



CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 5, 2021

Call to Order: Mayor Bradley D. Sellers at 7:00p.m. via Zoom Meetings Application

Attendance: Councilwoman Hagwood, Councilwoman Edwards, Councilwoman White, Councilman Stewart, Councilwoman Mitchell, Councilman Anderson and Council President Howard
Roll Call: 7 Present

Council President Nominations: Councilwoman Mitchell nominated Councilman Matthew Howard, Seconded by Councilman Stewart
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
Matthew Howard is 2021 Council President

Prayer: Councilman Walter Stewart

Minutes: December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting
Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

December 29, 2020 Special Meeting
Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

Departmental Reports: Mayor Sellers stated that Council should have a copy of the Departmental Reports in their possession. He stated that if they have any questions to please reach out to the individual Director. He stated that if they have additional questions, they can contact the Office of the Mayor as well for further discussion.

Live and Emailed Resident Requests and Comments: No live comments. No emailed comments submitted to Clerk of Council.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

Order of the Day**1. Ord. 2021-001**

COUNCILWOMAN ANDREA MITCHELL (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF ALDO DURE OF BE NEXT AWNINGS & GRAPHICS, INC., REPRESENTING SAMIR ABOUNADER, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A WALL SIGN, AWNING AND TEMPORARY SIGN FOR HOOKAH 2 GO LLC LOCATED AT 20019 HARVARD AVENUE, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44122, PPN 761-09-013.

**Motioned by Council President Howard, Passage by Councilwoman White,
Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards**

Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

2. Ord. 2021-002

COUNCILWOMAN ANDREA MITCHELL (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE APPLICATION OF ALDO DURE OF BE NEXT AWNINGS & GRAPHICS, INC., REPRESENTING YOULONDE MANSOUR OF INTERSTATE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A WALL SIGN, FREESTANDING SIGN AND TEMPORARY SIGN FOR K SOCIETY LLC LOCATED AT 21905 EMERY ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44128, PPN 761-21-008.

**Motioned by Council President Howard, Passage by Councilwoman White,
Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell**

Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

3. Ord. 2021-003

COUNCILWOMAN ANDREA MITCHELL (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF CHRIS MULLINS OF ARCO NATIONAL OHIO VALLEY, LLC, REPRESENTING MILES NORTH RANDALL LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WAREHOUSE BUILDING LOCATED AT 21201 MILES ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44128, PPNS 762-24-001 AND 762-25-018.

**Motioned by Council President Howard, Passage by Councilwoman White,
Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards**

Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

4. Ord. 2021-004

COUNCILWOMAN ANDREA MITCHELL (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF KENNETH J. FISHER, ESQ. OF KENNETH J. FISHER CO., L.P.A., REPRESENTING TREBMAL MILES LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW FREEWAY CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN LOCATED AT 24331-24441 MILES ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44128, PPN 763-23-015.

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**Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman Edwards,
Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

- 5. Ord. 2021-005** **COUNCILWOMAN ANDREA MITCHELL (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)**
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF BILL HAMILTON OF NORTHCOAST SIGNWORKS, REPRESENTING WESTON INC. FOR WESTON 26101 MILES ROAD LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A WALL SIGN LOCATED AT 26101 MILES ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44128, PPN 763-41-018.
**Motioned by Council President Howard, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**
- 6. Ord. 2021-006** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPOINT BRIAN BIALEK TO THE POSITION OF FIREFIGHTER IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
**Motioned by Councilman Stewart, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**
- 7. Ord. 2021-007** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
RESCINDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2020-163 (AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE OFFER OF AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WANDA JACKSON FOR THE SALE OF PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 763-08-080 (LOT 71) LOCATED AT 26814 RUE SAINT GABRIEL COURT).
**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**
- 8. Ord. 2021-008** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A RESIDENTIAL PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH CINDY AND RODNEY MITCHELL FOR THE SALE OF PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 763-08-080 (LOT 71) LOCATED AT 26814 RUE SAINT GABRIEL COURT IN THE CHATEAUX OF EMERY WOODS DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$340,000.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

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Announcements from Directors:

Fire Department – Chief Herb Waugh thanked Council and the Mayor for the appointment of a new firefighter. He thanked Civil Service Commission for their hard work. He shared that a young man that grew up on Ingleside Rd., Ramziddin El-Amin recently passed away. Chief Waugh stated that Mr. El-Amin was a fireman living in North Carolina but was a graduate of Warrensville Heights High School. He stated he wanted to recognize him and his family and asked that everyone keep his family in their prayers.

Community Development – Raymon Turner has nothing to report.

Councilwoman Hagwood asked Mr. Turner if resident Fannie Dean called to get on the robocall list for city notifications. He responded that he spoke to her, explained the process and told her she can come to the Municipal Center and he can walk her through signing up if needed.

Finance Department – Director Karen Howse wished everyone a good evening. She reported that it is time for budget hearings and dates have been set starting with the Mayor and will begin January 27th, the 28th and 29th if need be. She stated she will be sending out an email to all Directors shortly in regard to times to prepare budget and when they will have training to enter their budget. Director Howse thanked Council for setting up their time to meet with Department Heads for February 18, 2021. She reported she will be submitting the COVID Relief Fund Report that is due tomorrow.

Building Department – Commissioner Ben Brown had nothing to report.

