



**Council Minutes**  
**September 26, 2023**  
**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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:           Mr. Malone  
  Mrs. Moore  
  Ms. Anne Williams  
  Ms. Carmella Williams  
  Mr. Earl Williams

Council Members Absent:           Mr. Claytor  
  Mr. Roeder

\*                                   \*                                   \*                                   \*

Video of this meeting may be found [here](#) through September 26, 2026.

Mayor Weiss introduced Ryan Collins, the new representative from First Energy, who is present tonight.

Mr. Collins stated that he is the Regional External Affairs Consultant that will be assisting the City of Shaker Heights. His purpose in being here tonight is to allow Council to put a face to the name. He looks forward to visiting periodically to talk about things that interest the City. He has been with First Energy for 18 years, the majority of that time serving in two positions. In the Engineering Department in Brecksville he worked in regulatory affairs making sure they inspected the lines, poles, and equipment in a cycle that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio expects, and making sure the repairs from those inspections were complete. In the last five years he has been working in the Brooklyn line shop scheduling and designing work for the linemen, working with customers, and working with cities as necessary to get work scheduled and complete in the Brooklyn territory. He took this new position in May and is excited to bring his operations background with the line, poles and what affects them, to serve the City as best he can. He is looking forward to a good relationship with the City of Shaker Heights and serving in any way he can. As residents have concerns and questions they bring to Council, Council can forward them to him.

\*                                   \*                                   \*                                   \*

**CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS**

**Confirming the Mayor's appointment of Patty Inglis to the Civil Service Commission for one term commencing January 1, 2024.**

Sandra Middleton, Human Resources Director, stated that Patricia Inglis is a long time resident of Shaker and currently the Executive Vice President of the San Francisco Forty-Niners. She brings a wealth of experience to the Civil Service Commission. Over the course of her career she has served on many boards for profit and not for profit. Currently, she serves on the board and executive committee and chairs the strategic planning committee for In Motion and serves on the board of the executive committee of the Fairmount Temple. Her commitment to civic and community engagement will be a welcomed addition to the Civil Service Commission to fill the expiring term of Sandra Kiely Kolb.

Mayor Weiss added that Ms. Inglis is very experienced and will serve our community very well.

Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin commented that Ms. Inglis spent time with Sandra Kiely Kolb and Ms. Middleton to get a full understanding of the Civil Service Commission. She will be joining meetings the commission has between now and the end of the year to observe and get her feet wet. The Civil Service Commission is very hardworking. The City will continue to hire police officers and will have a hiring test next year for firefighters. She looks forward to Ms. Inglis joining on January 1<sup>st</sup>, hitting the ground running.

It was moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Patty Inglis to the Civil Service Commission for one term commencing January 1, 2024.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

\* \* \* \*

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the minutes of the special meeting of August 22, 2023, be approved as recorded.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

\* \* \* \*

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Malone, that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 28, 2023, be approved as recorded.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

\* \* \* \*

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.

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-75, by Mr. Earl Williams, accepting a proposal and authorizing a contract with USI Insurance Services for the purchase of excess insurance coverage for the City’s self-insured Workers Compensation Program, through Midwest Employers Casualty, in the total amount of \$191,077 for a 23 month period, beginning October 1, 2023, and declaring an emergency.**

Senior Human Resources Analyst Monica Hayes stated that this is the time when we procure excess insurance for the City's self-insured workers' compensation program. This coverage protects the City from catastrophic workers' compensation claims, providing coverage for incidents that total more than \$500,000 or \$750,000 in the case of police and fire. Our broker, USI, is proposing that Midwest be the City's carrier. Midwest has been the City's carrier ever since we started being self-insured in September 2008, except for one year when we had Safety National. This contract would be for 23 months totaling \$191,077. This item is requested as an emergency in order to enter into a contract with USI insurance services for the purchase of excess insurance coverage through Midwest.

Council member Mr. Earl Williams stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Administration Committee. They heard quite a bit of information that showed that Midwest was the best deal for the City.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. There were just a couple questions and comments as detailed in the memo distributed for this item.

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. 23-75 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-75 be enacted as read.

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

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-76, by Ms. Anne Williams, authorizing an amendment to the contract with Waste Management of Ohio, Inc. for recycling processing services for the second year of a two year contract, for an additional amount of \$50,000, and declaring an emergency.**

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that last year through a consortium, our recycling services were bid and Waste Management was the low bidder who was awarded a two-year contract. Staff requested a one-year contract at a cost of \$50,000 instead of a two-year contract at an estimated cost of \$100,000. This item requests the additional second year at a cost of \$50,000. If we continue to be happy with their service, next year we will request to renew the contract for two more years.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Sustainability Committee. There was a good discussion where members learned more about recycling. They understood this was more of a housekeeping matter and not a request for a new expenditure.

