



SHAKER HEIGHTS

Council Minutes CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS May 22, 2023

The Council of the City of Shaker Heights met in a regular session at 7:01 p.m., Mayor David E. Weiss presiding.

Council Members Present: Ms. Anne Williams (via Zoom)
Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams
Mr. Claytor (arrived at 7:06 p.m.)
Mr. Malone
Mrs. Moore
Mr. Roeder

Council Members Absent: None

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Video of this meeting may be found [here](#) through May 22, 2026.

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At 7:02 p.m. a Council work session was held.

Economic Development Director Laura Englehart gave a presentation on the Arcadia Development and Use Agreement and Tax Increment Financing.

At 7:17 p.m. Council returned to the regular meeting.

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It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 24, 2023, be approved as recorded.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Motion Carried

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CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS

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The Mayor invited members of the audience and those participating via Zoom the opportunity to “raise their hand” to provide public comment on agenda items.

Sam Klein of 18680 Parkland Drive commented about the Flock Safety five-year contract for license plate readers for approximately \$90,000. He is concerned and opposed to this and urged Council to vote it down. He asked how much research Council did effectively on the Flock system. He identified a dozen articles describing issues with the system from a wide variety of organizations including the ACLU concerning racial bias, and the selling of private data. He is not suggesting there are no benefits, but feels the potential harm must be considered. He urged Council to look at the consequences in using this system.

Sara Schiavoni of 2940 Morley Road stated that she is a citizen member of the Safety and Public Works Committee where the Flock camera system was first discussed. She thanked the Chief of Police for providing additional information and allowing her to participate in the Finance Committee meeting where some of her questions were answered. She remains concerned about the placement of the cameras and the disproportionate placement on the south eastern part of the community. It feels like some of the cameras are in redundant zones. She was more concerned when she learned they only go one-way, either east/west, or north/south. She urged Council and the Administration to think about the placement and what we are trying to do. If it is to monitor the largest ingress/egress, perhaps they should think more about placements going north and west like at South Woodland and Warrensville coming in from the highway, if that is the intention.

Greg Van Lunteren of 3127 Warrington commented on the importance of the Van Aken bikeway project. There is currently not a safe way for him to get to his parent’s home via Van Aken without driving. Van Aken is not a safe street for anyone outside of a car. Converting one lane to a bike lane would help reduce speeds and give people outside of cars a safe way to move between important public centers. He believes this project will be transformational for Shaker and would appreciate it if Council approves it tonight.

Cameron Roberts of 2972 Brighton Road expressed his support for the Van Aken bikeway plan. He submitted a letter of support to the City Planning Commission several weeks ago. He feels fortunate to live in a community that has made such a commitment to promoting bicycling through initiatives like this plan as well as the City’s status as a bicycle friendly community. However, the only on-street bike infrastructure for bicyclists is a combination of signage and sharrows. The benefits these provide are marginal and can be harmful by providing a false sense of safety for inexperienced cyclists. The recommendation for this plan is a significant step forward in terms of promoting bicycling as well as diversifying transportation options for residents.

Ben Becker of 3685 Sutherland stated that he supports the Van Aken bikeway plan. When he rides his bike he finds that he interacts and moves through the community in a way that is impossible behind the wheel of a car. He prefers riding his bike when it is safe. Cities and governments need to do much more in creating a safe environment for folks outside of a car. His son loves to ride behind him in a trailer. If he rides on the road he is forced to share it with cars and trucks that could easily disable him. He is at the complete mercy of the drivers of vehicles. The built environment designed for transportation favors motorized vehicles and it is time to rethink how residents move through the community. He loves this project and hopes the City does more.

Mickey Wolfberg of 19101 Van Aken stated that she is all for biking but she is worried that on her block it is not a safe environment the way it is designed. She shared her concerns in a letter with the Planning Department who responded. She is not convinced that it is enough to warrant going ahead with the proposal on that particular block where she lives. Trying to pull out of the RTA designated parking is tricky and if it is more difficult people will stop parking there. She thinks they should spend time researching during high traffic in the neighborhood.

The Mayor asked the Clerk of Council to read into the record public comments received by email or phone on any of the agenda items.

Clerk of Council Ms. Chaikin read aloud the following comments received.

From Alina Dunbar of the Onaway neighborhood, "I have been eagerly following the development of the Van Aken Bikeway plan, and I attended the "walk-and-ride through" with Mayor Weiss last month. To say that I'm excited about a safe, dedicated bike lane on Van Aken is an understatement. Van Aken is the main thoroughfare that connects the various Shaker neighborhoods. It also serves as the artery between Shaker's two main business districts on Lee Road (where I visit the library, grocery shop at Heinen's, and get coffee at Motiv) to Shaker's "new downtown", the Van Aken District (where I frequently meet friends for meals and drinks, go to the farmers' market in winter, and check out local goods and artisans).

We're a one-car household, and the Van Aken Bikeway will help to keep it that way! Even now, I avoid driving my car, and instead choose to bike, walk, and take the Rapid whenever possible. Not only are these healthier, more sustainable options, but biking makes me feel more connected with my city and my neighbors, and being able to safely bike to places is, in my view, a human right. We have plenty of roads for cars in Shaker Heights, but almost no options for people who are too young to drive, disabled, or cannot afford a car.

It's critically important that our city builds this piece of bicycle infrastructure. EVERYONE should feel safe and comfortable choosing to bike along Van Aken, whether they're 5 or 85. It is very important to me, my household, and my neighbors that the Shaker City Council move forward with adopting this plan."

From Joseph DeWitt-Foy, "I am writing to express my support for the proposed Van Aken Bikeway as was discussed at recent public forums. My family and I frequently ride along this stretch of Van Aken on our way to the Van Aken District and it is always a harrowing experience, either riding in the roadway or retreating to the bumpy sidewalks. Shaker is moving in the right direction with so many recent development projects, making it an attractive place to live and play for people with young families like myself. However, back sliding on this proposal would be a huge setback for bike safety and would paint a very negative image for the future of Shaker Heights.

