

**CITY OF CLEVELAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 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 Shan Ash at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Annie Sutton, in favor – Bradley Greene and Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council approved the agenda for the July 11, 2016 City Council Meeting with the addition of class requests for two police officers.

ANNA ROBERTSON – LOWE’S GRANT FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

Anna Robertson, Grant Writer, has submitted information for the city to apply for the Lowe’s Charitable and Education Grant.

Ms. Robertson, Mayor Ash and the city clerk met to discuss potential projects. There is a possibility the city could receive \$25,000 to \$50,000 for qualifying projects. The group discussed Talon renovations, the participation in bathrooms for the county’s Freedom Park, and the Oak Springs project which is also owned by the county. The city will need to get with the county if the city would like to participate in the bathrooms and the Oak Springs projects. The city would be secondary to the application as the county is the owner of the properties.

Nan Bowen asked if there was a project the city could do without involving the county. Ms. Robertson stated Oak Springs could be eligible for the Heritage Grant and other funding resources. Bradley Greene asked if the money could be used for entrance signs. Ms. Robertson answered the grant is primarily for projects that benefit the community and children. Ms. Robertson added the Lowe’s grant may consider beautification, but prefers the project is in an area of heavy foot traffic.

Annie Sutton informed her community has spoken with Grace Fricks, county officials, and several state agencies and has not gotten anywhere with the Oak Springs project. Ms. Sutton asked if Ms. Robertson will have a fee for the service. Ms. Robertson answered the application fee is \$20.00 per hour and the administration fee is 5% of the total grant awarded.

The city could follow Nan Bowen’s suggestion and look at additional improvements to the Woodman City Park. The city recently rebuilt the pavilion and bathrooms, but there are improvements that could be made with the playground equipment. Mayor Ash suggested installing pickle ball courts and even suggested locating the courts at Bill White’s home. Debbie Gilbert informed the county is planning to upgrade areas at the rec department with pickle ball courts.

On motion by Nan Bowen, seconded by Edward Young, in favor Annie Sutton and Bradley Greene, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to hire Anna Robertson to apply for the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Grant at a rate of \$20.00 per hour for the application fee and 5% of the grant for the administration fee. The city will make improvements to the playground equipment at Woodman City Park. Ms. Sutton added she would like to continue to look for options for the Oak Springs School. This is a pet project of her preacher. The county asked for bids, but did not accept the bid submitted by the community.

JAMES DOLLAR – CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH – SPECIAL EVENT FREEDOM PARK

James Dollar, on behalf of Concord Baptist Church, came before the Mayor and Council to request approval for road closures and police and fire services for an event to be held September 4, 2016.

The church would like South Brooks Street and Quillian Street (from E Underwood to E Kytile St) closed during the event for pedestrian safety and use. The church is requesting the same services provided at last year's event which included police and fire. The church has worked in the budget to pay for off-duty police and fire personnel.

On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Bradley Greene, in favor Annie Sutton and Nan Bowen and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to approve the street closures of South Brooks Street and Quillian Street (from E Underwood to E Kytile St) during the event. Mr. Dollar was directed to coordinate with the Police and Fire Chiefs.

GRANT KEENE – CITY ATTORNEY

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

CHIEF JOHN FOSTER – POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Chief Foster discussed the need for speed bumps. Motorists are speeding through residential neighborhoods and not stopping at stop signs. Mayor Ash asked if a speed table would work. Chief Foster answered speed tables are only good for dirt bikes and how high they can jump. Chief Foster will submit a list of areas for speed bumps.
2. Chief Foster discussed the power pole, relay for park camera, and tornado siren location at Barrett's funeral home. The county would like to install another tornado siren at or near the town square. The height of the pole would need to be 55 feet. This would accommodate the relay for the park cameras, tornado siren, and a security light. The city would work with Ricky Barrett and Georgia Power for access and installation rights. Chief Foster asked the council to give approval for Grant Keene to draw an agreement to locate the services on Mr. Barrett's property. Chief Foster is of the opinion the city will need a 6' x 6' area for the pole. Grant Keene was given approval to work on the access agreement.
3. Chief Foster discussed the issues with the owners and tenants of 105 Bryant Street. The apartment complex has become a haven for drug dealers and drug users. The department conducted a drug bust a few weeks ago and just recently a woman made claim of someone attacking her and slicing her throat. The true story is she had cut her own throat. The owners have been told to repair the apartments in a habitable condition. Chief Foster has found a stipulation in the law to declare an area as a drug nuisance. Chief Foster would then have the authority to have the owners held responsible for drug activity and the living conditions. Tenants have been stealing water services and power services. Ricky Pruitt, Fire Chief, had sent word the owners will not allow access to check for operating smoke alarms. Chief Foster informed the tenants have either removed or destroyed the outside lights. The owners have stated to Chief Foster they have plans to evict some of the tenants. Chief Foster advised the city needed to look into a property maintenance ordinance.
4. Chief Foster informed the department has been very busy and the drug task force is very pleased with the participation of the city.

