



## **MINUTES**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

**C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**

**2:00 PM**

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

**Council President Brady called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.**

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Council President Brady asked Clerk Schmotzer to call the roll. Councilmembers Tuma, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Brown, Houser, Simon, Miller and Brady were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Councilmembers Jones and Baker were in attendance shortly after the roll call was taken.**

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**County Executive Budish gave opening remarks regarding the introduction of County-wide human rights legislation protecting LGBTQ individuals from discrimination and expressed his support for the legislation and stated that this is a crucial step forward. He then elaborated about the issue and current Ohio law and stated that our County stands for “fairness and equity.”**

**The following individuals then addressed Council regarding Ordinance No. O2018-0009, an Ordinance enacting Chapter 206.13: Commission on Human Rights and Title 15: Anti-Discrimination to ensure equal opportunity and treatment for all citizens of Cuyahoga County:**

- a) Ms. Susan Becker**
- b) Ms. Peggy Zone Fisher**
- c) Mr. Doron Kalir**
- d) Ms. Vera Boggs**
- e) Mr. Roberto Ochoa**
- f) Ms. Andrea Craggett**
- g) Ms. Michelle Tomallo**

- h) Mr. Jackson Siegel
- i) Ms. Elizabeth Bonham
- j) Ms. Meg Ryan Shockey
- k) Ms. Gwen Stembridge
- l) Mr. Edward Gorski
- m) Ms. Kris Keniray

After public comments were given, Clerk Schmotzer made a statement that Ms. Simon had requested to be an original sponsor to this legislation; however, this was not reflected in the Ordinance. She indicated that the Ordinance would be corrected and then apologized to Ms. Simon for the misunderstanding and error.

4. ITEM REFERRED TO COMMITTEE / CONFIRMATION HEARING:

- a) R2018-0120: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Walter Parfejewiec, upon his taking the oath of office, as Director of the Department of Health and Human Services; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Council President Brady made a brief statement regarding the confirmation hearing process.

Mr. Walter Parfejewiec, County Executive Budish's nominee for the position of Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, was then called upon to deliver an opening statement. Mr. Parfejewiec provided background into his education, experience and qualifications for the position.

Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Parfejewiec pertaining to his experience and expertise, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Brady with a second by Mr. Jones, Resolution No. R2018-0120 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

5. ITEM REFERRED TO COMMITTEE:

- a) O2018-0009: An Ordinance enacting Chapter 206.13: Commission on Human Rights and Title 15: Anti-Discrimination to ensure equal opportunity and treatment for all citizens of Cuyahoga County.

Ms. Awatef Assad, Assistant Law Director, gave a presentation regarding Ordinance No. O2018-0009. Discussion ensued.

**Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Assad; Mr. Luis Cartagena, Inclusion Officer for Cuyahoga County; Ms. Susan Becker, Esq.; Ms. Alaina Jochum, Executive Director of Equality Ohio; and Mr. Duron Kalir, Professor at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**No further legislative action regarding Ordinance No. O2018-0009 was taken by Council.**

**6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**There was no miscellaneous business.**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss, Council President Brady adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m., without objection.**