As demonstrated by the Shaker Heights planning department, traffic counts are well within the capacity of a single traffic lane. Further, the only proven way to reduce traffic congestion is by improving multi-modal options transportation and shifting mode share away from cars. Taking the excess capacity of an overbuilt road like Van Aken and demonstrating the large pent up demand for improved bike infrastructure would show that Shaker Heights is a leading

city of the future, committed to improving the health, wealth and environmental sustainability of the community.”

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Ordinance No. 23-37, by Mr. Malone, adopting the *Van Aken Bikeway Plan* which creates a critical connection along Van Aken Boulevard between Lee and Farnsleigh Roads, adding to the City’s existing network of bike facilities and creating space where cyclists of all ages and abilities can ride.

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that the Van Aken district Bikeway Plan will improve connections throughout Shaker Heights connecting the eastern and western neighborhoods. This plan builds on past plans such as the Van Aken District Connections Plan in 2016 and the Lee Road Action Plan earlier this year. The City Planning Commission heard from ten individuals in support of the plan during review of this item at their meeting. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules in order to proceed with design and engineering and to adhere to the Ohio Department of Transportation schedule. Director Braverman then introduced Drew Parker from Toole Design who gave a presentation which may be viewed from the following links.

<https://shakerheightsoh.new.swagit.com/videos/230694>

<https://www.shakeronline.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/6665?fileID=16391>

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the City Planning Commission. It also received broad approval from the community members who attended. It is fair that Farnsleigh to Van Aken is the toughest stretch, but he is satisfied with the actual design phase which we will be moving into if this is approved. It can accommodate a lot of the concerns that are being raised. It is very hard now to back out of the RTA parking along the tracks. Reducing it to one lane should make it safer. City Planning Commission members were also supportive of the idea that potentially the bikeway could extend to Shaker Square, although there may be some trickier design challenges there. While there were some initial discussions about changing traffic flow at various intersections along Van Aken, traffic turns at Avalon and other places will not be changed. There are some improvements that will be made in the way that crosswalks are aligned for both pedestrians and drivers. He is looking forward to the design and engineering phase where they can ensure some concerns about sight lines and parking are satisfied. There is a lengthy year-long implementation process so he is confident they will be able to overcome a lot of the concerns that were raised.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that in thinking about this plan in the context of other City developments, specifically Van Aken district and later the Lee Road Plan to address slowing down of traffic along Lee Road, if they don’t reduce the amount of vehicular traffic and gas powered engines in cars, they will never meet climate goals set nationally. They are looking at this proactively now to encourage safer bicycle traffic in lieu of car traffic eventually hoping that EVs and the increase in chargers will make that form of transportation more accessible to many. Looking at how Shaker positions itself as a community of the future, she sees this as a key strategy for doing so. The process has been thorough, transparent, and included the entire community of people who wanted to engage. She expressed her appreciation to the City Planning Department.

Council member Mr. Claytor asked if City staff received responses to the postcards that went out to the residents on Van Aken similar to Ms. Wolfberg's comments expressing concern about parking, safety, congestion, and those types of things.

Director Braverman stated that they did not receive comments from the two mailings. They heard those concerns later in the process. They did a bike audit and walk audit, and that's when they started hearing some of the concerns and some even after that. They tried to address all the concerns that came in. Some may be worked on during final engineering to try to alleviate some of the concerns. Postcards went to every unit, for both apartments and condos based on county records. They used the *Shaker Life* magazine list. Anybody who is getting the *Shaker Life* magazine, and anyone in the project area received two postcards.

Council member Mr. Roeder thanked everyone who commented. Council always appreciates when people come in to tell them what's going on. That is not always easy to do. On this particular issue personally as someone who has ridden his bike to City Hall, and The Dealership where his office was located, with these changes he can see why residents feel more comfortable. The idea of having the bike lanes as identified here, and slowing down traffic to the extent that they can, will make this a more bikable community than it currently is. He supports Mrs. Moore's comments in how extensive this process has been. No process that we go through is perfect, and there are always different opinions on these things, but there has been a lot of public comment, surveys, discussions, and so on. They did their best to capture the different perspectives on this and integrate it into this recommendation.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams asked what engagement would look like between now and April 2024 when construction starts.

Director Braverman stated that in general there will be two public meetings as part of that engineering final design. The City has not hired a consultant yet, so she can't talk specifically about what it will be. We will go through a similar engagement process and send postcards or letters. We will look into how the postcards are distributed in apartment buildings and condos to make sure that every resident is receiving one.

Ms. Carmella Williams agreed that no process is perfect, but there was an attempt to try and be as inclusive as possible. She asked if there was any way of tracking where the respondents were from in the online survey, and if they can consider doing that in the future.

Director Braverman stated that they did track residents versus non-residents to make sure that there wasn't any difference in responses and there was not. They did not ask for location of neighborhood within Shaker, but they really wanted to make sure that we were hearing the same thing from residents as well as non-residents.

Council member Mr. Earl Williams asked if there was any discussion or identification as to when there would be a peak season or month, or a dominance of bicycle traffic in the city, since we have four seasons.

Director Braverman responded no, but that warmer weather and clearer weather will have more bike riders. In winter when there may be a lot of snow, probably less.

Council member Mr. Earl Williams asked if they felt it would be onerous on those who aren't biking for inordinate amounts of time, i.e., the spring and summer months.

Director Braverman stated that bike riders like to ride year round, so we think this path will be used year round.

