout in the community for that type of activity in an off election year and in presidential election year, our votes are pretty significant and that reminds me to tell you that October 11 begins the voting absentee and on November 7, you can vote in person which some of us are committed to doing – going to the poll and putting our ballot in individually. Please don't forget those things because it is important as your American right to vote if you're a citizen. And last but not least, I'd like in recognition of what all of my colleagues have thought about or mentioned earlier, a moment of silence for the loss of life in Las Vegas today. We hope that there's greater attention paid to controls on guns because even if you do believe that they're in the right to bear arms, there should be controls on those rights to bear arms. So, with that, I'd like to ask for a moment of silence on behalf of Las Vegas."

(A moment of silence was recognized.)

Mayor Stephens stated, "With that, I want to end this Council meeting as I end all Council meetings. God bless America and God bless Cleveland Heights. Thank you for your attendance this evening."

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

City Council for the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, held a Committee Meeting of the Whole on the above date at 9:04 p.m. to discuss the contents of the City Manager's memo.

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

Staff present: Briley, Niermann O'Neil, Rothenberg, Sabin

Councilwoman Dunbar moved to begin Executive Session to consider the terms of a purchase of real property for public purposes. Councilwoman Yasinow seconded. Executive Session began at 9:05 p.m.

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

Councilwoman Yasinow moved to end Executive Session and Councilman Seren seconded.

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

Nays: None

Executive Session ended at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cheryl Stephens, Mayor

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Laurie Sabin, Clerk of Council

/jkw

DRAFT