



MINUTES

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
2079 EAST 9th STREET
3:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council President Miller called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council President Miller asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Councilmembers, Jones, Turner, Houser, Kelly, Sweeney, Gallagher, Schleper, Conwell, and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Mark Casselberry was absent.

[Clerk's Note: Councilmember Simon entered the meeting shortly after the roll-call was taken.]

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Eckart addressed Council and expressed his opposition to the proposed legislation on the April 22, 2025 Council agenda:

R2025-0151: amending the 2024/2025 Biennial Operating Budget for 2025 to prohibit the use of appropriated or other funds for the purpose of supporting the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Downtown Safety Patrol Unit.

4. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

- a) **David Gilbert, President and Chief Executive Officer for Destination Cleveland and Greater Cleveland Sports Commission – Annual updates regarding use of Bed Tax and the Sports Commission.**

Mr. Jon Pinney, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Destination Cleveland provided opening remarks and spoke about the various achievements of Destination Cleveland in 2024; and concluded by thanking his President and Chief

Executive Officer and staff, in addition to County Council and the Administration for their continued support.

Mr. David Gilbert, President and Chief Executive Officer for Destination Cleveland, stated that the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission will present their annual update regarding use of the Bed Tax to Councilmembers during a sporting event they will be hosting in the Fall. Mr. Gilbert made a brief presentation to County Council, which included the organization's vision, mission and strategic objectives; their staffing, leadership teams and board of directors; lodging tax funding model; annual operating budget and benchmarking against peer cities; budget allocations and return on the investment to Cuyahoga County in 2023; economic impact comparison on travel and tourism from 2019 to 2022; rates of tourism growth related to visitation, direct sales and tourism-related employment; marketing resources and brand campaign; results of marketing through website, videos and social media; projected convention sales; engagement and networking opportunities and visitation growth; and upcoming changes to their campaign strategy.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Gilbert pertaining to the presentation, which he answered accordingly.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Collective bargaining matters, including:
 - i) accepting the report containing findings and recommendations of Fact Finder Daniel Zeiser regarding negotiations between Cuyahoga County and Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, representing approximately (6) employees in the classification of Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant in the Sheriff's Department for a collective bargaining agreement for the period 1/1/25 – 12/31/27 at the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department.
 - ii) accepting the report containing findings and recommendations of Fact-Finder Jerry Sellman regarding negotiations between Cuyahoga County and the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW Region 2-B, Local 70 for a collective bargaining agreement covering approximately (38) employees in the classification of Correction Officer Corporal at the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department.

A motion was made by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Kelly, and approved by unanimous roll-call vote to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining matters and for no other purpose whatsoever. Executive Session was then called to order by Council President Miller at 3:59 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Jones, Turner, Houser, Simon, Kelly, Sweeney, Gallagher, Schleper, Conwell and Miller.

The following additional attendees were present: Deputy Chief Law Director Nora Hurley; Assistant Law Director Wesley Kretch; Assistant Law Director Rebecca Divorky; Aaron Reece, Sheriff's Department; Nestor Rivera, Deputy Sheriff Major; Sarah Nemastil, Human Resources Director; Council Chief of Staff Joseph Nanni; Legislative Budget Advisor Trevor McAleer; Special Counsel Michael King and Senior Health and Human Services Policy Advisor LeVine Ross.

At 4:29 p.m., Executive Session was adjourned without objection and Council President Miller then reconvened the meeting.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Council President Miller adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m., without objection.