Mayor Weiss stated that he has heard two things from residents. The first has been primarily related to the RTA parking spots and pulling out into traffic, which frankly still remains challenging. The second issue he has heard continuously and has experienced personally is the speed on Van Aken from Lee Road to Farnsleigh being excessive. He now lives on Van Aken and won't ride on the street in front of his own place because he is worried about the speed. Finding ways to slow down that speed is the only real solution. The issue of backing into traffic from the RTA parking spots is challenging. He would suggest that during the design stage that our consultants go back and take a look to see if there's anything else that we can do to address those concerns. He and the staff have had a conversation about reducing the speed limit at least part of the day or all of the day as a way to reinforce that, which will enable getting in and out of those parking spots a little easier. They still have work to do, but overall the plan to reduce speed on Van Aken is a desirable goal, especially leading into our key commercial corridors.

It was moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-37 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Ordinance No. 23-37 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Malone Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Abstain	Mr. Claytor
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-38, by Mrs. Moore, administrative acceptance of the approval of the City Planning Commission and confirmation of the granting of a conditional use permit to Van Aken BC, LLC, for an event center located at 20021 Farnsleigh Road in the Van Aken District, pursuant to Section 1213.05 of the City's Zoning Code.

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that the City Planning Commission approved this conditional use permit with a few conditions such as the hours of operation not being after 11:00 p.m., an obligation to adhere to the City's noise ordinance, to comply with a management plan and a security plan, to remain free of a pattern of criminal activity, that there'll be no events open to the public, and that this be reviewed after six months of operation. After the City Planning Commission meeting, the applicant submitted a management plan and a security plan that meets some of these conditions. The proposal is to use the second floor space over the Paloma restaurant as a gathering and event center, and this requires a conditional use similar to an assembly hall. Space will be used for small to medium sized private events from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. They expect it to be used 20 to 30 times a year. Council confirmation is required for a conditional use permit. This item is requested with a suspension of the rules in order to use the space on schedule.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved subject to the conditions by the City Planning Commission. This has come about because the landlord was unable to find another restaurant tenant to use the space. This would be a great use of the space. It's a use that we know has been requested in the Van Aken district. The six month review will be helpful in case that 20 to 30 times a year balloons into something greater than that.

Council member Mrs. Moore asked which building this is in.

Director Braverman clarified that this is in the B2 restaurant building along Farnsleigh. Paloma is on one side, and Shake It is on the other side. This is on the second floor above Paloma.

Mayor Weiss stated that the owner of the Van Aken district as well as he and staff desire to have a space like this for private gatherings and feel it would be very beneficial. It would be a nice addition to the Van Aken district.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-38 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-38 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-39, by Mrs. Moore, administrative acceptance of the approval of the City Planning Commission and confirmation of the granting of a conditional use permit for a specialized instructional school, known as Around the Table Yarns, located at 20085 Chagrin Boulevard, pursuant to Section 1213.05 of the City's Zoning Code.

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item is for a conditional use permit for a specialized instructional school for a classroom for Around the Table Yarns. The City Planning Commission approved this with the condition that the classroom would be the main activity of the space. In this classroom various types of knitting classes will be offered. The retail operation used to operate in this space, but was moved to the Van Aken side of the plaza. Council confirmation is required for a conditional use permit. This item is requested with a suspension of the rules in order for the operation to continue as scheduled.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the City Planning Commission. The educational use was occurring before COVID-19 on the retail side of the building. The business has expanded so they would like to have the classes on the other side of the building.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Malone, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-39 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Malone, that Ordinance No. 23-39 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-40, by Ms. Carmella Williams, authorizing a contract with Online Solutions, LLC for a one-year period from July 2023 through July 2024, for the continued use and expansion of the CitizenServe online platform in the total not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000, without competitive bidding as a sole source, and declaring an emergency.

Building and Housing Inspection Director Kyle Krewson stated that the City first started using CitizenServe in 2019 for licensing, permitting, and code enforcement activities. It's used daily by all of the Building and Housing Inspection staff and for any functions that crossover to other departments, including Law, Planning, Fire, Economic Development, and Public Works, as well as outside plans examiners and the City engineer. We partnered with First Suburbs Consortium in 2016 to develop and seek competitive proposals for a platform that would serve many of the communities in the First Suburbs Consortium. This partnership has led to a reduction in user costs by 33% and savings in grants for the first year costs of over \$71,000. Up until this year, our use of the platform didn't cross over the threshold for requiring Council approval. Adding additional functions and more users has now put us over the threshold. It is currently used for permitting, plan reviews, licensing, vacant property monitoring, exterior systematic inspections, complaint inspections, public nuisance declarations, all sorts of enforcement activities, and managing the City's land bank. All of those processes are now completely electronic. Our internal processes are electronic and completely paperless. There's a public facing portal component to this as well. There's 24/7 online access for residents, contractors, business owners, and property managers to view inspection results, download documents, apply for permits and communicate with City staff. When we first started using the platform, there were 17 users in the City. We're now up to 29, and we'll add likely one or two more this year at \$1,200 per seat annually. That puts us at around \$35,000 in subscription costs anticipated this year. That has already been budgeted in the Building and Housing Inspection Department budget. As they roll out point of sale and foreclosure registration in the next few months they'll also need to do more data migration. There's a one-time cost of \$4,000 to \$10,000 for that process. Funding is available in the Information Technology Department capital budget intended for use on this platform. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so they may proceed with integration of point of sale and foreclosure registrations.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Neighborhood and Economic Development Committee. One important question was how this program improved the work of the department. It has allowed the department to work more efficiently to free up staff members to do other tasks or do them quicker. It has the potential to be used by other department members. It's an excellent purchase.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. The discussion mostly focused around the response from residents, which has been mostly positive. There is a little hesitancy sometimes by our residents to use something new online, but they're being served well by staff and contractors, which is very enthusiastic. Council members appreciate this system as well because it has reduced a number of complaints they receive from residents who struggled a little bit with some of the services. It has been very positive.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams asked if there have been any complaints or frustrations from users with the program itself or from folks that may not have access to computers.

