



MINUTES

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
2079 EAST 9th STREET
1:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council President Jones asked Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Councilmembers Gallagher, Conwell, Kelly, Miller, Sweeney, Byrne and Jones were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Councilmembers Schron, Turner, Stephens and Simon were in attendance after the roll call was taken.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. William Tarter addressed Council regarding funding capital repairs for Progressive Field and Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse.

4. ITEMS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE / CONFIRMATION HEARING:

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

- a) R2024-0372: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Alexandra R. Beeler, upon her taking the oath of office, as Inspector General 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. R2024-0372.

Ms. Alexandra Beeler, County Executive Ronayne’s nominee for the position of Inspector General was called upon to deliver an opening statement. Ms. Beeler provided background into her education, experience and qualifications for the position.

Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Beeler pertaining to her experience and expertise, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Mr. Kelly, Resolution No. R2024-0172 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Councilmembers Sweeney, Kelly, Miller and Conwell requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- b) R2024-0407: A Resolution adopting the 2024/2025 Biennial Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program Annual Update for 2025; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:**
 - i) Budget Amendments**
 - ii) Consideration for Referral to Council**

Mr. Miller read a brief statement thanking the Administration, Councilmembers and staff for their work during the budget process.

Mr. Miller proposed a package of amendments to Resolution No. R2024-0407 as follows:

- 1. fund costs for Collective Bargaining Agreements for Protective Service Officers and Child Support Specialists**
- 2. retain \$5 million dollars in the Health and Human Services Levy Fund**
- 3. add an additional \$2.9 million dollars for the jail food service contract**
- 4. increase funding for the OPTIONS Program by \$400,000.**

A motion was then made by Ms. Conwell, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed package of amendments.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Sweeney, Resolution No. R2024-0407 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading, as amended.

Mr. Miller then passed the gavel back over to Council President Jones to chair the remainder of the meeting.

- c) R2024-0432: A Resolution awarding a total sum not to exceed \$2,850,000.00 to the Gateway Economic Development Corporation for maintenance and upgrades to the Gateway Complex located in the City of Cleveland; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Erik Janas, Chief of Staff to County Executive Ronayne addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2024-0432. Discussion ensued.

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

On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2024-0432 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

5. DISCUSSION:

- a) Authorizing the issuance and sale of General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes in a principal amount to not exceed \$14,500,000.00, in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, to provide funds for the purpose of paying the costs of constructing, renovating, improving or repairing sports facilities, including specifically major capital repairs to such sports facilities, together with all necessary appurtenances and work incidental thereto, and to pay the costs of issuance in connection therewith; authorizing the preparation and use of a preliminary and final official statement.

Mr. Janas; Mr. Neil Weiss, Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer and Civic Relations for the Cleveland Guardians; Mr. Anthony Bonavita, Executive Vice President, Chief Venue and Development Officer for the Cleveland Cavaliers; and Mr. Bob Franz, Managing Director of Stifel, addressed Council regarding authorizing the issuance and sale of General Bond Anticipation Notes. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Messrs. Janas, Weiss, Bonavita and Franz pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a) Collective bargaining matters, including:
 - i) accepting the report containing findings and recommendations of Fact-Finder Jared D. Simmer regarding negotiations between Cuyahoga County and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 18 for a collective bargaining agreement covering approximately nine (9) employees in two (2) classifications in the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works; directing that funds necessary to implement the Amendment to the 1/1/2022 -

12/31/2024 Collective Bargaining Agreement be budgeted and appropriated;

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Ms. Turner 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 2:42 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Turner, Stephens, Simon, Kelly, Miller, Sweeney, Byrne and Jones. The following additional attendees were present: Law Director Richard Manoloff, Senior Counsel Gregory Huth, Assistant Law Director Reid Stephan, Assistant Law Director Ryan Geary, Senior HHS Policy Advisor LeVine Ross, Special Counsel Michael King, Legislative Budget Advisor Trevor McAleer and Council Chief of Staff Joseph Nanni.

At 2:42 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 2:55 p.m., without objection.