



# CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS

## Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES APRIL 4, 2023

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

**Attendance:** Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-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:** Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood

**Minutes:** March 21, 2023 Regular Meeting  
**Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Council President Anderson**  
**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.

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### **Residents' Requests and Comments:**

**Anneicia Hall, Ward 5 Resident** remarked that speakers are needed in Council Chambers because attendees cannot hear in the back. She stated her concern is the neighbor that lives behind her at 24570 Donover Rd. She has lived on Merrygold Blvd. for almost 50 years and she has drug dealers in back of her home. Ms. Hall remarked she doesn't know if it is because he's white and that's why they're not doing anything or what. She stated when you start urinating outside of her driveway, you're wrong! When you're prostituting and selling drugs 24/7, that's it! She reported the front window of the home at 24570 Donover Rd. is broken due to someone shooting through it a month ago and someone broke it in a prior incident last year. Ms. Hall stated she does not deserve to deal with that because she keeps her property up like her two neighbors also in attendance at the meeting. She reported a couple weeks ago, there was a fight at the Donover Rd. house in the driveway where a guy hit another car, turning it sideways. It took the police 45 minutes to get there and their supposed to be right around the corner. She stated she cannot go outside in the morning and has to put her garage door down and get in her car to pull out. Ms. Hall stated the man living there kicked his grandfather down the steps and he went to a nursing home.

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**Mayor Sellers** reported that the father of the man living there is a former Warrensville Heights police officer.

**Police Chief Haynes** stated he is aware of the resident and he has hourly checks on the property. So, any vehicle that comes onto the Donover Rd. property, he is getting the plate. He explained that the department supervisors are advised every day to send him updates on the property including individuals walking the streets, vehicles etc. They keep an eye on everything. He reported that the grandson was arrested a couple times but when he gets out, he goes back to the property. They spoke with the man's father, Patrick Carlozzi (son of the homeowner in the nursing home) but he is no longer cooperating with the police. Mr. Carlozzi did inform the police that the house will be sold. Chief Haynes stated he will look in to the 45 minute wait for a response.

**Mayor Sellers** asked when the last incident at the residence was.

**Ms. Hall** replied that today she observed people crawling in and out of the kitchen window.

**Police Chief Haynes** stated they have identified the occupant, Brian Carlozzi, one female, one female with a child and one male. He stated he cannot speak to what is going on inside the house. He added the department is also working with another outside organization.

**Ms. Hall** stated there is a daycare across the street so little kids are outside when drugs are being sold in that house.

**Mayor Sellers** commented that there are layers to this and the house has their attention.

**Alverta Taylor, Ward 5** stated she can verify what Ms. Hall is saying because there are cars coming all night long and women coming out in their nightgowns. She reported that he comes out high likes he's crazy with no shoes and no shirt on walking up and down the street. Cars are just bammin' and slammin' all night long and when you look out the window, they wave at you. She stated no one should have to live like this.

**Police Chief Haynes** stated Brian Carlozzi absolutely has issues and they constantly arrest him. When he gets out, the family sends him back over to the house.

**Ms. Taylor** reported that she rolled out her bed twice onto the floor after hearing gunshots and she doesn't know where they are coming from. She stated the front window of the house has been broken three times.

**Police Chief Haynes** replied that they have the ShotSpotter system that runs through the city and any gunshots in the community they respond to.

**Building Commissioner Brown** confirmed that the window of the house was broken three times and it was fixed twice. The owner was cited in March for the recent break and the owner reported that he filed with the insurance company and the window was ordered. He stated it should be installed in the next few weeks. He explained that first the Building Department issues a notice and gives them 30 days to fix the violation. If not fixed, they can do a court summons or a fine. He reported that the owner responded to the notice.

**Ms. Taylor** stated that there is no storm door because it was kicked in and the door has been like that for as long as the window has been broken.

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**Police Chief Haynes** stated he will follow up with Patrick Carozzi tomorrow.