CHIEF JOHN FOSTER – POLICE DEPARTMENT - continued

5. Class requests were approved for Chief Foster and Zach Totherow.
6. Mayor Ash expressed his appreciation to Chief Foster in participating in the forum held Sunday at Travis Chapel. The forum was held to address the recent violence around the U.S. Annie Sutton thanked Dean Dyer, WRWH 1350, for reporting the forum.
7. Debbie Gilbert asked Chief Foster to request the owners of 90 Pinecrest Circle to trim back the vegetation. Chief Foster advised Ms. Gilbert to call city hall and have a work order issued.
8. Chief Foster informed of the phone app game called Pokémon-Go. The phone game leads participants to various areas similar to a scavenger hunt to find Pokémon. Chief Foster asked the media to issue a warning that participants should not go through other properties or through citizens things as there would be a risk someone may mistake the participant as an intruder.

NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion by Annie Sutton, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Bradley Greene and Edward Young, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council approved the minutes of June 6, 2016 (meetings 1 & 2) with the language correction of the sanitation budget and approved June 13, 2016 (meetings 1 & 2) with the sentence structure correction on page seven.
2. On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Bradley Greene, in favor – Annie Sutton and Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council approved to amend the LMIG requests of 2014, 2016, and 2017 to repave, build speed bumps, and restripe Church Street. A letter to amend will be sent to GDOT.
3. Debbie Gilbert informed motorists were parking over the parking lines on the square because the lines are not visible. Chief Foster and Bradley Greene stated the biggest complaint is lack of parking because employees park on the square instead of at the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Greene stated the parking on the square needed to be designated as municipal parking through an ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Annie Sutton asked about the fees from the Steedley Firm for the 129 North Sewer project. The city clerk informed that Mr. Rindt was wrong about the payment of services from GEFA. GEFA will pay the application fees charged by the firm.
2. Nan Bowen asked about the rumble strips from Old 75 South. Ms. Bowen was informed the city would have it installed when the newly paved streets are striped.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

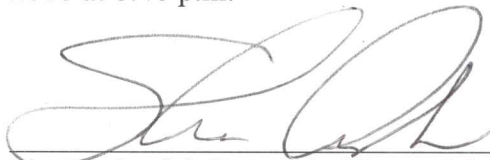
On motion by Edward Young, seconded by Annie Sutton, in favor – Bradley Greene and Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation at 8:23 p.m.

RETURN TO COUNCIL MEETING

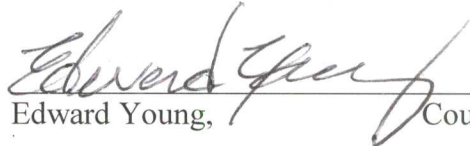
On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Annie Sutton, in favor – Edward Young and Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to return to the City Council Meeting of July 11, 2016 at 8:45 p.m. No further business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

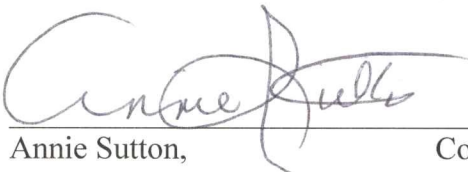
On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Annie Sutton, in favor – Edward Young and Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to adjourn the City Council Meeting of July 11, 2016 at 8:46 p.m.



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



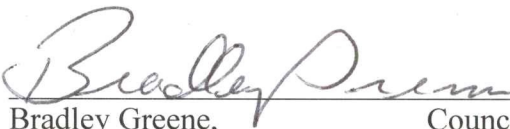
Edward Young, Council Member



Annie Sutton, Council Member



Nan Bowen, Council Member



Bradley Greene, Council Member

ATTEST: 

Connie Tracas, City Clerk

