



CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS

Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 4, 2022

Call to Order: Mayor Bradley D. Sellers at 7:00p.m.

Attendance: Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood, Councilwoman Elona C. White, Councilman Walter Stewart, Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell, Councilman Matthew Howard and Council President Stanley Anderson
Roll Call: 6 Present

Motion to Excuse Councilman Johnny L. Williams Jr. by Council President Anderson, Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

Prayer: Councilman Walter Stewart

Minutes: September 20, 2022 Regular Meeting
Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Council President Anderson
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

Departmental Reports: Mayor Sellers stated that if Council has 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.

Residents' Requests and Comments:

Senior Club Vice President Deborah A. Hill expressed their deep appreciation of thanks to Mayor Sellers, Council President Anderson, Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood and the rest of City Council for putting the donations for Senior Club on the agenda. She stated they are so grateful and appreciative for what they are doing for the senior citizens in the City of Warrensville Heights. She recalled when Secretary Marcia Fudge was the Mayor, the seniors would be served lunch on Valentine's Day and all of the department heads were present. **Senior Club President Harold Burks** thanked Councilwoman Thomson-Hagwood and the Senior Citizens Committee for taking the time to hold a meeting to discuss the donation and inviting him and Ms. Hill to discuss the needs of the Senior Club. He appreciated that very much.

Councilwoman Thompson –Hagwood stated that they are very welcome from all seven members of Council who have the last word. She stated to Ms. Hill that sandwiches, cupcakes, etc. have been given to seniors since former Mayor Fudge left.

Ms. Hill replied that she remembered and hoped that they keep it up!

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Janice Rox, Ward 2 Resident wished everyone a good evening. She stated she spoke at the last meeting about her neighbor at 4267 Hickory Ln. Ms. Rox resides at 4275 Hickory Ln. She thanked Building Commissioner Brown for addressing the problem with her neighbor's cats. She decided not to share the photographs of her yard with the cat feces. She cannot cut her lawn and sit outside. She reported the flies are horrible and the photographs are disgusting as Building Commissioner Brown can attest to. She reported become ill during the past week and thinks it's from the flies entering her garage and house. She went to the pet store to get a solution to spray the yard to deter the cat but she stated the cat must think it is perfume because she still defecates in her yard. Ms. Rox reported she cannot stand it anymore. She stated that Building Commissioner Brown handed out the ordinance regarding cats but guessed that her neighbor can't read or thinks because she's a renter and can do whatever she wants. Ms. Rox stated she is tired.

Building Commissioner Brown reported that after the last Council meeting, he went to both rental properties that Ms. Rox mentioned at 4263 Hickory Ln. and 4267 Hickory Ln. to make the residents aware of the ordinance. He spoke to the tenant at 4263 Hickory Ln. and gave her the notice. He left a copy of the ordinance at 4267 Hickory Ln. He stated Ms. Rox has shared more pictures since then so he mailed out a violation notice to the tenant, property manager and property owner of both properties. He stated he will go back to the 4267 Hickory Ln. property tomorrow at 8a.m. and hand deliver the violation. It is basically a warning notice of violation and they have three days to be compliant and if not, he'll proceed with fining the properties. He shared that one property owner is out-of-state and the other lives in Richmond Heights. From that point, he can fine the property and issue a court summons which can take five weeks out. He stated he will speak to Police Chief Haynes as well since the Animal Warden is still out on leave.

Mayor Sellers commented that the court summons if there's noncompliance could be issued as early as Friday and the court summons could take until middle of November for a court date which may or may not go. There may be a continuance.

Building Commissioner Brown added that you also need the person's birthdate, social security number and legal service with them signing the green card. He stated the process is warning notice, \$200 fine, \$500 fine, \$750 fine and then court.

Mayor Sellers stated that some people think the court process takes a short time but it can be long time to get to that point. He asked that Building Commissioner Brown keep everyone abreast of what is happening over there.

Councilwoman Mitchell asked if the matter fell under the nuisance ordinance.

Building Commissioner Brown replied that the matter falls under the animal ordinance so he can issue those fines. He stated the nuisance ordinance falls under law enforcement.

Councilwoman Mitchell asked if they can cite for both ordinances.

Police Chief Haynes stated that it's all linked together so they should go by what Building Commissioner Brown is doing. Then they can proceed further.

Mayor Sellers stated he will have Attorney Hughes look into the nuisance side of it.

Barbara Heard, Ward 1 Resident thanked Building Commissioner Brown and the Police Department for addressing her concerns about the vehicle next door that they were able to get out of the driveway. She thanked the Police Department again for addressing several small incidents that occurred on Shakerwood Rd. She stated another concern she has is with the Family Dollar at Harvard Rd. and Warrensville Ctr. Rd. Ms. Heard commented that the property is atrocious with trash all over. She explained that there is trash in front of the

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aisles and it has been liked that for several months. She stated the young employees there are very unprofessional cussing in front of customers and not keeping the place clean.