**Building Commissioner Brown** stated he will do a site visit tomorrow.

**Councilman Howard** stated the issue has been brought up a lot of times over the years. He stated it is extremely troublesome and occurring on what is a quiet street with many older residents including Carolyn Hall, the wife of former mayor, Clinton Hall. He shared there are numerous retirees, a deacon and his wife, former Service Department director, a kindergarten schoolteacher and directly across the street from the 24570 Donover Rd. house is an active daycare. He reported that activities at this house include but are not limited to: loitering; disorderly conduct; a loaded gun on the tree lawn; people driving over the grass; accidents in the driveway; shootings; known drug addicts; suspicious persons; suspicious vehicles; loud vehicles with no muffler and/or converter driving down street at 3a.m. and 4a.m.; vehicles with expired plates; excessive speeding; increased amounts of trash such as beer bottles and cans, food bags, take out scraps, chicken bones, wrappers and used condoms. He reported this was not happening prior to the incident with the grandfather. He stated sometimes you can smell the crack burning which smells like burning soap. He reported there are girls walking up and down the street and they're tricking. All this is happening across the street from a home daycare. He reported that the kindergarten schoolteacher often gets knocks on her door from people thinking that's the crack house and she has to hide and call the police. He stated he knows this will get better but they have to get through the process of getting them out and the property rectified. He shared the matter will be discussed at the Safety Committee meeting next Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

**Police Chief Haynes** reiterated that he is aware of the Donover Rd. property and know it's a nuisance. The department is doing everything they can to take care of the situation. He is unaware of the mental state of this individual but he does know he is in to stuff and that the people he hangs around are not the most upstanding individuals. That is why they're doing hourly checks and are working with other agencies. It takes time and he cannot get into the home unless he has a warrant. He does not have means unless he has a warrant. The department has to build some kind of case on him which is why his officers are running every plate that's over there.

**Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood** asked how the department acquires a warrant to enter the house.

**Police Chief Haynes** replied there would need to be some type of criminal activity taking place that they have proof of. Right now, they just have to observe and hope they do something that they can catch.

**Mayor Sellers** reported that he and Chief Haynes had a meeting about it last week so they have some things in the works.

**Ms. Taylor** stated she lives next door to the daycare house and she believes the woman is renting the home. The garage door is broken and the wood on the side garage door is hanging off and needs to be painted. She reported the gutter on the side of the garage is hanging off and there's no gutters on the back of the house because they all came off last winter. She

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stated she called Mr. Hale and he has come out to cite them for their garbage. Ms. Taylor stated there are a lot of raccoons in her backyard and she should not have to live close to that. **Building Commissioner Brown** stated he will do a site visit tomorrow. He explained it is a Type B daycare and they can have up to six children on the property. **Ms. Taylor** stated she has observed more than six children.

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**Order of the Day**

**1. Res. 2023-011**

**MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**

AMENDING RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-014 (AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENGAGE IN A PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS TO ADVERTISE FOR AND SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR THE 2023 SEASON IN THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS) IN ORDER TO CORRECT THE TIME PERIOD OF THE LANDSCAPING SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Williams**

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

**2. Ord. 2023-035**

**MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**

AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2023-030 (ACCEPTING A CERTAIN BID FROM GROUND PRO, LLC FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR THE 2023 SEASON IN THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00) IN ORDER TO CORRECT THE TERM AND COMPENSATION OF SAID BID AND CONTRACT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Council President Anderson, Seconded by Councilman Williams**

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

**3. Ord. 2023-036**

**MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH MOTION CONNECTED LLC IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS "BE WELL" PROGRAM AND ENGAGEMENT PLATFORM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