Director Krewson stated that anytime you go to a new system, there are some bugs initially. By and large people have been supportive and patient in the process. Some of the processes like the rental registration component is one where they take a more hands-on approach. If somebody calls who is having issues with it, they will take that application over the phone and manually enter it. In terms of access to a computer to use the system, there is a kiosk that's available anytime the department counter is open. They regularly have people there, and if their having trouble, they can assist them so that the next time they apply for a permit, for instance, it's a bit easier for them to do on their own. By and large the response rate has been tremendous. Every minute contractors have to come in, they're not making money, so they can get permit applications and licensing done in the evening hours, and the next morning log in and download their permits. It's been a very positive experience by and large. There are folks that grumble about it who don't want to adapt to using new technology. Staff helps them through the process.

It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-40 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-40 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-41, by Ms. Carmella Williams, approving and authorizing execution of a Purchase Agreement under the City's Side Lot Program for the sale of the City-owned property located at 3590 Hildana Road (Parcel No. 735-21-148) to Cinnamon Anderson, the owner of the property at 3594 Hildana Road (Parcel No. 735-21-147), for \$1.00, authorizing the disposition of City-owned property without competitive bidding, and declaring an emergency.

Neighborhood Housing Specialist Brendan Zak stated that this application is for the side lot located at 3590 Hildana Road. The applicant plans to use the side lot to expand her outdoor living space and gardening space. The City-owned lot is 45 feet wide and 160 feet deep. The applicant does meet all

qualifications and conditions of the program. Her home is owner-occupied, not in foreclosure and is current on property taxes. There are no outstanding building, housing or Zoning Code violations and the applicant's property will be permanently consolidated with the vacant lot. The City acquired this lot in October 2011 and demolished the house in 2012. The applicant's proposal is consistent with the City and neighborhood goal of expanding the size of lots in the neighborhood and the City has no redevelopment plans for the vacant lot. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules in order to expedite the sale of the City-owned property to reduce the use of City resources to maintain the lot.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Neighborhood and Economic Development Committee. This application was pretty straightforward.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.

It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-41 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-41 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-42, by Mr. Roeder, accepting a proposal and authorizing a personal, professional consultant contract with Transmap Corporation, in the total not to exceed amount of \$34,033, for the 2023 Street Condition Rating Assessment Project, and declaring an emergency.

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that we have rated City streets in-house on a system of one to five, which has served the City well for the last 20 years, but recognize the need to move into

the best practice industry standard of pavement condition rating. It is a laborious task to set up which the City does not have staff for, nor to create the database. However staff felt the need to obtain this which would help with grants and give us a reality check that we're spending our money on the right roads by having a good rating system. We sent proposals to five firms and received responses from three of them. The lowest and best proposal was from Transmap which does everything with technology. They will have multiple trucks with cameras going up and down each lane of the roadway taking photos of cracks, curbing, chips from potholes, and prior Cleveland Water breaks in the roadway along with items we didn't ask for, such as street pavement markings, hydrants, stop signs, and roadway signs. They have the capability of performing this in a technical, professional manner. It will only take them about a week to gather all the data and a couple more weeks to transpose it into a database that they will make available to us in perpetuity. Staff interviewed their team. They do a lot of work throughout the country and their cost was very competitive with the other costs. They would perform a one-time pavement rating system that Public Works would maintain. If in 5 or 10 years we wanted to do this again, we would seek proposals again.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously supported by the Safety and Public Works Committee. They had a fairly detailed conversation on this item as documented in the memo that was distributed for this item. Primarily the discussion was around if we need to do this and spend approximately \$35,000. The resulting decision was yes we do because we don't have the staff to do this now. We haven't been able to do this for two years or so. It helps us with funding to be able to have a standard when a road is scored. We know that it's consistent with how other roads are graded across the county, and across the area. It gives us a better chance to achieve funding. Just one grant or fund for a road can be very significant and far outstrip the cost of this program, which is not an annual cost.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. The only question raised was a clarification that this is not an annual expense but would be approximately every five years or longer.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this sounds like a great idea. He asked how the City has done this historically. It seems like a lot could change in five years and he asked how staff make use of the information and input new information as it arises.

Director Speese stated that Public Works staff will update this database as events happen and every year based on the streets resurfaced. If they were rated poorly with the PCR rating, staff will update the information. They have time for that, but not to drive every single street every year. In the past they would have the same individual perform the street ratings typically in October so they could process the capital budget and bid by January 1st. It was important that they evaluate them every year at the same time to be consistent. That has served the City very well. They have resurfaced the right roads that were in horrible condition, but this will help them maintain it going forward.

It was moved by Mr. Roeder, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-42 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Roeder, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-42 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-43, by Mrs. Moore, authorizing the execution of an Amendment to the Master Tax-Exempt Lease/Purchase Agreement with U.S. Bancorp Government Leasing and Finance, Inc. dated September 15, 2014, additional equipment schedules and other documents, for the acquisition, purchase financing, and leasing of a Bucher Municipal Street Sweeper, and authorizing all other actions necessary to complete the transaction, and declaring an emergency.

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that the City has two street sweepers. Typically we own one and we lease another one. This item is for the purchase of a street sweeper that we would own after five years. We have a master lease agreement with US Bank. We found the sweeper that will best meet our needs. The lease payment is included in our sewer budget annually already set aside roughly in the amount of \$80,000.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.

Director Speese stated that it was not presented to the Safety and Public Works Committee because staff thought they had another month and would present it next month. The company selling the sweeper had another buyer so if we didn't get it this month we would be put on the list for some time early next year. We already have three trucks on back order, from as long ago as 2021, so they wanted to move forward.

Finance Director John Potts stated that the City's municipal advisor Matt Stuczynski helped us greatly with getting quotes and it makes perfect sense to use US Bank, with whom we already have a master lease agreement. They had the best rate. This is already budgeted.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-43 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-43 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

* * * *

Ordinance No. 23-44, by Mr. Earl Williams, authorizing a five-year contract extension with Flock Group, Inc. for installation, software, maintenance and other services of seven Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Reader cameras, in an amount not to exceed \$88,150, and declaring an emergency.