Mayor Sellers replied that they are aware of the conditions of the Family Dollar and all he can tell her is to not spend her money there. If she keeps patronizing the establishment they figure why not keep the place as is because she's going to keep coming anyway. If she cuts them off, they react because they cannot stay open if no money is going to it.

Building Commissioner Brown stated he has been working with Fire Chief Waugh and they will be doing a site visit. He reported that Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) came out in the last couple weeks and did a walk-through of the Family Dollars and issued notices to clean up. He will do another follow-up visit with Chief Waugh to make sure they stay in compliance as far as aisles and exits being cleared. The exteriors has its own set of separate issues. They have also been communicating with the corporate offices in Virginia and Illinois. They will stay on top of it.

Order of the Day

1. Res. 2022-036

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED, THE 2022 COMMUNITY PLANNING GRANT THROUGH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION FOR FUNDING TO UPDATE THE 2012 MASTER PLAN OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell**

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

2. Res. 2022-037

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

REQUESTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF A 2.9 MILL RENEWAL LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR CURRENT EXPENSES PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.03, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Motioned by Councilman Howard, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood,
Seconded by Councilwoman White**

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

3. Res. 2022-038

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS TO DONATE \$1,000.00 TO THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS SENIOR CLUB TO ASSIST WITH THE SENIOR CLUB'S EXPENSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

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- 4. Res. 2022-039 COUNCILWOMAN DORISE THOMPSON-HAGWOOD (SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE CHAIR)**
 AUTHORIZING THE SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS' CITY COUNCIL TO DONATE \$500.00 TO THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS SENIOR CLUB TO ASSIST WITH THE SENIOR CLUB'S EXPENSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED
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Announcements from Directors:

Communications Department – Director Jeffrey Gates announced that Cleveland Clinic – South Pointe has a food drive on October 21, 2022 from 9:30a.m.-12:30p.m. He shared that the Ohio Department of Health will be providing free COVID vaccines at the event. There are flyers on the lectern. He stated there will be an Open House on October 18, 2022 from 4p.m.-7p.m. with tours of the Municipal Center. There will be refreshments in the lobby. He stated he would appreciate if people RSVP to the event.

Civic & Senior Center – Director Jennifer Lastery wished everyone a good evening. She announced the Senior Club will be hosting a Halloween Party on Friday, October 28, 2022 at 6p.m. and all are welcome to attend for \$20. She shared there will be a live band and dancing. She encouraged all attendees to wear a costume and there will be a contest for best male, best female and best couples costume. There will be delicious food so she looks forward to seeing everyone there.

Announcements from Council:

Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell wished everyone a good evening and thanked them for attending the meeting. She stated it is time to encourage others to vote as it begins in eight days. They can go down and vote at the Board of Elections or have an absentee ballot sent to their home. She commented their rights are being railroaded on a regular bases. So, they have to use their voice and vote. It's up to them to make a difference to those around them.

Councilman Walter Stewart wished everyone a good evening and thanked them for coming out. He asked that everyone be safe.

Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood thanked everyone for coming out. She acknowledged School Board Member Ray Freeman for being appointed as a member of the National Urban School Board Alliance. She stated there must be something in the water in Warrensville Heights because this is where leaders are born.

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Councilwoman Elona C. White thanked everyone for coming out. She told Councilwoman Mitchell she is glad that her mother has made it home from the hospital. She shared her father will be 89 years old tomorrow and still able to live on his own and that's a blessing.

Councilman Matthew Howard thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the speakers for sharing during public comment. He stated he was happy that City Council could help the Senior Club.

Law Department

Assistant Law Director Keisha Hughes had nothing to report.

Council President's Comments

Council President Stanley Anderson stated he was glad to see everyone in attendance. He thanked the Senior Club for the presentation of the cornhole trophy to Ward 6 with the hope that next year it will be his ward again. He recalled that in the 1960s when things weren't going right in his home town of Mississippi, people started travelling 25 miles away to Vicksburg or Jackson which is 60 miles away to do all their shopping. If he didn't have a car and his neighbor did, he would give them the shopping list and money to do the shopping. They shut the town down and then things changed. People understand finance. He stated people may have a lot of things going on but they understand when you hit them in the pockets. He stated that perhaps a little selective shopping will help the situation at the Family Dollar.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Bradley D. Sellers thanked everyone for coming out. He shared that the second Shred Day of the year was held on September 24, 2022 and they had almost 300 cars. He announced that the Trunk or Treat event is October 25, 2022 in the parking lot at Cleveland Clinic - South Pointe/OSU Heritage College. People like the event because it is safe, lit and more controlled. He agreed with Council President Anderson regarding Family Dollar because if there's no business, there's no commerce. He suggested organizing a demonstration at the Family Dollar or any other business that is not acting correctly by bringing attention to it and send a message. This would be in addition to what the city and state are doing to bring awareness to it.

Adjournment

Adjournment at 7:38p.m.

10-18-2022

APPROVED


Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

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