



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, April 15, 2019 Minutes

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:20 – 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Roe presiding

Roll Call: Present: Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Yasinow
Excused: None

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

Topics discussed: Report of City Council Members, Overview of the Council Nomination Process, Legislation Overview, Report of the City Manager, Discuss Potential Changes to Chapter 725

CITY COUNCIL

7:30 – 8:55 p.m.

Mayor Roe presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Yasinow
Excused: None

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

Council Nomination

Mayor Roe opened the floor for nominations to the vacancy on Council. Council Member Ungar nominated Craig Cobb and moved for approval. Council Member Ungar provided Craig Cobb's background and qualifications including serving on the Planning Commission, Charter Review Commission, Fair Housing Board and Citizens Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stein.

Council Member Dunbar stated she looked forward to working with Craig. Council Member Seren made a statement about his thought process in choosing a candidate. Vice Mayor Yasinow made a statement of support in Craig's nomination.

Council Member Dunbar moved to close the nominations, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Yasinow.

Roll Call to Close Nominations:

Ayes: Roe, Seren, Stein, Ungar, Yasinow, Dunbar
Nays: None

Motion Passed

Roll Call for Approval of Nomination:

Ayes: Seren, Stein, Ungar, Yasinow, Dunbar, Roe
Nays: None

Motion Passed

Justice Mike Donnelly of the Ohio Supreme Court conducted the swearing in of Craig Cobb. “I, Craig Cobb, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States of America; the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio; the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights; and that so long as I continue to hold a position as Council Member, I will honestly, faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of that office to the best of my ability.”

Mayor Roe welcomed former City Council Member Cheryl Stephens. Cheryl Stephens congratulated Council Member Cobb.

Council Member Cobb stated the idea of public service was first impressed upon him as a Boy Scouts. He made a statement about the uniqueness of Cleveland Heights. He thanked Cheryl Stephens for asking him to get involved.

Council Member Cobb outlined the standards he has chosen and expects to be evaluated on:

- To serve on behalf of and protect the interest of every resident without regard to where they live, who they are, who they know, and whether they are rich or poor or in between.
- Continue with my behaviors to work hard, to be engaged, honest and trustworthy, and accessible.
- To be open and transparent and respectful of the democratic process.
- To be courteous and a good listener when our citizens speak and respectful of their right to be critical of me, the City of the job Council is doing.
- To be objective and willing to admit when I’m wrong.
- To be collaborative with my fellow Council members, but independent when necessary, and when I do disagree, do so respectfully recognizing their right to have a different opinion than mine.

- To be a good steward for the City’s history and tradition of civility and progressive thought; and in making decisions, be mindful of how that may impact our commitment to social justice.
- To be optimistic and a dreamer in thought, but realistic in what is reasonably achievable.
- To pay close attention to the City’s finances so we do not spend foolishly or incur financial obligations beyond our ability to pay.
- To always be guided by what is right and in the City’s best interest without regard to the personal consequences the decision may have for me.

Council Member Cobb thanked Justice Donnelly, Council, his friends and neighbors and his wife Ruth.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting held Monday, April 1, 2019 were approved with submitted corrections.

Personal communications from citizens

James Williams made a statement about his former teacher Mrs. Norwood, who passed away. He sang, “Simple Gifts.”

Mayor Roe stated that the Master Plan update will be moved to the next meeting.

Council Priorities Update

Tanisha Briley gave an update to Council priorities. This included work done since the last update in January as a 2018 year-end report. This report may be viewed at clevelandheights.com.

Council Member Ungar asked for a CRA update. Tanisha Briley responded there is one current project with an expected uptick in the spring. There will be a strategic marketing campaign for the program. Council Member Ungar asked if the focus is mainly residential, but inclusive of commercial as well. Tanisha Briley stated the program is comprehensive and includes all property.

Council Member Stein and Tanisha Briley discussed the homes which the City is partnering with community organizations for renovation; this includes FutureHeights on three homes with a fourth on the way and with HRRC on seven homes.

Council Member Dunbar asked about the foreclosure bond issue. Tanisha Briley responded that the bond funds were to be used to correct maintenance issues at the property if the bank isn’t following through with those. We have not needed to invoke the bond for that need, separate from the administrative fee.

