



CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS

Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 19, 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, Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell, Councilman Matthew Howard and Council President Stanley Anderson
Roll Call: 6 Present

Motion to Excuse Councilman Walter Stewart by Councilman Howard, Seconded by Councilwoman White

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

Prayer: Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood

Minutes: September 5, 2023 Regular Meeting
Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilman Williams
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:

Mr. Ramos, NOPEC Relationship Manager provided an update on how the city has done with the re-enrollment since April for the electric aggregation program. He reported that Warrensville Heights still holds the record for the most well attended public forum as a single community so he thanked the city. He reported the city has recovered all the residents who participated in the aggregation program so between the gas and electric aggregation programs, there are over 5,000 residents. He shared that the total number is about 80% of their original customers and the number continues to grow. So, they expect to have residents come back over the next several months. He brought folders for City Council and Mayor Sellers along with a flyer regarding an event NOPEC is doing in partnership with the City of Garfield Heights to help support small businesses. He stated that Councilwoman Mitchell had a community meeting that he attended this past weekend so if anyone else has a ward meeting and would like someone from NOPEC to attend, don't hesitate to reach out to him.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart
 Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.
 Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

Pat Robertson, Ward 6 Resident stated she had nothing but compliments to share. She stated she cannot say enough about Council President Anderson and the Service Department's response during the tornado. She reported that servicemen came out early to survey Vera St. and Council President Anderson came over to check on residents. She commented that trees were down everywhere on the east side of Vera St. and thanked the Service Department for their quick response.

Barbara Heard, Ward 1 Resident complimented the middle school and high school stating that they are beautiful. She stated she was at the ribbon cutting for both schools and the early education building. She commented that the city had done a wonderful job partnering with the Board of Education. She asked if Warrensville Heights had American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for home repair.

Mayor Sellers responded that the City of Cleveland was a direct recipient of 500 million dollars. He reported that Warrensville received a little over a million dollars so they didn't have the flexibility that Cleveland has. He explained that the funds can only be used for certain things and Cleveland received so much they created additional programs. The bigger cities like Parma and Cleveland Heights are looked at a little differently than those with a smaller population. He commented that Warrensville will never get money like that to assist with home repair like City of Cleveland has.

Order of the Day

- 1. Ord. 2023-091** **COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)**
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF JELANI CHAVERS OF KHALID ENTERPRISES, LLC, REPRESENTING THE SAME, FOR AN ADDITION AND DETACHED GARAGE LOCATED AT 19202 KINGS HIGHWAY, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44122, PPN 761-08-075.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilman Howard, Seconded by Councilwoman Mitchell
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
- 2. Ord. 2023-092** **COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)**
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF CRYSTAL COOK OF SPIRIT HALLOWEEN SUPERSTORES LLC, REPRESENTING JLP-HARVARD PARK LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TEMPORARY BANNER SIGN LOCATED AT 4045 RICHMOND ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, 44122, PPN 763-33-002, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilman Howard, Passage by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilman Williams
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart
Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

- 3. Res. 2023-027** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENGAGE IN A PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS TO ADVERTISE FOR AND SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE 2023 ROAD REPAIR PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Council President Anderson, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
- 4. Ord. 2023-093** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 ACCEPTING A CERTAIN BID FROM CATTS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE 2023 ROAD REPAIR PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,368,354.50, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Council President Anderson, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
- 5. Res. 2023-028** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENGAGE IN A PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS TO ADVERTISE FOR AND SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE EMERY ROAD RESURFACING AND CONCRETE REPAIR PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
- 6. Ord. 2023-094** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 ACCEPTING A CERTAIN BID FROM CATTS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE EMERY ROAD RESURFACING AND CONCRETE REPAIR PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT NOT TO EXCEED \$869,664.34, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
- 7. Res. 2023-029** **MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS TO DONATE \$1,500.00 TO THE OHIO UNIVERSITY HERITAGE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE – CLEVELAND TO ASSIST WITH THE ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart
 Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.
 Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

**Motioned by Councilwoman Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

8. Res. 2023-030 MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS
 REPEALING RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-025 (AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED, A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT THROUGH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE 2024 CUYAHOGA COUNTY MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
**Motioned by Councilman Howard, Passage by Council President Anderson, Seconded by Councilwoman White
 Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

9. Res. 2023-031 MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS
 REPEALING RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-026 (AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED, A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT THROUGH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE 2024 CUYAHOGA COUNTY SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Williams
 Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

Announcements from Directors:

Economic & Community Development Department – Manager Raymon Turner reminded everyone that Shred Day is Saturday, September 20, 2023 from 11a.m.-2p.m. at the Municipal Center.

Service Department – Director Ted Sims stated that beginning October 1st, they will start picking up leaves. He stated during the summer they have been going around with the shredder picking up branches and things like that. He reported that will cease on October 1st and then they will start picking up leaves. He advised that everyone bring their leaves out to the curb and make sure there are no branches or grass clippings because it will block up the units in the machine. He stated that service will take place during most of autumn and will stop after the first snowfall. If things clear up, they may continue providing the service during winter.

Announcements from Council:

Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She shared that the Ward 2 Community Meeting was held on Saturday and it was a great turnout. She thanked all the speakers who came and contributed information. Councilwoman Mitchell shared that a representative from Kimble came to the meeting and explained the business like why there is only one person on the

COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart
 Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.
 Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council**

truck. She stated that it has been that way for about 15 years and is across all industries. She shared that a highlight for her was the refreshments prepared by the Culinary Arts students and the band did a song for the residents who attended. It was really wonderful and she asked that her residents be on the lookout for the next *News to Use* email.

