

**CITY OF CLEVELAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 7, 2016
MINUTES**

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cleveland was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Annie Sutton at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Bradley Greene, Edward Young, and Nan Bowen. Mayor Shan Ash was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Edward Young, in favor – Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council approved the agenda for the March 7, 2016 City Council Meeting.

DAVID MURPHY WHITE COUNTY EMA DIRECTOR – STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

David Murphy, White County EMA Director, came before the Mayor Pro Tem and Council to present the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Murphy stated it was his honor to come before the council to present the agreement.

The Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement, between agencies, began when Atlanta was awarded the Olympic Games. *(Historic note – the Atlanta Olympics were held in 1996, but preparation began several years earlier).*

The agreement states the City of Cleveland will provide assistance when requested by state and local agencies. The authorized representatives for the city are Police Chief John Foster, Fire Chief Ricky Pruitt, and City Clerk Connie Tracas. The financial representatives are Finance Office Beth Rohmeyer and City Clerk Connie Tracas. The list of representatives can be amended at any time without affecting the agreement.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Edward Young, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council approved the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement and Mayor Pro Tem Annie Sutton was given authorization to sign.

Bradley Greene thanked Mr. Murphy for his hard work.

KATHY WOOD – SORBA (SOUTHERN OFF ROAD BICYCLE ASSOCIATION) YONAH PRESERVE

Kathy Wood, Woody's Mountain Bikes, and a member of SORBA – Southern Off Road Biking Association, came before the Mayor and Council to present a slideshow and information concerning the development of the Outdoor Therapeutic Program property, now known as Yonah Preserve.

The area is approximately 1000 acres and there is a plan to develop twenty miles of multi-use trails (hiking and biking). Professionals using modern techniques and very little impact on the environment will design the trails. The proposed layout includes twenty miles of trails at different degrees of difficulty.

**KATHY WOOD – SORBA (SOUTHERN OFF ROAD BICYCLE ASSOCIATION) YONAH
PRESERVE - continued**

The State of Georgia reported 23 billion in consumer spending for recreational activities. A recreational area, properly planned, will have a huge impact on White County. The organization needs funding and volunteers.

Woody Wood, owner of Woody's Mountain Bikes, informed SORBA has 6000 members with 41 Chapters in the northeast region of Georgia. The group made a commitment nine years ago to get this project up and running. SORBA has received \$100,000 in a grant from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) to construct phase one of the project. The first phase should begin this spring. This is a matching funds grant which will require cash and in-kind services.

SORBA has received a commitment from several school groups to provide 840 volunteer hours. SORBA is now working on obtaining a second grant for phase two.

The Mayor Pro Tem and City Council have always been supported of this project.

CHIEF RICKY PRUITT – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Ricky Pruitt presented the department statistics for February 2016. The department responded to 83 calls – 44 – city; 39 – county. This is a 2% increase from February 2015. 15 of the 39 calls, within the county, were outside the city's automatic aid area.

Chief Pruitt presented a class request for Mark Gunter to attend training for fire inspections and review. Currently the city does not have anyone in position to make fire inspections and, for a fee, utilizes county staff.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Edward Young, in favor – Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council voted to approve the class request for Mark Gunter.

CHIEF JOHN FOSTER – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief John Foster, Police Department, did not have new business to discuss.

Annie Sutton informed the council of the passing of Grover Addis. Mr. Addis is the father of Lieutenant Wesley Addis. Mr. Addis was a former police officer and worked as a part-time police office with the City of Cleveland. The funeral is scheduled for Thursday.

The Mayor Pro Tem and Council offered their condolences to the Addis family.

GRANT KEENE – CITY ATTORNEY

Grant Keene, City Attorney, did not have new business to discuss, but will have an item for executive session concerning possible litigation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion by Nan Bowen, seconded by Edward Young, in favor – Bradley Greene, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council approved the minutes of February 1, 8, and 22, 2016.
2. As a part of the new branding program for White County, the White County Chamber of Commerce would like the city to purchase banners for the square. The banners incorporate the new branding colors, with beautiful landscapes, the historic courthouse, and a cabbage patch kid. The theme of the branding is “A new adventure everyday.”
The city received four quotes and Jason Hogan Designs came in with the lowest price for banners and brackets.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Edward Young, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to approve the purchase of banners and brackets for the square from Jason Hogan Designs at \$84.00 each.

3. Public comments – Cindy Bailey, White County Chamber of Commerce, informed the Chamber has won an award for its branding campaign.
At White County Day at the State Capital, the County received the Outdoor Adventure Designation from the assembly.
Ms. Bailey reminded the Mayor Pro Tem and Council of the upcoming Career Expo and Eggstravaganza.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The Council needs to make a consideration to reissue the loan documents for the GEFA loan showing the signature of Mayor Pro Tem Annie Sutton.

Mayor Ash is not comfortable signing the loan documents due to issuing the city an easement through his property for this project. The Council will need to rescind the approval for Mayor Ash to sign and approve for Mayor Pro Tem Annie Sutton to sign the documents.

On motion by Annie Sutton, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Bradley Greene and Edward Young, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council voted to rescind the vote of February 22, 2016 which approved the GEFA loan documents and authorized Mayor Shan Ash to sign.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Edward Young, in favor – Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council approved the reissued GEFA loan documents and authorized Mayor Pro Tem Annie Sutton to sign.

2. The Mayor Pro Tem and Council expressed their concern of the dog attack on Debbie Gilbert's dog. The Council encouraged Ms. Gilbert to deal with Animal Control, but Ms. Gilbert feels the White County Animal Control ordinance is too vague to get any action.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Bradley Greene, in favor – Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council voted to enter into an executive session to discuss possible litigation and personnel issues at 7:34 p.m.

RETURN TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Bradley Greene, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council voted to return to the City Council Meeting of March 7, 2016 at 8:03 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Annie Sutton expressed thanks for the nice card received from Mrs. Helen Wilkins, Commissioner of Helen, for the flowers sent to her mother's funeral.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Bradley Greene, and carried unanimously, the Mayor Pro Tem and Council voted to adjourn the City Council Meeting of March 7, 2016 at 8:14 p.m.

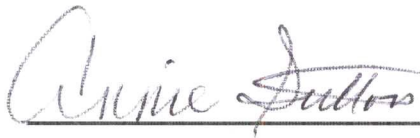
(ABSENT)

Shan Ash a/k/a Roy Ash, III,

Mayor

Edward Young,

Council Member



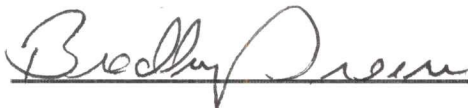
Annie Sutton,

Council Member



Nan Bowen,

Council Member



Bradley Greene,

Council Member

Attest:



Connie Tracas,

City Clerk