Council member Mr. Earl Williams asked about the percentage of trash being recycled.

Director Speese stated that we can always do better. She would love to see 50% of our trash recycled, but that is not the case. She is very proud that the residents do a great job of making sure that the recycling is a clear stream. The average is typically a 35% contamination rate. Waste Management audited our recycling and our rate is just over 17% for contamination, which is really low. Our residents are doing a great job when they recycle.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that in the totals reported from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, which totals up our landfill waste recycling, you will see we're almost at the top of the heap. It's really good data.

It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-76 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Ordinance No. 23-76 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-77, by Mrs. Moore, authorizing the City to apply for and accept a 2024 Green Infrastructure Grant (GIG) in the maximum amount of \$300,000 from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS D) for the City Hall Parking Lot Resurfacing Project, and declaring an emergency.**

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that next year the City Hall parking lot will be resurfaced as part of the 10-year capital plan with an estimated cost of \$750,000. The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS D) offers a green infrastructure grant and City Hall qualifies because it's in a combined sewer district. This grant application was due September 1<sup>st</sup> but it took a lot of preparation. Staff met internally and decided some green infrastructure improvements should be included as part of the parking lot in the amount of \$550,000 with the addition of the green infrastructure project at a cost of \$300,000. This would include some bio swales and other green improvements throughout the entire parking lot. To reduce the footprint of asphalt significantly by more than a third they would capture over 200,000 gallons of water that typically goes right into the storm sewer which would go into our gardens and/or rain barrels and bio swales in different areas. This item is requested as an emergency for the green infrastructure parking lot project for City Hall in the amount of \$300,000.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that she attended the Sustainability Green Spaces Subcommittee meeting. The green infrastructure grant is only eligible to cities or groups that are operating in the combined sewer district. We're trying to divert storm water runoff of a very large asphalt, impermeable surface. This is a very creative solution and she hopes we are able to supplement this grant with other related projects that will help the neighborhood surrounding City Hall.

Director Speese stated that she solicited help from staff in the Planning Department in preparing the grant who had a lot of great ideas, along with Chagrin River Watershed Partners.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. Most of the comments and questions are outlined in the memo that was distributed for this item. There was enthusiasm for reducing this footprint and a lot of interest in exactly how this would look going forward.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that there was some discussion by the Sustainability Committee about the possibility of jointly bidding projects with the Shaker Heights School District. If we have significant construction happening by the School District in years to come, staff would look for opportunities to jointly bid, whether repaving or other infrastructure projects together with the School District as a cost saving. He then asked about a fence installation at City Hall.

Director Speese stated that there is a replacement of the fence which goes along Braemar as part of the overall project.

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. 23-77 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-77 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-78, by Mr. Malone, authorizing agreements between the City of Shaker Heights, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (District) and the City of Cleveland Heights to authorize the District to proceed with the design of the Doan Brook Restoration Near Horseshoe Lake Park Project, and the design of certain amenities funded by the two Cities, at an approximate design cost to Shaker Heights of \$315,000, and declaring an emergency.**

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that the cities of Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights have met extensively with the design firm for the Doan Brook restoration and agreed to a split of 35% to 65% for the design. They have identified the items they would like designed. The revised map has better terminology. This doesn't commit us to any construction, but it does give us the tools that we need to approach different grant opportunities. Once they shake out the design cost, they will get a

much better construction estimate. We want to have the designs done as part of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's (NEORS) contract. It will be reviewed by their board in October and the City of Cleveland Heights did appropriate the funding last week at their Council meeting. Last year Council set aside \$225,000 for potential design costs for amenities. This item also requests \$90,000 more be appropriated so that everything both communities would like can be designed at this point in time.

Mayor Weiss reiterated that the cost for the design work is being split between Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights on a 65% to 35% basis with Shaker paying 65%.

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. 23-78 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays:	None
-------	------

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Ordinance No. 23-78 be enacted as read.