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- 4. Ord. 2023-037**      **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**  
ACCEPTING A CERTAIN BID FROM FAMILY TREE LANDSCAPE LLC FOR THE 2023 HIGH GRASS AND RELATED NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Howard**  
**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED**
- 5. Ord. 2023-038**      **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**  
ACCEPTING A CERTAIN BID FROM NORTHCOAST LAWNSCAPES FOR THE 2023 HIGH GRASS AND RELATED NUISANCE ABATEMENT SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
**Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilman Howard**  
**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED**
- 6. Ord. 2023-039**      **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 FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING MARCH 2, 2023 AND ENDING MARCH 1, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Council President Anderson**  
**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED**
- 7. Ord. 2023-040**      **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**  
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PURCHASE TWO (2) 2022 F-550 CREW CAB TRUCKS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$154,740.00 FROM MONTROSE FORD TRUCK, INC. PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY  
**Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilwoman White**  
**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – MOTION CARRIED**

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**Announcements from Directors:**

**Civic & Senior Center – Director Jennifer Lastery** announced April 14, 2023, there will be a mystery dinner, a fun evening event and they can help us solve the murder mystery! It is only \$20 per person and will start at 6p.m. On May 1, 2023, the city’s annual Senior Luncheon will be held and they’re looking forward to hosting at least 400 seniors throughout the city. This event is funded by the city but

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attendees will have to register beginning on April 17, 2023 from 9-11a.m., April 18, 2023 from 5-7p.m., April 19, 2023 from 1-3p.m. and April 20, 2023 from 9-11a.m. A state ID and a utility bill proving residency is required in order to receive tickets. She stated this will be a wonderful event and they are looking forward to seniors coming out. She asked that those who signed up to see *Tina* on May 6, 2023, to please come and pick up their tickets.

**Economic Development Department – Director Nicole Harris** wished everyone a good evening. She announced on April 20, 2023, the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) will be here from 6-7p.m. for a public informational session to speak about gas and electric bills. Now is the time to come out and ask NOPEC questions directly and they will be putting together a flyer about the meeting.

**Announcements from Council:**

**Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell** wished everyone a good evening and thanked them for coming out. She shared that today is the first day of early voting so people can go down to the Board of Elections and vote or complete a vote-by-mail application and turn it in. She stated as of the 6<sup>th</sup> of January, a new law went in to effect and now no one can use utility bills or any kind of payment statements to vote. People will need a current state of Ohio ID and with the vote-by-mail application the last four digits of the social security number can be used for identification. She shared 54 years ago today, a person who stood up for the right thing was shot down and his name was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Today, 54 years later, a person who stood up for the wrong things is trying to justify some wrong things. Let's make sure we're doing the right things and vote for people that are doing the right things.

**Councilman Walter Stewart** wished everyone a good evening and thanked the attendees for coming out. He asked that they have a very safe evening.

**Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood** said hello to everyone and recognized Carolyn Hall, wife of former mayor Clinton Hall. She stated it was good to see her and thanked her for joining them.

**Anneicia Hall, Ward 5 Resident** asked for permission to speak again. She stated the city needs to get some microphones! She commented they are going to see her a lot until things get settled.

**Mayor Sellers** responded that electronics were ordered four or five months ago so they are just waiting for the stuff to come in.

**Councilwoman Elona C. White** welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated she appreciated them coming out and expressing what's going on in their neighborhood. She commented that it is good to see Carolyn Hall out as she hasn't seen her in a while.

**Councilman Johnny L. Williams Jr.** shared his favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. quote on the anniversary of his death "The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand at times of comfort

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and convenience but where he stands at times of CHALLENGE and controversy.” He thanked Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He thanked all the attendees for coming out.

**Councilman Matthew Howard** wished everyone a good weekend. He stated that voting has been a challenge with the new school going up and the location changing over the years. He shared that the May 2, 2023 Primary Election will be at the John Dewey school building and they should have gotten something in the mail about the census. He thanked his residents for attending the meeting and voicing their concerns. He stated hopefully the situation on Donover Rd. gets resolved quickly. He commented that he has kept an open line of communication open with all three of his residents in attendance over the years. He stated he will do whatever he can to get the situation taken care of because he doesn't live as close the property but it is troubling to him as well.