Police Department – Chief Wesley Haynes had no report.

Chief of Staff – Kelli Wilson had nothing to report.

Fire Department – Captain Ellita Vedder stated she appreciated the kudos from Council as the firemen work really hard.

Announcements from Council:

Councilman Stewart thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He commented that he is really burdened by the state of affairs of this country and the world. He stated he is optimistic but see a lot of challenges so he has been doing a lot of praying.

Councilwoman Hagwood had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Edwards congratulated Council President Howard on his reelection. She also congratulated Fireman Brian Bialek on his appointment welcoming him to the City and stated she looks forward to him providing his expertise to the Department. She asked that everyone exercise caution and stay in prayer if they are a person of faith about the state of the world.

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Councilwoman White congratulated Councilman Howard for being reelected as Council President. She stated she looks forward to meeting the new firefighters and police officers. She shared she was able to meet a new police officer who was patrolling her ward and stopping to speak to people. She recalled his first name being Nick and asked Chief Haynes for his full name.

Police Chief Haynes responded the officer's name is Nick Goldthwait and he was brought on in June 2020.

Councilman Anderson congratulated Council President Howard on his reelection and Fireman Bialek on his appointment. He stated "hats off" to Fire Chief Haugh and his Department for rescuing one of his residents who was trapped in the bathroom for days with her dog. He reported she has been transported to hospice and thanked the firemen for a job well done. Councilman Anderson acknowledged Police Officer Schoger for having the "patience of a saint" and handled the situation really well.

Councilwoman White asked if the dog had to be put to sleep and Councilman Anderson responded that he heard they were trying to save it.

Councilwoman Mitchell stated some of the remnants of 2020 are still creeping into their lives. She shared that despite the strong effort made the Governor signed HB 175 so Ohio is the 36th state to have the Stand Your Ground act. She reported that many of the people that voted on it are focused on the 2nd Amendment and not the density in some areas if someone gets in a kerfuffle with another person, the "shoot first and ask questions later" is devastating. She commented that hearing the comments about the police officers speaking to residents "lifts her heart beyond measure." Councilwoman Mitchell congratulated the new fireman and commented it is a wonderful addition to have someone that has worked in a hospital for a long time. She asked that everyone be careful as a family friend of hers passed away due to complications with COVID on January 2nd having been in the ICU for three weeks. She advised everyone to wear their masks.

Law Department

Director Teresa Metcalf Beasley congratulated Council President Howard on his reelection.

Council President's Comments

Council President Howard wished everyone a happy new year with the hope that brighter things are on the horizon. He gave his condolences to Councilwoman Mitchell on the passing of her family friend. He commented that hopefully they will see fewer losses as time moves forward. He thanked his fellow Council members for their support and stated he is thankful to them. He commented that past Presidents have set the bar high for him and hold him to that same level. He acknowledged former Councilwoman Deborah Hill for all her help and giving him many things to think about. He commented that 2020 was vastly different from the prior years when all the annual City events were held. He stated he hopes that things will get better by the second half of the year and they can get back to a sense of normalcy. He stated he will try his best to make everyone proud and move the Council forward very strong and effective into the new year.

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Mayor's Comments

Mayor Sellers wished everyone a happy new year and congratulated Council President Howard on his reelection. He stated he is looking forward to a good 2021. He reported he spoke to Dr. Margaret McKenzie, President of South Pointe Hospital today about the COVID vaccine as they are trying to think about a rollout program for informational purposes. Mayor Sellers commented that they will see how things pan out under the new Administration and actually get help “on the ground here” to do the things we need to do. He reiterated that they are looking to do some good things in 2021 and is counting on the participation of residents along the way.

Councilman Anderson stated he was thinking about getting the media involved to encourage the community to take the vaccine. He explained that residents can be informed that Council and the Mayor have taken it and asked if anyone would be in agreement with doing that.

Mayor Sellers responded that the Governor will determine who is next in line to receive the vaccine. He shared that he was on the phone with Dr. McKenzie and four other Mayors and they discussed that the hesitancy is “baked in” and folks won’t move until they see everyone else getting it. He stated that it will be April or May when the vaccine becomes available to the “regular folks” and he is hoping to have three or four months of information behind them because it is projected that 200,000 more people will be dead by May 1st. Mayor Sellers stated that a lot of us are going to be counted on for leadership here to provide information.

Councilwoman Edwards asked if there is a way they can start hosting virtual meetings to provide information not only regarding the COVID vaccine but other City-related updates for engagement. She commented there are people that are isolated in their homes and they need to stay connected to the community.

Mayor Sellers replied that they have not gotten that far as to implement something as they’ve been waiting on this situation to end. He reported some ideas have been discussed.

Councilwoman Hagwood reported 11% of votes are in for Georgia and Democratic candidates are in the lead.

Councilwoman Mitchell reported that there are people canvassing the neighborhoods and knocking on doors and she is unaware if they have permission to do that. She shared that a lot of neighbors are concerned about this. She stated residents reported the people canvassing got into a red jeep when they were done and drove away.

Mayor Sellers responded that people should be reminded to call the police when they see it happening so the Department can send an officer over.

Mayor Sellers wished everyone a good evening.

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Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood
Adjournment at 4:45p.m.

01-19-2021
APPROVED


Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

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