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

Nays:	None
-------	------

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-79, by Mrs. Moore, amending Ordinance 22-132, as amended by Ordinance No. 23-60, appropriating funds from the General Capital Fund 0401 for the acquisition of equipment and the repair, maintenance and improvement of various City facilities, by appropriating an additional \$90,000 for the design work on the Doan Brook Restoration Amenities project, and declaring an emergency.**

Finance Director John Potts stated that this item is for an appropriation of \$90,000 on top of the \$225,000. At the end of last year there were some surplus funds that were moved into the capital fund and earmarked. This was one of the earmarks towards the Doan Brook project. This money is in the capital fund, but we are just appropriating it now.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-79 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-79 be enacted as read.

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

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

\*

\*

\*

\*

**Ordinance No. 23-80, by Ms. Carmella Williams, authorizing the City's acceptance of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants in the amounts of \$224,000 for Firefighter retention bonuses, \$216,000 for Police Officer retention bonuses, and \$29,400 for Firefighter Health and Wellness programs from the Ohio Department of Public Safety, and declaring an emergency.**

Fire Chief Patrick Sweeney stated that this item is for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant for firefighter and police officer recruitment, retention and wellness initiatives. We became aware of this grant opportunity in May 2022 for \$70 million. It's part of a larger ARPA grant that Governor DeWine set aside of a total of \$250 million for first responder initiatives to help municipalities deal with the stresses that their first responders endured going through the pandemic which caused a lot of issues with recruitment and retention in the police and fire service professions. These dollars have been allocated to try to counter those impacts. The City applied for this grant last year and were notified August 2<sup>nd</sup> of this year that the Fire Department received \$224,000 and the Police Department received \$216,000 for recruitment and retention bonuses, which equates to about \$4,000 per first responder. Additionally, the Fire Department was awarded a \$29,400 wellness grant. We learned that these grant dollars would not cover the pension portion of these awards which equates to \$42,000 for the Police Department, and \$54,000 for the Fire Department, but believe that we can cover those pension payments with our existing budget. These grant funds will allow us to continue a partnership that we have with John Carroll University for some initiatives that we've had there. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so they may move forward as quickly as possible.

Police Commander Tim Kohanski stated that the Police Department and Fire Department worked together on this grant. It is to the credit of Chief Sweeney and former Police Chief Demuth that they worked together to apply for this grant.

Police Chief Wayne Hudson stated that the Fire Department and Police Department personnel during the COVID-19 timeframe, unlike other personnel, had to stay in the fight. There was no working



remotely at home for them. He appreciates Governor DeWine releasing these funds for our first responders.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. Our first responders, like all of us, endured all of the challenges that were brought on by COVID-19. The difference is they were among the smaller group that endured those challenges up close and personal. This was definitely an appropriate and well-deserved use of the ARPA funds.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. They were pleased with this award in part due to the collaboration between the Police and Fire Departments, and also because it was so well deserved. The only question that was raised was the difference in amounts given to the two departments. It was solely determined on the basis of eligible members who was on staff at the time that they determined eligibility.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that it seems ironic that the state requires a certain percentage of the City's payroll to Fire and Police to be held for retirement. Because it is a state requirement, it's kind of funny that these ARPA funds wouldn't be inclusive of that. She is very supportive of the general fund being able to sustain that.

Chief Sweeney stated that there's been a lot of chatter across the state about that. There are some cities right now that are evaluating whether they can accept these dollars right now. A lot of questions have been sent to the state from various municipalities with that question.

Director Potts stated that he spoke directly with the Ohio Police and Fire Pension in Columbus to ensure that it was in fact pensionable. What makes it more interesting is that PERS is telling their constituents that it's not pensionable. He is confident that it should be pensionable based upon speaking to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension.

Council member Mr. Williams asked about the deadline to receive these grant funds.

Chief Sweeney stated that he expects we will get an agreement and once it is executed, they'll initiate a purchase order and disperse those funds.

Director Potts stated that the State of Ohio like Shaker Heights has until the end of 2024 to utilize all of their ARPA funding. This is one piece of it. If you don't appropriate or encumber it by the end of 2024, you effectively have to give it back.

