

VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD 7/20/21

Mayor Elkins called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Roll Call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz present.

Also in attendance: Law Director Luke McConville, Fiscal Officer Cathleen Nagorski, Fire Chief Brian Higginbotham

Ms. Traore motioned to enter into executive session. Mr. Dunman seconded. Motion passed 5 yes – 0 no.

Executive session began at 7:01 PM. Traore (via teleconference) arrived.

Discussion of personnel issues (to consider appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official), pending/potential litigation, and property acquisitions if necessary.

Mr. Moran motioned to exit executive session. Mrs. Kray seconded. Motion passed 5 yes – 0 no.

Concluded executive session at 7:36 PM; Mayor Elkins called a short recess to prepare for the regular meeting.

Mayor Elkins called the Regular Session of Council to order at 7:43 PM.

Roll Call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz present.

Also in attendance: Law Director Luke McConville, Fiscal Officer Cathleen Nagorski, Lieutenant Mike Marniella (for absent Police Chief John Majoy), Fire Chief Brian Higginbotham, Housing Commissioner Kristine Pagsuyoin, Service Director Joe Milano, and Village Engineer Jim Sickels

All stood for Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Elkins requested all cell phones and pagers be placed on silent mode.

Ms. Traore motioned to amend the agenda to add the consideration of Ordinance 2021-30 on suspension of rules. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ms. Traore motioned to amend the agenda to add the consideration of approving demolition costs for 4031 East 53rd at a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Minutes of 7/20/21 Regular Council meeting

Good & Welfare:

Mayor Elkins read a thank you from Chief Suhy of Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department.

Ms. Traore reminded residents of the primary on August 2 for district 11 of US Congress.

Reading & Disposition of the Minutes:

June 1, 2021 Regular Session of Council
June 14, 2021 Special Session of Council

Ms. Traore motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Kray. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

Hank Zawacki commented/asked questions about housing issues on East 53rd, the mayor's meeting with employees regarding the Covid-19 vaccine, sewer and road issues, and the Newburgh Heights CIC.

Legislation:**ORDINANCE 2021-18****INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR ELKINS**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE EMS TRAINING.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-18. Mrs. Kray seconded. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-18 is adopted.

ORDINANCE 2021-25**INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR ELKINS**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-25, rules suspended and that Ordinance 2021-25 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-25 is adopted.

ORDINANCE 2021-26**INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR ELKINS****AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES TO THE VILLAGE CLERK OF COURT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-25, rules suspended and that Ordinance 2021-25 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Mrs. Kray seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-26 is adopted.

ORDINANCE 2021-27**INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILMAN MORAN****AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE VILLAGE'S SECOND AMENDED COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Dunman motioned to table this ordinance. Ms. Giersz seconded. Roll call: Dunman and Giersz voted yes. Traore, Moran, and Kray voted no. Motion failed.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-27, rules suspended and that Ordinance 2021-27 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Moran, and Kray voted yes. Dunman and Giersz voted no. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-27 is adopted.

ORDINANCE 2021-28**INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR ELKINS****AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ACCEPT AN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMS 2021-2022 TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,632.78, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-28, rules suspended and that Ordinance 2021-28 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-28 is adopted.

ORDINANCE 2021-29**INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR ELKINS**

AN ORDINANCE CERTIFYING TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER FOR INCLUSION ON THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY TAX LISTS AND DUPLICATES THE REAL PROPERTY PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBERS AND AMOUNTS IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN DELINQUENT ABATEMENT AND/OR ASSESSMENT FEES CHARGED THERETO AND OWED TO THE VILLAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-29, rules suspended and that Ordinance 2021-29 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-29 is adopted.

ORDINANCE 2021-30**INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR ELKINS**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 FROM THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH'S COVID-19 GRANT PROGRAM TO ADDRESS RACIAL DISPARITIES IN COVID-19 VACCINE AND FLU SHOT DISTRIBUTION AND ADMINISTRATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-30, rules suspended and that Ordinance 2021-30 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Mr. Moran seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2021-30 is adopted.

PAYROLL RESOLUTION #4505**INTRODUCED BY: COUNCIL****APRIL 2021 DISBURSEMENTS**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BILLS. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS OF OHIO THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS BE PAID AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND THE FISCAL OFFICER AND MAYOR ARE HEREBY RESPECTFULLY AUTHORIZED TO DRAW THEIR WARRANTS AND CHECKS FOR PAYMENT OF SAID BILLS AS SET FORTH ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE(S) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$765,256.72 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Payroll Resolution #4505, rules suspended and that Payroll Resolution #4505 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Ms. Giersz seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Payroll Resolution #4505 is adopted.

PAYROLL RESOLUTION #4507

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCIL

EMPLOYEE PAYROLL P/E. 5/29/2021

PD. 6/4/2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BILLS. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS OF OHIO THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS BE PAID AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND THE FISCAL OFFICER AND MAYOR ARE HEREBY RESPECTFULLY AUTHORIZED TO DRAW THEIR WARRANTS AND CHECKS FOR PAYMENT OF SAID BILLS AS SET FORTH ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE(S) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$73,023.42 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Payroll Resolution #4507, rules suspended and that Payroll Resolution #4507 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Ms. Giersz seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Payroll Resolution #4507 is adopted.