Councilwoman Dorise Thompson-Hagwood thanked everyone that supported her for *Friday Night Live* which was not a party but a community event. She remarked that residents from all seven wards attended the event and they came together with love, understanding and celebration. She stated that she, Councilwoman White and Council President Anderson went out with a bang for 2023! She shared that there were recognitions at the event for the cornhole trophy winners and a teacher who has been with the WHCSD for over 30 years and was spotlighted on ABC News. She stated she intended to give flowers to School Board Member Ray Freeman but he didn't give her the information that she requested and it's a long list. Councilwoman Thompson-Hagwood acknowledged Janice Rox in attendance and called her an "unsung hero" in Warrensville Heights. She shared that she met Ms. Rox before she ran for public office and she became her treasurer. She stated Ms. Rox has supported and encouraged her since then and that's a blessing. She stated on behalf of everyone in attendance, Ms. Rox is appreciated.

<Applause>

Councilwoman Elona C. White thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She added that the event on Friday was very well-attended and there was representation from every ward. She thanked everyone that always volunteers and helps out.

Councilman Johnny L. Williams asked if anyone knew what today was by a show of hands. National Voter Registration Day. He stated he won't let it go because one-third of our states have election deniers who are overseeing elections at a state wide level. He explained they are Secretaries of State, Attorney Generals or Governors. He stated these are officials who don't believe that are President is our President. So, if they can take it seriously –and they are- because they have someone running neck and neck with the current President. He stated that's why "he will pound it, pound it and pound it" that they have got to do the same and compete at that level because they are RABID and PASSIONATE to PUT A CROOK BACK IN OFFICE! We cannot let that happen. He stated today is National Voter Registration Day but from his standpoint EVERYDAY IS NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY!! They should talk about this particularly with their young people who are not as passionate as the good people that attend the City Council meeting every week.

Councilman Matthew Howard shared that the Northeast Ohio City Council Association will have an end of the year forum coming up on a date to be determined. He stated he plans to attend the public meeting for the city's application for the supplemental and municipal grants this Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 6p.m. He stated that he has been the Advisory Board Chairman with the YMCA for the last

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart
Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

two years. He announced the *Community Campaign Kick-Off* event will be Wednesday, September 27, 2023 and commented that Michael Carter is doing a phenomenal job. He asked for an acknowledgement for Michael Carter giving the city such a great YMCA with many programs.

<Applause>

He thanked the donors and sponsors and shared that new banners will be presented at this event. He thanked City Council for the ongoing support of the YMCA.

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. He apologized to his colleagues and the residents for showing up late to Caucus. He thanked Mayor Sellers, Director Sims and the rest of the Service Department for the excellent job on the cleanup following the tornado. He stated he observed the service trucks going up and down the streets checking things out. He stated to Police Chief Haynes that the trouble house on the northeast corner of Green Rd. and Vera St. has a resident who is constantly parking his or her car on the lawn. He stated this has been going on for years and believes the resident repairs cars and the car belongs to one of his customers.

Mayor Sellers asked that Council President Anderson get the address for Chief Haynes to look into the issue.

Council President Anderson reported that on the east end of another street in the city there are seven junk cars and on the west end of the same street, there are four junk cars. He commented they have been sitting there looking ugly for forever and a day. He reported going down Green Rd. to Annette St., there's an old Cadillac that's been sitting at the last house for at least 10-12 years. It has a tarp on it and classic license plate on the front so someone please take a look at that. He commented there are way too many inoperable vehicles in the city that are just proliferating the area.

Police Chief Haynes replied that he will take care of it.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Bradley D. Sellers thanked everyone for joining them this evening. He recognized Ms. Rox and Ms. Strong from Planning Commission; Mr. Hicks, Ms. Tullos and Mr. White from Civil Service Commission; and School Board Member Ray Freeman in attendance. He asked Mr. Freeman to give an update on the middle school and high school which opened up on September 5, 2023.

Ray Freeman thanked Councilwoman Mitchell for bringing the residents to see the school. He reported there have been problems with their technology such as the cameras that circle the middle school and high school. He shared there have been problems with some of the athletic events like outdoor football and indoor basketball so they are trying to work out the kinks. He

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart
Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

shared the students are adapting and Infinity Construction is moving the front so they are waiting for them to put the driveway in. He reported that they were told three months ago that everything should be done by November and they are holding them accountable. He stated that Superintendent Jolly is getting a little upset because things that are supposed to happen on a timely basis are not happening. He reported that Early Childhood Development Center is all done and there have been no problems.

Mayor Sellers replied they will get where they need to be. He commented anyone that has not been in to look at the schools are doing themselves a disservice. It is truly impressive. He encouraged everyone to attend Shred Day. He reported that the Granada Blvd. project is more than 50% complete. One half of one side is done and the other will be completed next year. He shared the road program will begin soon with the resurfacing of various streets. He instructed residents to go to the city website to be informed of what streets are being done. He stated he is happy to announce that as of 5:00p.m. on Friday, South Miles Rd. will be back open to the public and residents will not have to go all the way around anymore. He reported the last guardrail was put up today and seeding and residents will be able to get through there once again.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Council President Stanley Anderson

Adjournment at 7:43p.m.

10-03-2023

APPROVED



Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Thompson-Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White • Walter Stewart

Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Johnny L. Williams Jr.

Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council