It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-80 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Ordinance No. 23-80 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-81, 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, 23-33, 23-45, 23-58, and 23-69 to amend appropriations in Fund No. 101, the General Fund, by appropriating an additional \$224,000 to the Fire Department personal services operating budget, and adding \$216,000 to the Police Department personal services operating budget and adding \$29,400 to the Fire Department other expenses operating budget, and declaring an emergency.**

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-81 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-81 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-82, by Mr. Malone, administrative acceptance of the approval of the City Planning Commission and confirmation of the granting of a Conditional Use Permit to Lakeside Linen to operate a limited production and processing business located at 16500 Chagrin Boulevard, Shaker Heights, Ohio, pursuant to Section 1213.05 of the City's Zoning Code.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item requests approval for a conditional use permit for Lakeside Linen located at the southwest corner of Chagrin/Lee for a limited production and processing business which requires a conditional use permit with Council confirmation. The applicant proposes to run a business that processes and delivers linens. They will occupy a piece of the building facing Lee Road. They process bed and bath linens for vacation homes, colleges, universities and other businesses like that. The City Planning Commission approved this permit with conditions, including loading and unloading to occur on the north side of the parking lot so the driveway is not blocked, no parking along the south property line so as not to block the driveways, employees are encouraged to park elsewhere on the site, and delivery vehicles are encouraged to exit using Chagrin. This item is requested with a suspension of the rules in order for the operation to continue.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the City Planning Commission. They had a fairly lengthy discussion about this and heard from the next door neighbor, Mr. Lewis at Lewis Electronics, with some concerns about parking ingress and egress. For clarification, they are not washing, but sorting, organizing and packaging linens. It is primarily staffed currently by young adults. There's minimal driving, minimal parking, and there's delivery from a large truck only about once a week. The expectation is that the disruption would be minimal. It was made clear that unloading and unloading should not block the driveway in any manner.

It was moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-82 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-82 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-83, by Ms. Carmella Williams, accepting a proposal and authorizing a personal services contract for professional design and engineering services with GPD Group in the total not to exceed amount of \$50,690 for the Lower Lake Multipurpose Trail Project, and declaring an emergency.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item is for a contract with GPD for engineering and design of the Lower Lake multi-purpose trail. The City did receive a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources from the Clean Ohio Trails Fund to engineer and construct this trail. This will go roughly along South Park from Coventry to West Park Boulevard. The trail will improve regional and local trail connections and access for all to the Shaker lakes. This project cost is \$412,962. The grant is \$309,721 and the local match is \$103,241 all in capital funds. The request for proposals (RFP) was issued on July 25<sup>th</sup> and two teams provided proposals. Based on criteria including experience with similar projects, the project approach, and the DEI strategy, only one firm was shortlisted because that was the only firm that met the criteria. The selection committee interviewed GPD and determined they provided a proposal that best met the RFP criteria. They have broad experience with trail design. The other team had a lower price, but were missing environmental documents that were required, and did not provide all the services we requested. The City has extensive experience with GPD. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules to conform to grant timelines.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. There was one question about the low number of bidders.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. They also asked about the small number of bidders. They were reassured there would be coordination with the NEORSD engineers and designers for the work on Lower Lake dam.

It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-83 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays:	None
-------	------

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-83 be enacted as read.

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

Nays:	None
-------	------

Ordinance Enacted

\*

\*

\*

\*

**Ordinance No. 23-84, by Ms. Carmella Williams authorizing a Local Public Agency (LPA) agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in order to implement the Van Aken District Pedestrian Improvements Project as a part of the City’s public realm improvement project, and declaring an emergency.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) gave the City a grant for the public realm and the City is administering it through the Local Public Agency project, which means we administer design, construction, construction inspection and management ourselves. To do this we need to have an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The agreement sets out the cost and the cost split, which we've already presented to Council. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules as we are intending to put this out to bid at the end of this year and begin construction in spring 2024.

Council member Ms. Carmella Williams 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 approved by the Finance Committee. There was a minor clarification.

It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-84 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays:	None
-------	------

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-84 be enacted as read.

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

Nays:	None
-------	------

Ordinance Enacted

\*

\*

\*

\*

**Ordinance No. 23-85, by Ms. Anne Williams, authorizing a contract with CJR Group, Inc. for personal professional state advocacy and government affairs consulting services for the period October 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000, and declaring an emergency.**

Economic Development Director Laura Englehart stated that several State of Ohio funding opportunities are likely to be coming available in the coming year. Whether it's competitive grants through state agencies or the upcoming 2024 state capital budget, we're currently analyzing how to align City priorities with state funding opportunities. The City has historically been very successful in using lobbying and advocacy services to help with secure funding. In 2022, we contracted with the CJR Group for state services. Due to a state legislative recess last fall, we did suspend services under that contract with time remaining on it. There's a total of \$10,000 that remains unspent on that contract. We suspended services with the intent to restart and continue services at the appropriate time. This item requests approval for a new contract with the CJR Group to continue those advocacy services at the state level under the same terms, at a cost of \$5,000 a month. It will be for a total term of 10 months. The total cost will be \$50,000. We'll be using the remaining \$10,000 from the prior contract plus an additional \$40,000 that's currently available in the 2023 Economic Development Department operating budget. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so that services may begin immediately.