### Law Department

**Law Director Teresa Metcalf Beasley** had nothing to report.

### Council President's Comments

**Council President Stanley Anderson** thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

### Mayor's Comments

**Mayor Bradley D. Sellers** thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He recognized Kenneth White, Phyllis Tullos and Edward Hicks from the Civil Service Committee; Janice Rox and Renee Strong from Planning Commission; Bedford Court Magistrate Nick Papa; School Board members Mimi Gaiter, Ray Freeman and Superintendent Donald Jolly. He stated that Superintendent Jolly had something to share.

**Superintendent Jolly** thanked Council and the opportunity to speak. He shared that today they had the great opportunity of having Governor DeWine come to the school. He stated he wanted to make a statement about the standing invitation to City Council. He and the School Board were meeting with the Governor's security team and they told the school to present them with a list of people. They wanted a small group and the focus to be strictly on the children. Superintendent Jolly stated out of respect for his office, only the three mayors and the board were invited. He wanted to make that clear since they all work together and are a team trying to do everything in collaboration. He stated at no point are they trying to be divisive and has never been the School Board by itself but a collaboration to do what's best for their students and their community. He stated it is a unique opportunity to have a Republican Governor to visit a Democratic city and observe a school district that was rated 610 five years ago and is 298 now. He announced they are closing the high school and there are flyers for "The Final Roar" that Mr. Freeman will pass out. He stated there will be a basketball game where old guys like himself will be playing and young ones too. He shared there will be a Last Dance and an alumni jazz band will be playing along with choirs. An All-Class Reunion will also take place at the elementary school. They are asking all the alumni to participate in the Memorial Day Parade. He announced that on April 28, 2023, there will be the Memorial Fannie Dean Spaghetti

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Dinner at the high school in the Home Economics Room from 5-7p.m. for \$5.00 and the Culinary Arts students will be cooking in honor of Ms. Dean. They will not let her memory go and plan to have the dinner annually. They really want to promote the Culinary Arts Program and do something every week where they cook and people can come in and have lunch. He reported that the last graduation in the old high school will be May 23, 2023 in the gym. The Early Childhood Center will open on August 1, 2023. He announced the first football game in the new stadium will be August 25, 2023. There will be a Community Open House for the new middle school, high school and Early Childhood Center on Saturday, September 2, 2023 from 9a.m.-12p.m. and school will begin on September 5, 2023. He shared that the Westwood building is in the process of being demoed so they will have a clean property before May.

**Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood** stated that she received what Superintendent Jolly was saying because she was one of the people that definitely felt like an outsider. She remarked there is nothing like understanding and it was big of him to come and explain what happened. She commented that they didn't know the School Board's plan and that the website was out there. She stated before she went into politics, children were her passion.

**Superintendent Jolly** replied that they didn't know but when they found out accommodations were made. He thanked the councilmembers who attended and were supportive of the students. It looked good for the entire community.

**Councilwoman Mitchell** asked if there will be a final event for Westwood.

**Superintendent Jolly** replied they already had a final event but they'll need to do one for John Dewey.

**Councilman Howard** asked when the Senior Breakfast is in case a donation is needed because they do have a committee to help out with different things for the youth.

**Superintendent Jolly** replied that it is scheduled for May 4, 2023. He commented they also want to make the first home game in the new stadium a huge event.

**Councilman Howard** stated there were a few hiccups with the Governor's visit but he responded to Superintendent Jolly's email and stated it was a great event for the students. It was not about the councilmembers and the board.

**Mr. Freeman** shared that the voting location for the May 2, 2023 Primary Election will actually be at the Civic & Senior Center not at John Dewey.

**Mayor Sellers** stated residents' concerns are their concerns. He stated they are aware the house on Donover Rd. is a problem and are working to address it. It is a bumpy road especially for those that live close but the issue will be resolved. This is not TV; the problem will not get solved in 30 minutes. He thanked Superintendent Jolly for explaining what happened and stated he had jury duty and couldn't attend. He recognized Carolyn Hall, a 50-year resident and her history in the city that won't be forgotten.

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**Adjournment**


**Motion to Adjourn by Councilwoman White**

**Adjournment at 7:56p.m.**

*07-18-2023*

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APPROVED



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Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

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