Council Member Seren requested from Council Member Dunbar if they could invite FutureHeights and HRRC to a meeting to discuss their programs and processes. Mayor Roe stated that could be scheduled during a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Report of the City Manager

Request permission to issue a RFQ/RFP for the Cedar Lee & Meadowbrook project

Matter of Record

Referred to: Public Safety and Municipal Services Committee of Council

Motion by Council Member Ungar, Seconded by Council Member Dunbar

Roll Call: Ayes: Stein, Ungar, Yasinow, Cobb, Dunbar, Roe, Seren,
 Nays: None

Motion Passed

Report of the Director of Finance/Clerk of Council

No report.

Committee Reports

SAFETY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE NO. 29-2019 (SMS), First Reading. An Ordinance amending Chapter 943, "Use of Public Ways for Small Cell Wireless Facilities and Wireless Support Structures," of Part Nine, *Streets, Utilities and Public Services Code* of the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland Heights

Introduced by Vice Mayor Yasinow

Legislation Introduced

Vice Mayor Yasinow stated that leaf collection will continue until April 26. The map is available at <https://www.clevelandheights.com/249/Leaf-Yard-Debris-Collection>.

There have been 65 requests for new trees. Please call the Forestry Department if you would like to request a tree on the tree lawn.

Due to springtime hydrant flushing, residents may see rust colored water. Signs will be posted in affected areas. If you experience brown water, please run your taps until it runs clear. If it discolors laundry, please call the Fire Department for a special detergent.

The Refuse and Recycling Task Force will have their first meeting at City Hall on Thursday.

The Annual Spelling Bee will take place on May 1.

Vice Mayor Yasinow wished residents a Happy Holy Week, Happy Easter and Passover.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Council Member Dunbar stated there are a number of Capital Projects underway regarding transportation. Work is underway at the Edgehill and Overlook intersection. The Mayfield signalization project is ongoing. At the Community Center, there is the Dugway East Culvert Rehabilitation.

May is Bike Month. The Police are having a bike auction on May 5 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. on the north side of City Hall. The Wine Spot is having an event on April 27. The three Special Improvement Districts requested that the Bike Coalition get involved with a bike weekend they are planning. There will be a bike ride between the SIDs. They will also lead a bike ride around Independent Bookstore Month and featuring a book that is written by a Shaker Heights native. Events are listed at <http://bikesintheheights.org/>.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Council Member Ungar made a statement regarding Top of the Hill, specifically in response to a news article from last week about Citizens for Great Design. He said this project is about inclusiveness, transparency and communication. Completing the project is critical to the City and is a Council priority. Great design is mandatory, not optional. There has been enormous opportunity for community input up to this point and there will continue to be. New drawings will be available in the libraries and on our website by April 29 with an opportunity for comment. Comments may be directed to Richard Wong, Tim Boland or Council. Council Member Ungar complimented the work done by Planning staff, the Architectural Board of Review and Flaherty & Collins.

RECREATION, COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Council Member Seren made a statement regarding the Ohio Senate Bill 23. This is not under City domain; however, he would like to stand up for residents' rights to bodily autonomy. Council Member Seren read the legislation he drafted condemning SB 23.

Mayor Roe stated the topic would be discussed at Committee of the Whole next week.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Roe stated that Council has been reviewing recommendations by the Charter Review Commission. They will discuss the recommendations at the April 29 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mayor Roe gave an update for the transportation budget for the State of Ohio. As part of the first meaningful increase in state funding in many years, Cleveland Heights will be receiving \$719,000 per year as a result of the gas tax. It will go to the Street Maintenance Fund. By law, it can only be used for planning, constructing, improving, maintaining and repairing public streets. It will be used for the Residential Street Program which includes resurfacing and maintenance. The bill also increases the funding to \$70,000,000 for public transit in the state. She thanked State Representative Janine Boyd and State Senator Sandra Williams for their hard work in representing the urban areas in the budget process.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann Roe, Mayor

Susanna Niermann O'Neil, Acting Clerk of Council
/jkc