



CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS

Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MARCH 2, 2021

- Call to Order:** Mayor Bradley D. Sellers at 7:02p.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
- Prayer:** Councilwoman Dorise Hagwood
- Minutes:** February 16, 2021 Regular Meeting
Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
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: One emailed comment read into the record by Clerk of Council.

Submitted by Property Owner Steven Papell:

Council Members:

Does the City Council or the Mayor have a plan for the 16 Miles Landing units owned by the Landbank? The units sit in our midst, boarded and dilapidated, month after month. Their appearance does not add value to our community; they add fuel to the notion that we are a failing neighborhood. I have written multiple times to the Council and the Mayor asking you to approve the transfer of these units to our HOA. This type of transfer (from Landbank to HOA) is routinely done. I have offered to bring onto our Board any representative of your choosing, so that you can be assured we handle the disposition of these units appropriately. There must be something the Council and the Mayor is not comfortable with, yet no one has told us what it is.

I will end this letter the way it began: does the Council or the Mayor have a plan for the 16 Landbank units? Because we do have a plan. We are ready to meet with you to hear your concerns, whatever they may be.

Sincerely, Steven Papell, Trustee at Miles Landing HOA.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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 Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
 Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

Mayor Sellers thanked Mr. Papell for the question. He responded that he and Mr. Papell have spoken on one occasion and he expressed his concerns about the situation. He reported that the units are not owned by the City of Warrensville Heights, they are owned by the Land Bank. When the units went into foreclosure, Mr. Papell could have gone down to the Land Bank to the foreclosure proceeding and bid on these properties but he did not so they were transferred to the Land Bank. What the Land Bank will not do is advance the lots, they will hold them as long as they need to hold them. If the City sees an opportunity, they will converse with the City but ultimately it is the Land Bank that will decide what to do with those lots. He stated he will interject what his thoughts and feelings are but it will be the Land Bank and its Board that will determine what will happen with the lots. He explained that Mr. Papell and his group are a part of a HOA associated with Miles Landing. He stated some people that live in Miles Landing do not think that is the case. He reported that a gentleman by the name of Mr. Moffey was running a HOA and purchased a number of units and attempted to start another HOA. Mayor Sellers stated that would have taken a meeting with enough people voting to disband one HOA and start another one. He stated he is unclear if that occurred in a legal fashion. He reported that Mr. Papell dropped off paperwork to him regarding the HOA and its creation but it failed to answer the question if it was legally done. He reported that some of the Miles Landing residents have reported that they were unaware of a new HOA. If Mr. Papell does not have a legal HOA, he has no standing in anything. He stated this is the conversation that has slowed down any discussion with the Land Bank because he has made it known what his concerns are. He remarked that Mr. Papell can write ten more emails and will get the same response. He shared that the Land Bank has been involved in discussion with a number of developers. He stated if Mr. Papell has an interest in the units he should have been at the table when they went into foreclosure and it is not the responsibility of the City to facilitate in it happening.

Janice Rox, Resident asked if first responders have been vaccinated with the COVID shots. She stated that she noticed when entering the lobby of the new building there is always a receptionist at the front desk. She stated when entering the Police Department, there is no receptionist when entering the door. Ms. Rox shared she is concerned because if someone comes to the Police Department, they are standing there waiting until a dispatcher is available to assist. She stated that is a problem and there should be a receptionist to greet visitors.

Mayor Sellers responded that at the old facility there was always a person at the window and she would have been in the new building as well but she recently passed away. He stated they are in the process of bringing on someone to take that position. He explained people that enter the Department do not have to wait on a receptionist because there is an intercom buzzer with a sign instructing them to push it. He stated the dispatchers are far beyond the window in a confined space and it is not like it was before. He asked Police Chief Haynes to explain the layout.

Police Chief Haynes explained that there is a video camera over the entire lobby. He reiterated there is a buzzer by the door and it goes straight to the dispatch area when pushed. He stated dispatchers can unlock the door on their screen or underneath the console of dispatch. He reported that during work hours there is usually someone covering the window.