Police Commander John Cole stated that about a year ago the City entered into an agreement for the Flock camera system. We were able to purchase six cameras which were put up in six locations. Over a year we were able to evaluate that technology. We found out we had 87 hits that were really invaluable for us in solving several crimes, especially involving wanted persons, stolen automobiles, and missing persons, which is the one that most people don't realize Flock cameras help with. We do very well with solving our missing person cases. In fact, this year out of the 42 people who have gone missing, we have resolved 38 with our uniform officers alone using these cameras. The other four have been assigned to detectives. We don't have missing people in the City of Shaker Heights. After the one year contract, we were so successful, Flock offered us a five-year extension at a \$500 discount per camera, which is a \$17,500 discount for a total of \$88,100 which was presented to Council at a work session.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. There was considerable discussion on this and members were also invited subsequently to attend the Finance Committee for a follow up discussion around the location of the cameras, the efficacy of the cameras, and overall weighing the pros and cons. Decisions like this, like many of the decisions that come before Council aren't necessarily easy to make because there are a lot of different variables. The committee talked this through with the Police Chief and different members of his staff who provided more detail so committee members felt overwhelmingly that the benefits outweigh the risks of having this sort of technology. One of the important discussion points is that this technology is not tracking every car when they went here or there. Certain license plates and information are loaded in the system and if there's a hit it triggers a notification where law enforcement can be involved.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. The majority of the discussion centered on what information is put in the database and where that information comes from. It was clarified that it comes from the NCIC felony warrant database. License plates are entered for people who have outstanding felony warrants. There can be information put in from Shaker specifically to Amber alerts or missing people. After quite a robust conversation and explanation from the Police Chief and staff the committee members unanimously supported recommending purchasing this, and continuing the contract with the Flock cameras.

Council member Mr. Malone clarified that the cameras are owned and installed by Flock, and our contract with them is to access the data. He asked if other law enforcement agencies are entitled to access the same information from Shaker Heights cameras because it is Flock data.

Police Chief Hudson explained that is only if we allow them permission to access it.

In response to a follow-up question from Council member Mr. Malone as to whether the information could be sold to private entities, Police Chief Hudson responded not at all.

Council member Mr. Malone also asked about the technology taking license plate snapshots and if officers are monitoring these cameras around the clock.

Police Chief Hudson stated that it is used as an investigative tool. If we have a crime in a certain area and a vehicle description with a Flock camera in that area, officers can check to see if that vehicle was in that area. They can also use it for alerts. If a vehicle comes through the Flock system related to an Amber alert, a patrol officer in that area will get alerted that the vehicle came through that certain camera location and can respond accordingly.

Council member Mr. Malone asked how the decision is made on whether to train the camera on those entering the City versus leaving the City.

Police Chief Hudson stated that the technology was installed before he came here, but his understanding is that they want to capture vehicles coming into the City because there is only so much that can be done if they are leaving the City, like notify the next jurisdiction. They want to get vehicles coming into the City to protect residents.

Council member Mr. Malone asked about other places in the City potentially where security cameras could be implemented, if there are private security cameras in certain parking lots across the City, and if the owners are required to share information with law enforcement.

Police Chief Hudson stated that he is not aware of any ordinance which requires that or of any private cameras in parking lots throughout the City.

Council member Mr. Claytor asked about situations where a description does not include a license plate number and how to stop unnecessary interactions with police officers or law enforcement by people having a similar vehicle. He wanted to know what differentiations are there to ensure that citizens are not having unnecessary interactions with law enforcement.

Police Chief Hudson stated that this is an investigative tool. They would have to have other information to act upon information from the public about a crime.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams asked if the service agreement allows for cameras to be moved at any time during the contract, and if so, would that be done for an additional cost.

Police Chief Hudson stated that we can move them, but he is not sure if there would be a cost because Flock would have to come out, unless we put it on existing City infrastructure.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams stated that a third party who would want to access that information would need permission from Shaker which suggests that Shaker owns the data collected on our behalf and stored in the cloud.

Police Chief Hudson stated that it cannot be breached. It hasn't been breached. We don't sell the data. If someone retrieved information out of the system, it would leave a computer trail that lets the system know who was in there and asked for what data. It is restricted to probably two people in the Police Department.

Council member Mr. Roeder asked if the data is deleted after a certain period of time.

Police Chief Hudson stated that it is not stored forever. It is not a fishing expedition. The City has a professional law enforcement agency that does a professional job. They want to make sure that they keep citizens safe. The only thing entered are felonies, violent offenses, wanted vehicles, wanted individuals, or Amber alert types of information.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that he appreciates the policy of the Police Department not to share the information with private entities. He would only be comfortable with the information being shared with other law enforcement agencies.

Police Chief Hudson stated that he doesn't know of a situation where we would ever share that information with a private agency, it would only be for a law enforcement purpose where he or one of the commanders would have to sign off. He would need to know exactly why they want the information and it would have to be for a law enforcement purpose.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that we might want to have a written policy on this so we could respond appropriately based on objective criteria.

Council member Mr. Claytor asked if there have been flags about this data being used in ways that are biased or inequitable with regards to race and ethnicity.

Police Chief Hudson responded no. He has used Flock systems in his past Police Departments and the Flock system here. He has not received one complaint of bias using the Flock system here or at his previous agency.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams agreed with the recommendation that there be something in writing.

Police Chief Hudson stated that if it doesn't already exist it will be added.

It was moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Mr. Roeder, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-44 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
 Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Malone,
 Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

 Nays: None

 Abstained: Mr. Claytor

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Mr. Roeder, that Ordinance No. 23-44 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
 Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Malone
 Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

 Nays: None

 Abstained: Mr. Claytor

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-45, by Mrs. Moore, amending Ordinance 22-126 making appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Shaker Heights, Ohio for the year ending December 31, 2023, as amended by Ordinance No. 23-22 and 23-33 to amend appropriations in Fund No. 101, the General Fund, and other funds by transferring \$80,000 from the Police Department personal services operating budget to the Law Department other expenses budget in Fund 101, the General Fund, and adding a \$5,000 appropriation to the Human Resources Department other expenses operating budget in Fund 101, the General Fund, and adding a \$152,000 appropriation in Fund 753, Unclaimed Funds budget, and declaring an emergency.

