



Council Minutes
July 24, 2023
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Council of the City of Shaker Heights met in a regular session at 7:02 p.m., Mayor David E. Weiss presiding.

Council Members Present: Mr. Earl Williams
 Mr. Claytor (arrived at 7:21 p.m.)
 Mr. Malone
 Mr. Roeder
 Ms. Anne Williams
 Ms. Carmella Williams

Council Members Absent: Mrs. Moore

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Video of this meeting may be found [here](#) through July 24, 2026.

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It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Malone, that the minutes of the special meeting of June 12, 2023, be approved as recorded.

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

 Nays: None

 Motion Carried

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It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that the minutes of the regular meeting of June 26, 2023, be approved as amended.

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

 Nays: None

 Motion Carried

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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 stated that no comments were received on agenda items by email or phone.

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

No comments were offered.

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Ordinance No. 23-62, by Ms. Anne Williams, authorizing a one-year lease agreement, with an option for the City to renew the lease for up to an additional five years, with the Shaker Arts Council for the use of the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, 3450 Lee Road, for storage of administrative and event materials, and declaring an emergency.

Recreation Director Alexandria Nichols stated that the Shaker Heights Arts Council (SHAC) is a Shaker-based non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the cultural fabric of Shaker Heights through the arts. The painted traffic signal boxes throughout the City are part of the SHAC initiatives. In 2014 SHAC partnered with the City in a lease for the use of the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building space for storage as well as for office space. The original lease period was through May 2017 and the space has primarily been used for storage. However, under the original lease it was also available for meeting space and office space. In 2023 SHAC requested a new lease for storage only and the City agreed to enter into a one-year agreement with the option for five, one-year renewals. SHAC stores event materials, such as supplies and tables in cabinets and bins currently at the community building. The relationship between SHAC and the City has included the Arts and Music Festival, and fine art instructors for recreation programming for Shaker residents. The City and SHAC have agreed upon unused space in the community building for storage that will include a lock to secure their items. Access to the building will only be during normal business hours or upon request. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so that the City and SHAC may proceed with the agreement.

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

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

It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-62 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-62 be enacted as read.

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

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-63, by Mr. Earl Williams, authorizing a one-year lease renewal agreement, with an option for the City to renew the lease for up to an additional three years, with the Shaker Heights City School District for space in the City-owned Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, 3450 Lee Road, for the Innovative Center for Personalized Learning and Family Engagement, and declaring an emergency.

Recreation Director Alexandria Nichols stated that the Shaker Heights School District has been leasing space at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building to operate the Innovative Center for Personalized Learning (IC). Since 2014 the school district has been operating the IC from the community building. The original lease was for five years. In 2019 the lease was renewed for three years. In 2022 the lease was renewed for another one year. The school district is requesting a one-year lease with the option for three, one-year renewals. The IC provides a variety of learning enrichment opportunities for high school-aged students who learn better in non-traditional learning settings. The school district operates at the community building on school days from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. They have a morning session from 9:00 a.m. until noon, and an afternoon session from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. The school district leases the basement space and two rooms on the first floor exclusively. The lease also provides for shared use of some additional space based upon availability and when not in use by the City. The school district is in the process of reviewing their facilities and has not yet determined a home for the IC. This lease will provide the school district up to four years to work through those facilities plans. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so that we may proceed with the lease agreement which expires at the end of this month.

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

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

It was moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-63 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-63 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-64, by Ms. Anne Williams, authorizing the City's acceptance of a grant of \$309,721 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' 2022 Clean Ohio Trails Fund/Recreational Trails Program to engineer and construct the Lower Lake Multipurpose Trail, and declaring an emergency.

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item requests authorization to accept the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) grant for the proposed trail at Lower Lake. The project cost including engineering, environmental studies and construction is \$412,962. The grant of \$309,721 pays for 75% of the project costs. The City's match is a little over \$103,000. The City already committed \$40,000 in the 2020 capital budget. However, there have been some increased costs so our match has increased to \$63,241. This project will complete the loop around Lower Lake. There is a partial paved path. Along South Park there is a dirt path. This will provide some missing links in terms of bicycle and pedestrian connections, in connecting to both the Lake to Lakes Trail and the Shaker Lakes Nature Center, as well as Shaker park land and surrounding neighborhoods. This will create a safe path and accessible path around the lake. The exact location is to be determined. The design phase this fall will include community engagement. The ODNR requires we spend the grant funds within 15 months. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so we can meet the deadline.

Council member Mr. Tres Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. There was a conversation about the environmental impact. He learned that asphalt has slightly less of an impact than concrete in terms of cutting the space that needs

to be cleared from an environmental standpoint. He also heard that asphalt could potentially have some chemical runoff which concrete does not have.

Director Braverman stated that the path will not be concrete. This funding source does not allow concrete paths. It may be asphalt or crushed stone. They may also look at pervious asphalt. There are other types of surfaces, but it most likely will be asphalt. It will not be woodchips. The purpose is to make it ADA accessible.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously recommended by the Finance Committee. There was a discussion about the sustainability aspect and composition of the path. They were all reassured that there will be a survey to avoid trees and work around them as best as possible.

Director Braverman stated that environmental sustainability is very important and this path will be close to South Park. There was a meeting before they applied for the grant and the number one concern from residents was they did not want it to replace the woodchip path or go too close to the lake. This will be closer to the street.

It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-64 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-64 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

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Ordinance No. 23-65, by Ms. Anne Williams, amending Ordinance No. 19-122, as amended by Ordinance No. 20-22, Ordinance No. 21-10, Ordinance No. 21-46, and Ordinance 21-106, appropriating funds from the General Capital Fund 0401 for the acquisition of equipment and various repairs and improvement projects for various City facilities by appropriating an additional \$391,765 from the General Capital Fund 0401, to increase the appropriation for the

Lower Lake Multipurpose Trail and the Warrensville West Cemetery Gravestone Restoration project, and declaring an emergency.

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item requests authorization to appropriate funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) grant for the proposed trail at Lower Lake.

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item also requests authorization to appropriate grant funds received from the Ohio History Connection’s 2023 Certified Local Government (CLG) grant program to restore urgent-priority gravestones within the Warrensville West Cemetery.

Council member Mr. Tres Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee.

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

It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-65 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-65 be enacted as read.

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

Jane Arnoff Logsdon of 3592 Lindholm stated that she experienced a power outage the other night that lasted about nine hours. People on her street have expressed concern and have questions about these. This is the second big one in her area this summer. She knows this is complicated but she is wondering if there is anything preventative that the City could possibly do.

Chief Administrative Officer Ms. Jeri E. Chaikin stated that we have a new representative at First Energy. She contacted him early this morning, but has not heard back yet, asking for information about the number of outages on the street and the reasons. She will communicate to both Ms. Logsdon and Council when she hears back. If there is anything the City can do or follow-up on she will make sure they do that.

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

Clerk of Council Ms. Chaikin stated that there were no other public comments received, aside from Ms. Logsdon's.

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There being no further business before Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

DAVID E. WEISS, Mayor

JERI E. CHAIKIN, Clerk of Council