

**City Council Meeting
City of Richmond Heights
February 9, 2021**

President of Council, Eloise Henry, called the meeting to order at 8:40pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

-VIRTUAL MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM-

Roll Call: Alexander, Henry, Lentine, Lewis, Nelson, Thomas, Ursu

Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the City Council Meeting from January 26, 2020.

MOTION WAS MADE BY Lentine, SECONDED BY Nelson TO PASS THE CONSENT AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

Reports:

Mayor David Roche: Comment as we go along.

Made mention that re: Cuyahoga County airport, County Council discussed the Flexjet Headquarters expanding here at airport.

Fire Chief Marc Neumann:

- COVID19 Update: Since March 26th, RH firefighters have responded to 148 suspected COVID-19 cases with 81 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Currently, staffing levels in Division of Fire are at normal levels and our workforce is healthy. Based on information provided by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) as of February 5, 2021 there are 62,588 COVID-19 cases in Cuyahoga County with 1,228 lab confirmed deaths, 1,961 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the 44143 zip code area (RH, HH, MV). Cuyahoga County is in alert status Red Alert Level 3, which is defined as a very high risk of exposure and spread.
- Ohio began **Phase 1B distribution** of the COVID-19 vaccine on **January 19th**. Phase 1B will specifically include those below who choose to be vaccinated: Ohioans, age 65 and up, Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early onset medical disorders that make them particularly vulnerable and Adults/employees in K-12 schools that want to go back, or to remain, educating in person.
- Ohio began Phase 1B vaccine. This week, 65+ eligible for vaccine—Moderna vaccine and then 3-4 weeks later get 2nd dose. Firefighters got 2nd dose already and are vaccinated. Still following precautions though and using PPE on all calls.
- Link on city website to Cuyahoga BOH and vaccine info.
- Squads are both in service and repair facility ordered parts for squad that needs suspension. When that comes in, then will send squad in to get replaced suspension.
- Lentine said there will be a short Safety meeting next week, so Fire and Police—get info to him as soon as possible.
- Ursu asked about vaccine waiting list for people who are not 65+ that can get on the list. Chief Neumann said that CVS and Walgreens have list that people can sign on and check the locations of providers on the lists.
- Res 44-2020 Turn out gear- will be purchasing 7 sets of gear for the remaining members who did not get gear last year.

Police Chief Tom Wetzel:

- Dealing with leaks in the building.
- Dept doing well. Healthy.
- Celebrating 60th anniversary of aux police force.
- Peacekeeper rock is up and encourage people to visit it.

Building Commissioner, Jim Urankar: -excused-**Finance Director, Jim Teknipp:**

- Finance Dept busy on 1099 and W2's, processed and delivered.
- Retroactive pays have been calculated per agreements.
- Audit requests updated on City One Drive and shared.
- Working on budgets with depts now.
- Analytics program working well for Chiefs for finance/budget prep.

Recreation Director, Rick Dula:

- Special events for 2021 looking at. Focusing on the spring items (egg hunt, pancake breakfast, shred day, memorial day celebration) Hope to get the Shred Day grant, and if not, we will still do this.
- Looking at ways to do Egg Hunt and Pancake breakfast.
- Garage Sale—a couple things looking at, end of May.
- Working on budget presentation in a couple weeks.
- Mayor reported that Kiwanis President, Aire Roche, said we may not be able to have Pancake Breakfast, due to pandemic and also construction at Lodge.

Economic Development Director, Brian Gleisser:

- Lodge project continues and successful with meeting last week. Deadline for CDBG grant by end of March and July.
- FlexJet—Cuy County public works committee passed unanimously—consolidated leases and adding fuel charges—to be considered by County Council this week. FlexJet construction—18 mos to complete new designed building. 200 new jobs to city! Largest employer in the city. Should be here for many years to come. Payroll Tax for the city should be increased a lot.

City Engineer, Lee Courtney:

- Gas company work on Donald/ Geraldine- in March.
- Lentine asked about Kent Smith and Kenny Yuko---city to get help on bridge across from post office. Lentine said that Smith had a committee working on this to fix or replace the bridge, but has not heard back from them yet. Lee Courtney said if it can be called part of the “bike path” there is grant money available for that. Mayor said that it may be labeled as a culvert vs. bridge. Courtney said since it is independent of the culvert that is there now, construction happening north of it.....culvert vs. bridge discussion....at another time.

Service Director Don Kerniskey:

- We have had 10 water main breaks on Highland Road and one right now on Dumbarton.
- Plowing snow and salting streets keeps us busy, as well as cold patching.

AUDIENCE: -no comments-

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO.: 107-2020, INTRODUCED BY HENRY, THIRD READING, AS AMENDED 1-26-21

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING NEW CHAPTER 172, "TECHNOLOGY POLICY", IN PART ONE, "ADMINISTRATIVE CODE", OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY HENRY, SECONDED BY URSU TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 107-2020. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO.: 9-2021, INTRODUCED BY MAYOR ROCHE, FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE INTENT OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS IN 2021 TO SELL BY INTERNET AUCTION PERSONAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES AND OTHER PROPERTY REFERENCED IN REVISED CODE §721.15 WHICH ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OR ARE OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH THEY WERE ACQUIRED; AUTHORIZING GOVDEALS.COM, INC. TO PERFORM THE SALES; AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SPECIFIC PERSONAL PROPERTY BY INTERNET AUCTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

HOLD ON

RESOLUTION NO.: 10-2021, INTRODUCED BY ALEXANDER, FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE ACTION OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WITH RESPECT TO A VARIANCE FOR THE INCREASE OF THE SIZE OF SIGNAGE FOR LIFE STORAGE, LOCATED AT 641 RICHMOND ROAD.

HOLD ON

CORRESPONDENCE:

Thomas asked for an apology from the Mayor regarding the video intrusion, as he said he thought it was her. The reason why (as Lewis mentioned) is because the person's last name was also "Thomas" on the screen, which the Mayor said made it confusing, as he saw 2 people with the last name of Thomas, but the intrusion had nothing to do with Kim Thomas.

ADDITIONS: -none-

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Henry, seconded by Ursu to adjourn this February 9, 2021 City Council Meeting at 9:15PM.

Betsy Traben, Clerk of Council

Eloise Henry, Council President