



CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS

Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 17, 2023

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

Attendance: Councilwoman Dorise Hagwood, Councilman Johnny L. Williams Jr., Councilwoman Elona C. White, Councilman Walter Stewart, Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell, Councilman Matthew Howard and Council President Stanley Anderson
Roll Call: 7 Present

Prayer: Councilman Walter Stewart

Minutes: January 3, 2023 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 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:

Francine Wahome, Ward 2 Resident asked how she can purchase the empty lot at 19600 Harvard Ave. She shared when the house there was torn down eight years ago, Warrensville owned it then it went to the City of Cleveland.

Mayor Sellers suggested that she go on to the county website and see who owns the lot of property then she can figure out which direction to go. Then Law Director Beasley looked up the information and determined Warrensville owns the lot. It was foreclosed on by PNC who sold it to the county and the county transferred it to the city. A deed was issued to the city's land bank in February 2022. Mayor Sellers stated the city has the goal to populate the neighborhoods with the vacant lots. The city holds them and sees if they can get people to rebuild on the lots. He stated he does not think the city has disposed of a lot yet to increase the sideyard expansion. The Economic Development Office is the contact but he informed Ms. Wahome they would need to know what she wants to do with the lot.

Janice Rox, Ward 2 Resident asked how everyone was doing and replied she is wonderful too! She thanked Building Commissioner Brown and Police Chief Haynes for cleaning up a house on Warrensville Center Rd. and getting rid of all the cars.

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Robert Tift, Ward 3 Resident wished everyone a Happy New Year! He stated that Marvin Rd. and Sumpter Rd. have been quiet but asked that police patrol a little more. He stated sometimes there will be cars parked on the street and none are ticketed. He thanked everyone for all the work they do.

Order of the Day

1. Ord. 2023-002

COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)

ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF MARK BRANOVIC OF ADVANCED INSTALLATION & SIGN SERVICE, REPRESENTING RICHMOND ROAD PARTNERS, LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN ILLUMINATED WALL SIGN FOR CHOICE CABINET LOCATED AT 4856 RICHMOND ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44128, PPN 763-28-009.

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

Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

2. Ord. 2023-003

COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)

ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF HARSH PATEL OF KHH ONE, LLC, REPRESENTING SHORE REALTY GROUP, LLC, FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF A SIGN FOR FOOD PLUS LOCATED AT 4606 GREEN ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44128, PPN 763-15-068.

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

Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

3. Ord. 2023-004

COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)

ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF RAYMON TURNER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, REPRESENTING THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, FOR A REQUEST TO ADD SECTION 1124.04 NOTICE AND HEARING TO CHAPTER 1124 CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS IN PART ELEVEN PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

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

Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

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- 4. Ord. 2023-005** **COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)**
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF RAYMON TURNER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, REPRESENTING THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, FOR A REQUEST TO ADD SECTION 1163.12 REMOVAL OF SIGNS FOR ABANDONED USES TO CHAPTER 1163 SIGN REGULATIONS IN PART ELEVEN PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Council President Anderson, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED
- 5. Res. 2023-002** **COUNCIL PRESIDENT STANLEY ANDERSON**
CONFIRMING THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL’S PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR AND CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR OF 2023.
Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED
- 6. Ord. 2023-006** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE VACANT LAND BETWEEN THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS LAND REUTILIZATION PROGRAM AND THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT FOR THE SALE OF PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 761-16-086 LOCATED AT 19814 LONGBROOK ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44128, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Council President Anderson
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED
- 7. Ord. 2023-007** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS TO PAY THE INVOICE FROM PRADCO IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,350.00 FOR THE COMPLETION OF BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR CANDIDATES FOR POLICE OFFICER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

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8. Res. 2023-003 **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED,
 THE 2022 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF
 HOMELAND SECURITY FOR RADIO EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF
 THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilman Stewart, Passage by Councilwoman White,
Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

9. Res. 2023-004 **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED,
 THE 2023 FIRE DEPARTMENT INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT GRANT THROUGH THE
 OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE DIVISION OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL FOR 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

Add-Ons:

10. Ord. 2023-008 **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH DNS
 TECHNOLOGIES, INC. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE INFORMATION CONSULTING AND
 MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE NETWORK OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE
 HEIGHTS FOR \$31,160.00 FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 10, 2023 THROUGH
 FEBRUARY 9, 2024 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 OF THE CITY'S
 CHARTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman Hagwood, Passage by Council President Anderson,
Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

11. Ord. 2023-009 **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH DNS
 TECHNOLOGIES, INC. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 SYSTEMS MONITORING FOR THE NETWORK OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE
 HEIGHTS FOR \$5,000.00 FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 10, 2023 THROUGH
 FEBRUARY 9, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman Hagwood, Passage by Councilman Williams,
Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED

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Announcements from Directors:

Communications Department – Director Jeffrey Gates wished everyone a good evening. He announced that there will be free in-person tax preparation at the Civic & Senior Center every Friday beginning February 10, 2023 - April 14, 2023. Appointments are required so call the Civic and Senior Center for information and to schedule a time.