PAYROLL RESOLUTION #4508

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCIL

EMPLOYEE PAYROLL P/E. 6/12/2021

PD. 6/18/2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BILLS. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS OF OHIO THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS BE PAID AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND THE FISCAL OFFICER AND MAYOR ARE HEREBY RESPECTFULLY AUTHORIZED TO DRAW THEIR WARRANTS AND CHECKS FOR PAYMENT OF SAID BILLS AS SET FORTH ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE(S) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$91,770.90 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Payroll Resolution #4508, rules suspended and that Payroll Resolution #4508 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Ms. Giersz seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and

Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Payroll Resolution #4508 is adopted.

PAYROLL RESOLUTION #4509

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCIL

EMPLOYEE PAYROLL P/E. 6/26/2021

PD. 7/2/2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BILLS. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS OF OHIO THAT THE FOLLOWING BILLS BE PAID AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND THE FISCAL OFFICER AND MAYOR ARE HEREBY RESPECTFULLY AUTHORIZED TO DRAW THEIR WARRANTS AND CHECKS FOR PAYMENT OF SAID BILLS AS SET FORTH ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE(S) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$69,514.83 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Traore motioned to adopt Payroll Resolution #4509, rules suspended and that Payroll Resolution #4509 is placed on 1st, 2nd, and final reading for immediate adoption. Ms. Giersz seconded. Roll call on suspension of rules: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed. Roll call on adoption: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Payroll Resolution #4509 is adopted.

Reports:

Mayor:

Mayor Elkins reminded staff and the public that there is still an ongoing pandemic, even though many restrictions are being lifted. Please get the vaccine to keep yourself and others safe.

Thank you to the rec and seniors committee, Ms. Giersz's family, volunteer, and the fire department for putting together a great senior movie night.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled to September 21st – everyone have a safe August and happy Labor Day.

Fiscal Officer:

Fiscal Officer Nagorski read the June 2021 RITA report (see attached.)

Fiscal Officer Nagorski read the July 2021 RITA report (see attached.)

Fiscal Officer Nagorski provided the June 2021 Rumpke report (see attached.)

Ms. Traore:

Nothing at this time.

Mr. Dunman:

He completed the order related to Cuyahoga County Soil and Water grants for plant kits to add vegetation to the Village, and a resident has volunteered to handle planting in September.

Mr. Moran:

Nothing at this time.

Mrs. Kray:

Continuing work on planning the Fall Fest, the next meeting is next Monday. We need volunteers!

Ms. Giersz:

Thank you to the seniors who attended the movie night.

Lt. Marniella:

Presented the May 2021 NHPD report (see attached.)

Presented the June 2021 NHPD report (see attached.)

Chief Higginbotham:

Presented the May 2021 NHFD report (see attached.)

Presented the June 2021 NHFD report (see attached.)

Mr. Sickels:

Presented the July 2021 Engineer's report (see attached.)

Also noted the Dominion project that is expected to start on the east side of Washington Park Boulevard soon.

Ms. Pagsuyoin:

Presented the July 2021 Housing and Building Department report (see attached.)

Mr. Milano:

Pavement marking on Harvard is expected to begin soon, as well as tree maintenance. The materials for the new storage barn in Kathy Edwards Park are being delivered and construction will follow.

Purchases & Approvals:

a. Ms. Traore motioned for the approval of concrete improvements at McGregor Park by Samartano Concrete at a cost not to exceed \$12,920. Seconded by Mr. Moran. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

b. Ms. Traore motioned for the approval of appointment of Scott Reid to NHFD as full-time firefighter/paramedic. Seconded by Mrs. Kray. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

c. Ms. Traore motioned for the approval of appointment of Dimitrios Lutter to NHFD as full-time firefighter/paramedic. Seconded by Mrs. Kray. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ms. Traore motioned for the removal of items d and e on the agenda under purchases and approvals. Seconded by Mrs. Kray. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

f. Ms. Traore motioned for approval of the proposal from OHM Advisors for engineering design services on the East 43rd and Alpha watermain replacement and resurfacing project at a cost not to exceed \$67,500. Seconded by Mr. Moran. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ms. Traore motioned for the removal of item g on the agenda under purchases and approvals. Seconded by Mrs. Kray. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Ms. Traore motioned for the approval of demolition of 4031 East 53rd at a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Seconded by Mrs. Kray. Roll call: Traore, Dunman, Moran, Kray, and Giersz voted yes. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

Pat Harp thanked all involved for the senior dinner and movie. She also noted that a recent call to the dispatch center had the operator tell her that her street, East 38th, is not in Newburgh Heights. Mayor Elkins assured her that the police and fire chiefs will update Chagrin Valley Dispatch ASAP to confirm that all dispatchers are knowledgeable of the Village's boundaries.

Brian Wright asked about the upcoming rummage sale and garage sales, and how to obtain ancillary meeting materials.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Kray motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 pm. Seconded by Ms. Traore. Motion passed 5 yes - 0 no.

Date Approved: 9/21/21

Mayor Trevor Elkins: 

Fiscal Officer Cathleen Nagorski: 