



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Monday, May 20, 2019 Minutes

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:15 – 7:10 p.m.

Mayor Roe presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein
Excused: Yasinow
Phone: Ungar

Staff present: Boland, Briley, Butler, Clinkscale, Freeman, McRae, Niermann O’Neil, Nouredine, Smith, Trupo

Topics discussed: Report of City Council Members, Legislation Overview, Report of the City Manager

Executive Session

6:45 – 7:10 p.m.

Council Member Dunbar made a motion to begin Executive Session, which was seconded by Council Member Stein to discuss, with an attorney for the public body, claims or disputes involving the public body that, in the judgment of such attorney, appear likely to be the subject of a future claim.

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

Council Member Cobb made a motion to end Executive Session which was seconded by Council Member Dunbar.

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

CITY COUNCIL

7:30 – 8:50 p.m.

Mayor Roe presiding

Roll Call: Present: Cobb, Dunbar, Roe, Seren, Stein
Excused: Ungar, Yasinow

Staff present: Boland, Briley, Butler, Clinkscale, Freeman, McRae, Niermann O'Neil, Nouredine, Smith, Trupo

Minutes of the regular Council meeting held Monday, May 6, 2019, were approved with submitted changes.

Cleveland Heights Municipal Court – 2018 Annual Report Presentation

Judge James Costello gave a presentation regarding the 2018 Annual Report. The report is available at <http://www.clevelandheightscourt.com/annualReports.php>.

Council Member Seren thanked the Judge for the presentation, for making the fines and fees process more transparent, and for modernizing the court with the Skype option for out-of-state defendants. Council Member Seren made a statement about a community control list within Cuyahoga County. Judge Costello made a statement about using best practices and collaboration.

Council Member Dunbar thanked Judge Costello for his work with the Police Chief. She made a statement about housing cases and nuisance abatements. Judge Costello made a statement about continued learning education and best practices.

Mayor Roe asked about continuing education and Judge Costello responded some of these are City government programs.

Personal communications from citizens

A woman who works for an abortion provider made a statement requesting Council prioritize the safety of pro-choice residents and to pass Resolution 30-2019. She made a statement regarding the intimidation she has experienced.

Ann Armen made a statement applauding those who opposed Resolution 30-2019. The Mayor responded Council had taken a position by sending a letter to the Governor; which 5 of 7 Council Members signed.

Rose Kovacivich made a statement of support for the right to bodily autonomy and support for Resolution 30-2019. Mayor Roe stated there were not enough members in attendance tonight to vote for that resolution and there was still some work to be done on an amendment.

Valerie Ross made a statement of support for Resolution 30-2019. She stated that the legislation Ordinance Number 71-1987, Section 505 (although not currently enforced) automatically labels all pit bulls as vicious and stated that science has proven that is not the case. She suggested looking at Lakewood's new law which requires all owners to be more responsible.

Hannah Smith made a statement of support for the anti-abortion bill being passed. She asked that Ordinance Number 71-1987 be corrected and updated.

Akshai Singh made a statement of support for Resolution 30-2019.

Julie Picararro made a statement that the State has already addressed the abortion issue and the intimidation of the pro-choice group.

Jeanette Carr thanked Council and staff for their support of Noble Neighbors. They had a successful We Are Noble event.

Melody Joy Hart, on behalf of GCC Cleveland Heights, invited Council to the Noble Neighborhood walk June 8, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. where they will identify the worst houses and bringing them to the City to handle them.

Report of the City Manager

Tanisha Briley thanked staff members and the Noble Neighbors organization for a successful We Are Noble.

Report of the Clerk of Council

Nothing to report.

RECREATION, COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Council Member Seren stated Council would not be voting on the second reading today. Council Member Seren moved to accept Revision A as the formal piece of legislation before the body.

Motion by Council Member Seren, Seconded by Council Member Stein

Council Member Seren clarified that this will strike section 5 which means it will not be passed as an emergency.

Council Member Dunbar stated she will not vote because she doesn't feel it is appropriate to be taking stands on issues where there isn't unanimity within the community and where we don't have any impact on this issue. She stated she believes the Police do their absolute best to protect everyone in the community and if anyone feels threatened, they should let the Police know about it. She will, however, vote in favor of the amendment.

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

Motion Passed

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 37-2019 (SMS). A Resolution declaring the property at 3804 Kirkwood Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio to be a nuisance; authorizing abatement of the nuisance

Council Member Seren made a statement about the difficulty of the decision to authorize nuisance abatement.

Introduced by Council Member Seren, Seconded by Stein

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

Motion Passed

Council Member Dunbar stated the City is in the middle of transportation repair season and there is a lot going on and to be thankful for. Last year, in conjunction with the Landmark Commission and the Heights Historical Society and the Bike Coalition, she led a ride to look at Cleveland Heights buildings, but they were only able to cover south of Cedar Road. So, June 1 at 10:00 a.m., she will be leading a ride starting from Noble Road Library and going west.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

No report.

RECREATION, COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

SAFETY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Roe stated the next meeting for the Noble Road Corridor, from Euclid Avenue in East Cleveland to Mayfield in Cleveland Heights, is June 20 at the Central Bible Baptist Church. Public input is welcome.

Mayor Roe attended the meeting of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority and they're involved in gathering public input through their website around system redesign and fair equity.

There was a house donated to a veteran by Citizens Bank through the Wounded Warrior Project.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL: MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann Roe, Mayor

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