Fire Department – Chief Hebert Waugh thanked Council for the passing of the Fire Department-related legislation. He shared that in November 2022, there was an incident where a Cleveland firefighter was ran over on the freeway. The Cleveland Fire Department reached out to 36 other departments for help covering their station during the memorial service. He reported the City of Warrensville was one of the first cities that reached out to them during their action plan. He received permission from Mayor Sellers to send an engine over to Cleveland. Chief Waugh reported that after the service occurred, Chief Luke of the Cleveland Fire Department went out to every department that covered the Cleveland stations and gave them a plaque with a picture of every city that participated with every Fire Chief's name. Chief Waugh stated it is something he wanted to share.

<Applause>

Announcements from Council:

Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell wished everyone a good evening and thanked them for coming out. She recognized her two residents that spoke during public comment. She shared that the last evaluation of the property that Ms. Wahome spoke of was at \$20k. She stated to Ms. Rox that she is glad the house, that is arguably the oldest in the community, does not look like it has been. She announced that they have lost two longtime residents, Melvin Lester and Frank Means Jr. so keep their family in prayer. She shared 60 years this coming August, will mark the March on Washington which was highlighted by a 17 minute speech called *I Have a Dream*. There is so much more to that speech that people don't know. Yesterday, they honored that individual and it took 35 years to even get a federal holiday despite the fact that there was legislation on the house floor four days after his assassination. She shared that at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Martin Luther King Jr.'s maternal grandfather and his father were pastors there. She shared that initially his name was Michael but he was renamed in 1934 after a pilgrimage his father took and changed both of their names to Martin Luther. He entered Morehouse College when he was 15 years old, graduating in 1948 and earned his doctorate at 26 years old and had four children. This is a man that they can revere and have a holiday name for but they don't think about what else they're lifting up and how little his children had from him. She reported from 1957-1968, he delivered 2500 speeches in 11 years and traveled six million miles and received 17 honorary doctorates. It is movement but it is also about the individual that was so crucial to that. But he didn't do it alone and never said he did. People cannot be passive and not say and not do anything. There is so much that they need to pay attention to. She shared words from his 1963 book *The Strength to Love* and the inscription on his monument is "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of

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challenge and controversy.” That is something that should be in the echo chambers of our hearts and minds. She stated she made some copies of the Legal Aid Society flyer for free advice regarding civil matters. She reported they travel to different areas but will be in Warrensville on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at the library from 10-11a.m.

Councilman Walter Stewart thanked everyone for coming out. He told everyone to have good evening and stay safe.

Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood wished everyone a good evening and thanked them for coming to the Council meeting.

Councilwoman Elona C. White thanked everyone for coming out. She thanked Councilwoman Hagwood for the *Becoming Law* pamphlets provided. She thanked Councilwoman Mitchell for her Black History information.

Councilman Johnny L. Williams Jr. stated “Once a professor, always a professor” to Councilwoman Mitchell. He stated the Martin Luther King Jr. quote Councilwoman Mitchell shared is his favorite and he speaks to someone about it every day. He stated he says “The ultimate measure of a person” to bring it up to date because women are very important. He stated “The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand at times of comfort and convenience, but where they stand at times of challenge and controversy.” That is the true measurement of the character of a person.

Councilman Matthew Howard wished everyone a good evening and thanked them all for coming out. He acknowledged the child that was brought by his father to the Council meeting. He asked that everyone be safe and he will see them next month.

Law Department

Mayor Sellers stated Law Director Teresa Metcalf Beasley left early due to not feeling well.

Council President’s Comments

Council President Stanley Anderson congratulated and thanked Councilwoman Hagwood for putting out the *Becoming Law* pamphlet. He thanked his colleagues on Council for coming together for the committee assignments and getting together to have the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mayor’s Comments

Mayor Bradley D. Sellers thanked everyone for taking the time to come out. He recognized Kenneth White, Phyllis Tullos and Edward Hicks from Civil Service Commission and Mr. Burks from the Senior Club in attendance. He recognized School Board President Traci Mitchell and Member Ray Freeman. Mayor Sellers shared that discussions have started with the School Board regarding the Westwood property. He stated the two attorneys are going to speak to one another and see if they can get a

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handle on both sides. He acknowledged the child Jeremiah in attendance with his father who came to Council in wearing a nice suit.

<Applause>

He shared that Jeremiah is an aspiring basketball player so he’s happy to meet him. He stated he thought Jeramiah was playing in the school community league that ran on the weekend. He stated Superintendent Jolly informed him that it is packed on the weekend. Then he was corrected by Jeremiah that he is in the travel league which is for communities that put teams together and the children are a little more serious about the game. Mayor Sellers shared that the goals is, since they’ll have first class facilities here, is to become the home of the travel leagues. They can have everyone come to them and be selective about who is in the league. This is the benefit of the development at work. He stated it is important for the boys and girls to have opportunities. He acknowledged the passing of former Building Commissioner and longtime resident, Melvin Lester. He shared that his services are at Mount Zion across from the high school and information is on the city website.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Councilwoman White

Adjournment at 7:39p.m.

02-07-2023

APPROVED


Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

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