Law Director William Ondrey Gruber stated that one portion of this appropriation ordinance deals with a request for a one-time transfer of funds from the portion of the Police Department budget for 2023 for personnel that was not used because there were unfilled positions, to the Law Department budget for outside counsel expenses. The Law Department budget for special legal counsel was set in 2023, but the labor counsel costs exceeded expectations and additional need for outside counsel has depleted the funds. The Finance Director suggested they come from the Police Department compensation budget because of the unspent funds.

Finance Director John Potts stated this is budget neutral. We're pretty comfortable that the Police Department budget at this point in the year has underspent as we're not fully staffed. This was the

most efficient place to take the funds and move them over to the Law Department's Other Expenses budget.

Director Potts stated that he is presenting the next portion of this item on behalf of Human Resources Director Sandra Middleton for the appropriation of a Medical Mutual wellness reimbursement. Medical Mutual administers the City's self-insured healthcare plans. In 2022 Medical Mutual agreed to provide the City up to \$5,000 in reimbursements for various wellness items and events. They have sent that reimbursement check which has been deposited into the General Fund, and we're requesting now that we appropriate these funds for employee events. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so the reimbursement may be used in 2023 for employee events.

Fire Chief Patrick Sweeney stated that the final portion of this item is for an appropriation of \$152,000 to be placed into an unclaimed bonds account. We have an ordinance which authorizes the Fire Chief to work directly with an insurance company to take receipt of a certain percentage of the funds so that we can hold those funds in escrow to ensure that a fire damaged property is repaired and restored to either a condition where it may be occupied or the property might need to be razed. When we take receipt of those funds, it provides the City leverage to make sure that one of those options occurs. We currently have four fire damaged properties in the City. The repairs have been made on three of the four to the City's satisfaction and we're ready to reimburse funds that we took receipt of in the amount of about \$220,000. Historically we would take receipt of these funds and make the payments out of an unclaimed funds account. We also had a fire that occurred on Courtland. There was a significant loss and the City took receipt of \$140,000. That payment is growing the unclaimed funds account into a negative balance. Historically, there is about \$148,000 budgeted. These three properties, one of them being very large, brings that account underfunded currently. Working with the Finance Department we believe that \$152,000 will leave a contingency in there for some other items. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so we may reimburse these dollars to residents to allow them to continue property repairs and upgrades.

Council member Mr. Earl Williams stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Administration Committee.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. There were a couple minor clarification points as noted in the memo that was distributed for this item.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-45 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. .Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-45 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

* * * *

Ordinance No. 23-46, by Mrs. Moore, amending the Administrative, Traffic and General Offenses Codes of the City of Shaker Heights to adopt changes made to State laws that are incorporated into the City's Codified Ordinances, and declaring an emergency.

Law Director William Ondrey Gruber stated every year or two Council is requested to adopt into our codified ordinances changes that track the state laws. We have incorporated a number of state laws, especially in the traffic and general offenses codes into the City's ordinances. The Ohio General Assembly often changes those laws that are incorporated so we have to incorporate those changes into our ordinances when those changes are made. We do it all at once rather than one at a time as the changes are made. The proposed changes are already in existence in state law. We are simply incorporating those same changes to our code in order to keep our code consistent with state law and not be in conflict with it. A couple things that we are doing a little bit differently than state law. We're incorporating holidays, that's a change to our Administrative Code, in the language that the state is using. The list of holidays includes an additional holiday the City has that the state does not, the day after Thanksgiving. That's already been approved in a different section of the codified ordinances, but to make this section that already exists consistent, we're adding that holiday as well as Juneteenth, which was included into the City's Chapter 135, but needs to be incorporated into the Administrative Code to be consistent. The other change we did not incorporate was the fireworks changes that the state made because Council adopted changes to our Fireworks Code to maintain the prohibition on the use of fireworks in the City for consumers while the state has allowed that. There are a number of changes. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules in order to keep our code updated with the state law. The reason that we have incorporated many state laws is to allow us to enforce them on the City level. We may in many cases have a stricter penalty or the same penalty that the state has. Enforcing the state law on a local level allows that any fines from it come to the City rather than going to the state from any prosecution.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. It was discussed in some detail. There were a number of questions and comments that are highlighted in the memo that was distributed for this item. The memo also highlights that we need to remain consistent and not in conflict with state law. On a lot of these we didn't have a choice but to remain consistent and not in conflict with the state law.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Roeder, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-46 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Roeder, that Ordinance No. 23-46 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-34, by Mr. Malone, to fix the compensation of the Mayor for the term beginning January 1, 2024.

Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin stated that this item is on third reading for Council's requirement to fix the compensation for the Mayor. The City Charter has requirements for this and the salary needs to be set by the end of June this year. The compensation for the Mayor becomes effective January 1st, 2024 which will be six months after the end of June. The compensation for the Mayor is currently \$87,000. It has been at that rate since January 1st, 2016. The proposed ordinance sets that salary at \$103,000 a year, effective January 1st, 2024. This ordinance was moved by Vice Mayor Sean Malone so it only needs a second and a vote. No emergency is required.

Vice Mayor Mr. Malone stated that Council deliberated for several months on this topic and tried to make a concerted effort to focus on our institutions and the offices as opposed to the individuals who are currently holding the offices. They talked about how we may attract more applicants to serve an elected office, people from different backgrounds to make our City more inclusive, and are making an increase consistent with past practice of doing this every eight years. They did have some discussion about whether they should do this more frequently, but that will be left for the next time around when it comes before Council.

