



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
1:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council President Jones asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Councilmembers Turner, Conwell, Kelly, Miller, Sweeney, Tuma and Jones were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Councilmembers Schron, Simon and Gallagher entered the meeting after the roll call was taken. Councilmember Stephens was absent from the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Josiah Quarles addressed Council regarding housing accessibility issues in the community.

4. MATTER REFERRED TO COMMITTEE / DISCUSSION:

Council President Jones turned the gavel over to Mr. Miller, Chair of the Finance & Budgeting Committee.

- a) R2023-0285: A Resolution adopting the 2024/2025 Biennial Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:

- 1) Department of Public Safety and Justice Services (including Opioid Fund) – Director Brandy Carney

Ms. Brandy Carney, Director of the Department of Public Safety and Justice Services, addressed Council regarding budget requests for the Department of Public Safety and Justice Services (including Opioid Fund). Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Carney pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

- 2) Department of Housing and Community Development
– Director Sara Parks Jackson

Ms. Sara Parks Jackson, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, addressed Council regarding budget requests for the Department of Housing and Community Development. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Parks Jackson pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

- 3) Department of Sustainability – Director Michael Foley

Mr. Michael Foley, Director of the Department of Sustainability, addressed Council regarding budget requests for the Department of Sustainability. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Foley pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

- 4) Department of Public Works – Director Michael Dever

Mr. Michael Dever, Director of the Department of Public Works, addressed Council regarding budget requests for the Department of Public Works. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Dever pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

- 5) Departmental Appeals

There were no departmental appeals.

- 6) Public Testimony

- a) **The following individuals representing the Greater Cleveland Congregation addressed Council regarding the legal bindover process for youths in Juvenile Court:**

- 1) **Mr. Lee Markowitz**
- 2) **Reverend Ryan Wallace**
- 3) **Reverend Dr. Napoleon Harris**
- 4) **Ms. Keisha Krumm**

- b) **Ms. Gabriella Celeste addressed the Council regarding funding related to youth justice issues.**
- c) **Ms. Diane Howard addressed the Council regarding funding related to health and human services for our most vulnerable residents.**
- d) **Ms. Cheryl Pritchard addressed the Council regarding rental and utility assistance services.**
- e) **Ms. Loh addressed the Council regarding funding to address persons experiencing homelessness.**
- f) **Ms. Gail Long addressed the Council regarding support and appropriate staffing levels to adequately address Medicaid services.**
- g) **Mr. Evan O'Reilly addressed the Council regarding funding for the Division of Children and Family Services for emergency resources for child removal due to poverty.**
- h) **Mr. Larry Bresler addressed the Council regarding funding for kinship care services.**
- i) **Mr. Robert Paponetti addressed the Council regarding funding for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.**

7) Discussion of Budget Amendment Concepts

Mr. Miller itemized the individual budget amendments that will be brought forward at the next budget hearing, scheduled for November 20 at 1:00 p.m., for consideration and referral to Council for approval of the final budget. Discussion ensued.

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Miller adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m., without objection.