



## **MINUTES**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS  
2079 EAST 9<sup>th</sup> STREET  
2:00 PM**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.**

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Council President Jones asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Councilmembers Miller, Sweeney, Byrne, Gallagher, Conwell, Kelly and Jones were in attendance and a quorum was determined.**

**[Clerk's Note: Councilmembers Schron, Turner, Stephens and Simon entered the meeting shortly after the roll-call was taken.]**

**Michael O' Malley, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor addressed Council regarding his concerns as it relates to the Jail agreement between the County, the Sheriff's Department and the City of Cleveland's Downtown Patrol; said that the City of Cleveland should establish their own patrol and be paying for this service; acknowledged that we have de-incentivized any need for them to hire police on their own because the County has picked up that expense; recommended that the County revisit whether the City should be paying for the Downtown Patrols, as our cash continues to go down while their cash surplus goes up; said that Downtown Patrols is a critical service that should continue, as the City has a shortage of police officers; however, the County should be compensated fairly and suggested that we utilize this as leverage to fix the jail agreement now, so that the agreement is fair.**

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Chief of Police John Majoy, Village of Newburgh Heights, addressed Council to report on the 2024 Northeast Ohio Amber Alert Conference held on October 23, that was funded by ARPA Community Grant Funds to secure guest speaker Elizabeth Smart. Chief Majoy also serves as Chair of the Northeast Ohio Amber Alert Committee, and President of the Board**

of Directors for Cleveland Missing, thanked Council for their support and commended Councilmember Kelly and Council President Jones for recognizing the importance of victimization when it comes to missing persons. He also recognized Lisa Rafferty, Manager and Jackie Costa, Quality Assurance Supervisor for the Cuyahoga Emergency Communications System (CECOMS).

4. ITEM REFERRED TO COMMITTEE / CONFIRMATION HEARING:

- a) R2024-0371: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Harold A. Pretel, upon his taking of the oath of office, as Sheriff of Cuyahoga County for the four-year term ending December 31, 2028, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Council President Jones made a brief statement regarding the confirmation hearing process for Resolution No. R2024-0371.**

**Mr. Harold A. Pretel, County Executive Ronayne's nominee for the position of Sheriff of Cuyahoga County, was called upon to deliver an opening statement. He provided background into his education, experience and qualifications for the position. Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Pretel pertaining to his experience and expertise, which he answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Ms. Stephens, Resolution No. R2024-0371 was considered and approved by unanimous roll-call vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

5. DISCUSSION:

- a) A Resolution adopting the 2024/2025 Biennial Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program Annual Update for 2025.

**Council President Jones passed the gavel to Mr. Miller, Chair of the Finance & Budgeting Committee. Councilmember Miller gave opening remarks regarding the hearing process for the Annual Budget Update.**

**Ms. Sarah Nemastil, Human Resources Director and Mr. John Kennick, Compensation Analyst addressed Council regarding the Internal Pay Equity Study. Discussion ensued.**

**Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Nemastil and Mr. Kennick pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**Mr. Walter Parfejewiec, Director of the Office of Budget and Management, provided Council with an overview of the revenue, expenses; subsidies; recommended deficit; personnel services; Elected Officials; Board of Elections and Boards and Commissions relating to the 2024/2025 Biennial Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program Annual Update. Discussion ensued.**

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

**Chairman Miller returned the gavel to Council President Jones to chair the remainder of the meeting.**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a) Collective bargaining matters, including:
  - i) a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Cuyahoga County and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, Local 27, AFL-CIO, representing approximately 193 employees in various classifications for the period 1/1/2024-12/31/2026;
  - ii) a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Cuyahoga County and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc., covering approximately 14 employees in the classification of Protective Services Officer Sergeant for the period 1/1/2024-12/31/2026;
  - iii) an Amendment to a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Cuyahoga County and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, Cellular 911 Unit (CECOMS) representing approximately 24 Call-takers within the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Safety and Justice Services for the period 4/1/2022 - 3/31/2025, to establish the terms of the Wage and Health Insurance re-openers in Articles 37 and 38 respectively, and to modify the duration of the contract;

**A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Miller, 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 Jones at 4:08 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Miller, Sweeney, Byrne, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Turner, Stephens, Simon, Kelly and Jones.**

**The following additional attendees were present:**

**Assistant Law Director, Senior Counsel Greg Huth; Assistant Law Director Wesley Kretch; Assistant Law Director Stephan Reid; Office of Child Support Services Director Tiffany Dobbins-Brazelton; Aaron Reece, Sheriff's Department; Assistant Law Director Rebecca Divorky; Chief of Staff Joseph Nanni; Policy Advisor LeVine Ross; Legislative Budget Advisor Trevor McAleer and Special Counsel Michael King.**

**At 4:34 p.m., Executive Session was adjourned without objection and Council President Jones then reconvened the meeting.**

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

**There was no miscellaneous business.**

8. ADJOURNMENT

**With no further business to discuss, Council President Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m., without objection.**