Council member Mr. Roeder commented on the timing of this item for those who may be wondering why the Mayor's compensation takes place next year and Council's two years after that. Everyone who votes for this needs to go through an election. There's a mayoral election this fall. The mayoral increase won't happen until after that election. Four seats on Council are open for election this fall and then the other three are two years from now. No member of Council who would vote on this would receive any compensation change until after there is an election. Sometimes there are questions on the timing of the compensation. That is why it is the way it is.

Law Director William Ondrey Gruber explained that this item is on third reading. The first reading was May 8 and the second reading was May 16. Council may leave it on third reading. They don't have to vote on it tonight, but they certainly have to vote on it before the end of June.

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-34 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
 Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
 Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

* * * *

Ordinance No. 23-35, by Mr. Malone, to fix the compensation of the Council for the term beginning January 1, 2026.

Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin stated that this item is on third reading for Council's requirement to fix the compensation for Council. The City Charter has requirements for this and the salary needs to be set by the end of June this year. The compensation for Council goes into effect January 1st, 2026, which is a year and a half from now. The salary for Council is currently \$10,440. It has been that since January 1st, 2018. After several deliberations Council has recommended it to be increased to \$12,500 a year beginning January 1st, 2026. This ordinance was moved by Vice Mayor Sean Malone so it only needs a second and a vote. No emergency is required.

Vice Mayor Mr. Malone stated that Council deliberated for several months on this topic and tried to make a concerted effort to focus on our institutions and the offices as opposed to the individuals who are currently holding the offices. They talked about how we may attract more applicants to serve an elected office, people from different backgrounds to make our City more inclusive, and are making an increase consistent with past practice of doing this every eight years. They did have some discussion about whether they should do this more frequently, but that will be left for the next time around when it comes before Council

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-35 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
 Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor
 Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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The Mayor invited members of the audience and those participating via Zoom the opportunity to “raise their hand” to provide public comment on agenda items.

Ethan Khorana of Shaker Boulevard stated that he is the campaign manager for one of the local ballot initiatives, Shaker Citizens for Fair Ticketing Campaign. He would like to discuss his outrage at some

of the comments that came from the Mayor's office, the City website, as well as the ordinance to raise the Mayor's salary. On April 12, Mayor Weiss used the publicly funded government website in an attempt to shut down his campaign, Shaker Citizens for Fair Ticketing. Mayor Weiss tried to persuade Shaker residents to reject his initiative by spewing the false narrative that the initiative that would reduce racial inequity and increase public safety, would cost too much. Mr. Khorana stated that Mayor Weiss said that there was no room in the budget for this kind of initiative or these kind of reforms. Today the Mayor raised his salary to over a \$100,000 per year. In 2020, Mr. Khorana spoke at the Unity Rally outside City Hall, alongside hundreds of other Shaker Heights residents, and asked for reforms to the policing and public safety systems. At that same event, Mr. Khorana stated that Mayor Weiss promised the people of Shaker Heights that change would come. Since that day, police use of force has doubled in Shaker Heights and close to 100% of police use of force is against people of color in Shaker Heights. Mr. Khorana stated that the Mayor wants to push forward the playbook used around the country that people want to abolish the police, and defund the police, which is not true. They need to expand the crisis intervention team and have transparency within the City. Mr. Khorana believes that neglecting this issue is easy for the Mayor because he does not have to deal with the reality that someone like Mr. Khorana does. The reality that because of a person's skin tone, they will be treated differently within their own community. The reality that when family members come to visit, they get stopped because they don't look like they belong in that neighborhood. Neglect is easy when the Mayor doesn't have to worry about his brother who has Down syndrome. Neglect is easy when the Mayor's brother can put on his headphones and put on his music and walk around his neighborhood without being stopped by the police or having someone call the police on him. Mr. Khorana stated that he does not have that privilege and his family doesn't have that privilege. The black and brown people of color, and differently abled residents of Shaker Heights do not have that privilege. They cannot and will not neglect this issue because it is their reality. Mr. Khorana stated that the Mayor claims that the initiative is too much and that it is an all or nothing legislation, but nothing has come out of City Hall to reduce these inequities. In the public safety practices, there is clear implicit bias and something needs to change. Mr. Khorana believes the Mayor may try to push aside the initiative while putting more dollars in the Mayor's pocket, but he will not push aside the people of Shaker Heights and the will of the people. They will decide in November.

Ann Barnett of 21169 Claythorne stated that she applauded the young man leading the charge for the charter amendment. He is tenacious and passionate on the issue of racial justice and well deserving to be one of the recipients of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations in 2021. He actually reminds her of herself and her own passion for racial justice when she was a teenager. She was also nationally recognized for her work for racial justice in high school with the Clinton Administration's One America Initiative. She has a lifelong passion for racial justice and a well-informed perspective on systemic racism in America, especially for Black Americans. She is also well aware that she is a White millennial woman with privilege. Like Mr. Khorana she is clearly not African American. However, alongside her inboard passion for racial justice, half of her family is now Black through her wife Jeanette of 15 years, her stepson, and all of their extended family. They also have a 10-year old son who is biracial, but is seen as a Black boy in America. She has close family members who are police officers. She also has relatives in federal prison and county jail. She has family members who are psychologists and social workers, and relatives who have severe mental health issues. While she applauds Mr. Khorana's passion and the intent of the proposed amendment, she finds fault with the adults who are supporting the petition. She believes they are doing him a disservice. She strongly opposes this petition, stands alongside Mayor Weiss and the Chief of Police, and the Police Department in its opposition. It is why she is proposing a political action committee called Shaker Neighbors. The Shaker Citizens for Fair Ticketing proposed amendments never include the words

ticket, tickets, ticketing, or even the word fair. She could also focus on the fact that Shaker's Charter has had 22 amendments since 1932, and the proposed amendment at more than 4,000 words long is longer than all 22 amendments combined. She could also focus on the fact that the organizers who would argue for racial justice also highlight Shaker's national recognition as the safest City in America, without disclosing very openly that the award was made in 1951, a time when only one African American family even lived in Shaker. Her focus is that the petition for this Charter amendment, meaning any change as a prescribed plan, requires a ballot vote. That means that even if she agrees with everything that is written, it also means that she is saying that this police reform prescription, which has never been executed within any City across the country, will not require changes or improvement. The proposal pulls together several models of criminal justice reform and combines them into one comprehensive reform. As the organizers highlight, this proposal includes the community responder model and the crisis intervention team approach among other things. She encourages everyone to reference the Council on Criminal Justice Task Force on Policing, which reviewed 16 different approaches to police reform. Every aspect of the amendment is not a go. She would encourage people to work with Council. She would encourage people to work with the police force. We are Shaker Heights, we pride ourselves in being a microcosm of diversity. We come together to collaborate together, to create together, and this is how we should move our City forward.