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

Council member Ms. Ann Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. There was one question regarding specifics on grants from the state for projects that had been acquired through the help of the consultants.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-85 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-86, by Mr. Malone, amending Section 141.18 of the Administrative Code of the Shaker Heights Codified Ordinances relative to Thornton Park Pool fees, and declaring an emergency.**

Recreation Program Coordinator Thomas Lach stated that this item is for changes to the current fee structure for Thornton Park pool fees to go into effect for the 2024 calendar year. By restructuring the pool fees and aligning ages with our current programs and pool policies, we're looking to create a more streamlined process that is easier to understand for Shaker residents. Allowing for the modest increases in daily admissions and seasonal pool passes helps us to keep with the trend of growing cost of wages, equipment, and materials needed to operate the pool. The current pool fees have been unchanged since 2013. These changes will reduce the annual subsidy of approximately \$150,000 to \$175,000 a year. This will also allow the Recreation Department to reassess pricing of pool fees every two years. A few of the changes include restructuring ages in all categories for daily admissions, reducing the number of categories from seven to four, no changes made to the ages of six to 12 and anyone over the age of 65, combining the ages of 13 to 64 into one category to align with the policy that allows 13 years of age and up to access the pool without an accompanying adult, increasing the age of seniors from the current age of 50 to 65 years, removing spectators as this was very difficult to enforce, and eliminating the short term five-day pass. Some of the seasonal pass changes being proposed include everything that was stated in the daily passes, reducing the number of categories from seven to six, removing the nanny pass as only 11 were sold this previous year, allowing for a family pass which allows bundling individuals who reside in the same household at a reduced rate, and removal of the partial pass which allowed for individuals to share a singular pass with anyone of their choosing. This was a loophole in past sales that allowed non-residents to gain access to the pool without having to buy a full season pass or having to be accompanied by a resident. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so staff can proceed with the production of the winter recreation catalog which will provide detailed information on Thornton Park pool passes for the community as sales go on sale in the first of the year.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Recreation Committee especially since there has been no increase since 2013. He asked many questions which were answered. No city is really able to cover the costs of operating a pool but this is a service that we provide. We're trying to minimize the effect of the increases in the cost of operating a pool that we've seen over the last few years since there haven't been any fee raises since 2013. By minimizing the effect of those increases we can continue to attract and retain good employees who help to operate the pool. A really good suggestion by one of the resident members to consider is some form of advertising at Thornton Pool. It's not all that different than what the Shaker Heights School District is doing on the high school track, football and soccer field. They're putting banners on the fence as a way to defray some of the costs in operating these large recreation facilities. This will have some effect on residents, but it won't unduly burden and decrease the folks that are attending and participating in our pool.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously supported by the Finance Committee especially in light of the fact that this hasn't been addressed since 2013. They appreciated the fact that we will be looking at the fees every couple of years instead of waiting for such a long time.

Mayor Weiss stated that everyone appreciates simplifying the process and making it easier to understand for residents as well.

It was moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-86 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-86 be enacted as read.

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

Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-87, by Ms. Carmella Williams, appropriating funds from the General Capital Fund 0401 to provide for the purchase of police vehicles, and declaring an emergency.**

Police Chief Wayne Hudson stated that this item requests approval of \$360,000 in advance of the 2024 capital budget. It is necessary to order vehicles this year because if we wait until the capital budget is approved in November with the funds available in 2024, we will lose out on the opportunity to replace some of our vehicles. Ford told us that they're going to reduce the amount of Explorer vehicles they're going to be selling in 2024 because they're changing the body style in 2025. Therefore they're going to have a limited supply. We have a number of vehicles for which we have contracts to buy now in 2023, which will be our 2024 allotment. In order not to have this problem in the future, in 2024 they will request the funds for the 2025 capital improvement budget to get those vehicles on time. Law enforcement vehicles are critical and they need reliable vehicles. The Finance Committee asked if they have the funds available and why they are asking for \$360,000. They do have the funds in the Police Department budget and three Tahoes cost \$130,000, so \$360,000 will buy three Tahoes, possibly two trucks and two Ford explorers which should tie them over until 2025.