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Mayor Sellers shared that as of today, the Fire Department has the opportunity to go get COVID vaccine shots and all Police will be authorized to do so this Thursday. He asked Fire Chief Waugh how many personnel have actually taken the vaccine. Chief Waugh responded that he does not know the exact number but it is over the 50 percentile. He stated that some of his firefighters have elected not to take it. Police Chief Haynes reported that six police officers have received their vaccinations and they were able to get it because they are employees of South Pointe Hospital. He stated he currently has 15 officers prepared to take the vaccination and four officers that are opting out.

Council President Howard stated that in regard to Steven Papell, he does not think it is the Clerk of Council's responsibility to address any matters from him. He stated that all of Mr. Papell's inquiries have been sent to the Law Department or the Mayor's Office. He stated he spoke to Mr. Papell and there appears to be two HOAs at Miles Landing and he does not know the laws or rules associated with HOAs. He stated if Mr. Papell is listening they are taking the appropriate measures to make sure they are doing their due diligence moving forward. He stated no one wants to see Miles Landing stay stagnant so hopefully there will be an understanding and a mutual arrangement regarding what will happen with those properties.

Order of the Day:

1. Ord. 2021 - 038

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MAINTENANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE K COMPANY, INC. FOR QUARTERLY MAINTENANCE OF THE HEATING, VENTILATING AND AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CENTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

2. Res. 2021 - 014

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR THE 2021 NATUREWORKS GRANT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE OF OHIO.

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

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

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Add on:

3. Res. 2021 - 015 MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS
 AMENDING RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-011 (AUTHORIZING THE
 ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED, THE SAFE ROUTES
 TO SCHOOL GRANT THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION)
 IN ORDER TO CORRECT THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT, AND
 DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
**Motioned by Council President Howard, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
 Seconded by Councilwoman White**
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

**Motion for an Executive Session pursuant to ORC.121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment,
 employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or
 official or an investigation of charges and complaints against a public employee...**

Motioned by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs - Motion Carried

Executive Session to occur after Announcements.

Announcements from Directors:

Finance Department – Director Karen Howse had nothing to report.

Community Development Manager – Raymon Turner had nothing to report.

Building Department – Commissioner Ben Brown had nothing to report.

Chief of Staff – Kelli Wilson had nothing to report.

Police Department – Chief Wes Haynes had nothing to report.

**Fire Department – Chief Herb Waugh thanked everyone for the phone calls during his time of
 depression.**

Announcements from Council:

Councilwoman Hagwood had nothing to report.

Councilman Stewart had nothing to report.

**Councilwoman Edwards wished everyone a good evening. She asked that everyone not become
 complacent and stay safe and focused on staying as healthy as possible.**

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Councilwoman Mitchell thanked the eight guests that joined the meeting that evening. She asked that everyone stay safe and thanked goodness the vaccine is starting to “trickle” into the community. She commented that they still need to maintain safe habits and actions.

Councilman Anderson stated that he will be reaching out to the members of the Safety Committee concerning getting a standing meeting scheduled bimonthly, quarterly or etc.

Councilwoman White gave her condolences to Chief Waugh for the passing of his cousin.

Law Department-Director Teresa Metcalf Beasley had nothing to report.

Council President’s Comments:

Council President Howard wished everyone a good evening and thanked all for attending. He thanked the Council members for attending the Work Session this past Saturday.

Mayor’s Comments:

Mayor Sellers thanked everyone for taking the time to participate in the meeting. He gave his condolences to Chief Waugh for the loss of his cousin.

Council adjourned from Regular Meeting Agenda to Executive Session at 7:37p.m.

**Motion to Adjourn Executive Session and Reconvene to Regular Meeting Agenda
by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 8:04p.m.**

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Councilwoman Mitchell, Seconded by Councilwoman White
Adjournment at 8:05p.m.

03-16-2021

APPROVED


Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

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