Rose Carter of 13201 Larchmere thanked Council member Mrs. Moore who has assisted her regarding the lack of heat and inconsistent heat in her apartment building. She reported the problem of not having heat around Christmas to the Building Department without much success. Mrs. Moore became aware of the issue and rendered assistance. Even with Mrs. Moore's advocacy she is still experiencing issues. She slept in her apartment two nights last week without heat with nightly temperatures hovering around 40 to 50 degrees. On Christmas Eve with temps well below zero degrees she slept in her apartment with no heat. She is speaking on behalf of disenfranchised and marginalized people such as herself, some of whom are afraid or unable to advocate for themselves for fear of landlord retaliation. The elevator is broken in one of the buildings. This is a public health and safety emergency and it must be addressed and treated as such. The Mayor has a responsibility and obligation to constituents who live in rentals to make sure they are living in safe and healthy conditions and that is the bare minimum. She suggested the City require more in terms of accountability, and officials should always be willing to listen to their constituents.

A resident of 3726 Traver Road stated that he would like to address his former experience as a tenant in the City. Landlords and management companies should be protected from tenants and bad actors who don't pay rent or are a disturbance to their community and otherwise harm persons or property. On the other hand, tenants lack the ability to hold landlords accountable when they fail to honor their contracts and City codes. A small summary of the problems that he sees exist are tenants living in dwellings that are not well maintained. They're not repaired in a timely manner and are not fully compliant with current building codes. Some of this being a function of grandfathering in some of the City's turn of the century structures. Many tenants are not aware of Shaker Heights City resources or processes related to Ohio Revised Code §5321, rent in escrow. Tenants are not aware of the resources to exercise those rights and are not protected from retaliation from management or landlords when exercising these rights. Shaker Heights Municipal Court and other City offices and departments are not in communication or coordinating when there are issues brought forward to the City by tenants. There is an opportunity that presents itself here. Until April 15th, he resided at 2534 Kemper Road, #7, for one year, three months, and 15 days. During his residency he placed rent in escrow on two different occasions, one of which was for 42 square feet of wall space that was infested with mold. It

took the management company and landlord 79 days to rectify that issue. A second issue was the sunken floor that took them 133 days to address. His experiences are certainly representative to some degree of what others are experiencing in the City. In both instances, when he went to Shaker Heights Municipal Court to put rent in escrow, he was not informed that he needed to follow up with the Building and Housing Inspection Department, so he had no idea that there was another resource that needed to be pulled into the loop when he was addressing some very serious concerns with his dwelling. The lease expired in April of this year and he was searching for a home at the same time. The day his home offer came through he also received a non-renewal of lease from the property management company, which he expects was retaliation as he followed the lease, had not broken any rules, and was current on rent throughout his lease.

Mayor Weiss stated that the City does have resources. The Law Director and Building and Housing Inspection Director as well as the Mayor would be happy to chat after the Council meeting.

Sam Klein of 18680 Parkland Drive stated that they used the word “citation” in their ballot initiative because it is policy and law. It's not a tweet, it's not Facebook and it's not Instagram. Citation is a legal term referring to traffic tickets. He wanted to make that clear. He rejects the erasure of his colleague's race. He felt that was disgusting. He stated that Mr. Khorana is a person of color, and wants to make sure that's clear. He firmly rejects the demonization and the racist rhetoric used towards drivers who are coming through our City, especially from Warrensville and the City of Cleveland. When we paint them as outsiders, they get treated as outsiders. They are part of our economy just as we are part of theirs. We interact with their community just as much as they interact with ours. Unfortunately we've been treating them as outsiders with that rhetoric. We're now treating people who drive through our City, specifically Black drivers from the City of Cleveland and the City of Warrensville Heights as people who are delinquents, seeking just to drive through our City to break traffic laws. He rejects that firmly. The majority of drivers who use our streets are White. Black drivers are over ticketed two or three to one.

The Mayor asked the Clerk of Council to read into the record public comments received by email or phone on other items.

Clerk of Council Ms. Chaikin stated that she received one comment by email on other items.

From Norma Storer – “I am unable to attend the meeting tonight but would like to make some comments re/ the Montlack property on Kemper. My husband and I lived there for over 20 years (2515 Kemper). The last few years it became unsafe for us to live there and we were forced to move out. While there were a number of issues, the primary problem was the elevators. Not only did they frequently not work, I was trapped in the passenger elevator twice & required rescue by the fire department. My husband used a Walker & was unable to do the steps so was frequently trapped on the 3rd floor. I could carry on, but have a couple of suggestions: 1.) Have a way to put rent money in escrow without bringing in cash. Streamline that system. 2.) Have city departments communicate with each other. The fire department made multiple visits to our building to rescue folks stranded on the elevator. When I asked after our 3rd rescue, if they could issue a citation or make a report to housing department, I was told they could not do that. Many of our friends who formerly lived in those buildings have moved out, again, for safety reasons. Shaker can do better for its residents.”

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There being no further business before Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

DAVID E. WEISS, Mayor

JERI E. CHAIKIN, Clerk of Council