Finance Director John Potts stated that he has been working with the Police Department on this issue pretty extensively which has been happening the past couple years. Before the pandemic and supply chain issues, we could do the appropriation as part of the capital budget and put our order in. That no longer happens. The window opens and it's very small. If you don't get your order in, you're stuck. This will allow the Police Department to get the 2024 vehicles. Going forward in order to rectify this and get ahead of the curve, we determined the best way is to appropriate a year in advance. During the capital budget this season, they will ask for an appropriation for 2025, and next fall when the



window opens, they will have a PO so they can order 25 vehicles. Most likely the funds will not be paid until 2025. This is the best strategy right now.

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

It was moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-87 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Carmella Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Ordinance No. 23-87 be enacted as read.

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

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Resolution No. 23-88, by Ms. Anne Williams, resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Fiscal Officer.**

Finance Director John Potts stated that the County Budget Commission has set our 2023 property tax rate to be collected next year at 9.9 mills. The law requires that the City adopt this tax rate as determined by the Budget Commission before these taxes can be levied. The number of mills has remained unchanged since 1993. We have received almost all of our property tax payments this year. We already know what our last payment will be, and once received we'll be at our budget amount of \$8.2 million. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so we may submit this to the County Fiscal Office by the end of September.

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

It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Malone, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Resolution No. 23-88 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Ms. Anne Williams, and seconded by Mr. Malone, that Resolution No. 23-88 be enacted as read.

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

Nays: None

Resolution Adopted

\* \* \* \*

**Resolution No. 23-89, by Mr. Earl Williams, requesting the County Fiscal Officer to draw and the County Treasurer to pay on such draft, all money in the county treasury to the account of the City from all 2023 real property taxes and applicable to the purposes of the fiscal year 2024, and declaring an emergency.**

Finance Director John Potts stated that this item requests the County Fiscal Office to make periodic advance payments as part of their tax advance program, for property taxes next year. They will make five payments spread throughout the year. If we did not participate in this tax advance program, they would only make two payments. This allows us to get our payments earlier and invest them. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so that the resolution and request may be sent to the County Fiscal Office by the end of September.

Council member Ms. Anne Williams stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously supported 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 Resolution No. 23-89 be placed upon its final enactment.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Resolution No. 23-89 be enacted as read.

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

Nays: None

Resolution Adopted

\* \* \* \*

**Motion for Liquor Permit**

Organic Trails Cafes LLC  
dba Northstar  
3380 Warrensville Center Road

Law Director William Ondrey Gruber stated that this is a typical application for a new liquor permit that comes to Council. Council does not need to take any action if it does not have an objection to the application. None of the relevant departments have any objection to this liquor permit.

No objections were voiced by Council.

\* \* \* \*

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 no comments were received on other 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.

Police Chief Wayne Hudson stated that he wanted to talk about the latest community engagement initiative. They will begin announcing a Shaker Heights Police Department children's book that's going to be coming out in the next week or so. There is a book signing planned for October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Shaker Library from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at which time they will be reading to the children. All of the officers listed in the book will be there to sign the book. The first 100 kids in line to get their books signed will also receive a free t-shirt with the book theme. The book presents an opportunity to reach out to the community to show what law enforcement officers like to do on and off duty, and put a face to those individuals riding around in the cruisers. He has a signed copy of the book for each member of Council.

Mayor Weiss stated that Chief Hudson and his team spent a tremendous amount of time putting this together and it came out exceedingly well.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that this is a winning idea in a long line of winning ideas.

Chief Hudson stated that part of the initiative includes the officers having books in their cruisers. They are messaging the public to flag down officers to give books to children. If the officer is listed in the book they will sign their page, if not they may sign the back page for autographs.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that she would like to congratulate everyone in the City as being part of the success story that was named Tree City USA Shaker Heights for the 38<sup>th</sup> year in a row and the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive growth award, which is a cumulative total of points awarded to Public Works for growing the program and improving offerings.

Mayor Weiss stated that last weekend was the Touch a Truck program at the Van Aiken district, which was a huge success helped by beautiful weather.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that they did an observation of the National Public Lands Day. There was a group of collaborative volunteers who visited our Growing not Mowing site number two at South Park and Lee Road. They pushed the woodland invasive vines back 15 feet. It was great to see that combined activity. If you don't eliminate invasive plants, then the native trees and ground cover don't grow. When that doesn't grow, there's no source of food for wildlife. It's an environmental success story.

\* \* \* \*

There being no further business before Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

---

DAVID E. WEISS, Mayor

---

JERI E. CHAIKIN, Clerk of Council