

**VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND HILLS, OHIO
MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

The Regular Council Meeting of the Village of Highland Hills, Ohio was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Cassandra Pride in Room No. 14 of Village Hall. It was also broadcast via Zoom Video Communications.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was recited by all.

ROLL CALL: Present were Council President Cassandra Pride and Councilpersons Geavona Greene, David Mills, James McManus and Robert Wright. Also present: Mayor Michael L. Booker and Law Director Thomas P. O'Donnell.

DISCUSSION BY PUBLIC: None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine. Each item will be read individually into the record and the Consent Agenda will then be enacted as a whole by one motion and one roll call. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion by Council is desired on any item on the Consent Agenda, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda by Council motion and considered in its normal sequence under the Regular Order of Business.

- a. *Approval of minutes: January 3, 2024
 January 24, 2024
- b. *2024 Council Budget
- c. ***Resolution No. 2024-16:** A Resolution Confirming the Mayor's Re-Appointment of Collin Sullivan to Serve as Properties Director for the Village of Highland Hills, and Declaring an Emergency.

***Resolution No. 2024-18:** A Resolution Confirming the Mayor's Appointments to the Senior Advisory Board, and Declaring an Emergency.

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman Mills to waive the three reading rule and referral to committee. All voted aye and the **motion carried.**

Moved by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilwoman Greene to adopt the Consent Agenda. All voted aye and the Consent Agenda was **adopted 5 – 0.**

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR: Mayor Michael Booker thanked Council Members for approving the appointments. He reported there is a meeting with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. regarding the Village Comprehensive Plan. He noted that Warrensville Heights had a meeting last night about revitalization of the Green Road Park, to include a full community park with green space and an upgraded stage. He is still waiting on information regarding the Village's grant application for the greenspace by the fire station. Hopefully, it will come to fruition this year. The County Planning Commission has come up with a lot of great ideas, and they will be discussed tomorrow. Residents will be asked to assist us with the Comprehensive Plan, so that we can get going with the Strategic Plan.

Mayor Booker continued that 22 residents attended *Movie with the Mayor* today and they had a great time. The movie started during Covid as a way for our senior community to get out and do something, and has caught on as an enjoyable afternoon. The Mayor announced the State of the Village will be held on March 2nd. Former Senior Director and Councilwoman Jean Abernathy Smith will be awarded the Key to the City as a long-standing public servant. Mrs. Smith served on the Warrensville Heights School Board for a decade, followed by eight years on Council and then five years as Senior Director. She has been a resident of Highland Hills for 51 years and is very deserving.

Discussion was then had about the meeting with the County Planning Commission. At the recommendation of Law Director O'Donnell, it was determined that Councilwoman Greene would attend via Zoom, and Councilman Mills would participate in person.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: None.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Council President Cassandra Pride announced that a *Coffee with Council* event is planned for Tuesday, February 20th at 11:00 a.m. at Village Hall. Flyers have gone out and everyone is invited to attend and get to know their new councilmen. She asked whether an official notice should be posted, and Law Director O'Donnell answered yes. The Clerk will follow up.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance	Cassandra Pride – met and a report is on file; next meeting is 3/4
Properties/Buildings	James McManus – met and a report is on file
Public Works	Robert Wright – met and a report is on file; next meeting is 3/4
Rules	David Mills – met and a report is on file
Safety	Geavona Greene – met and a report is on file
Committee of Whole	Cassandra Pride – met and a report is on file

REPORT FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO REGULATORY OR OTHER BOARDS:

Audit	David Mills – met and a report is on file
Board of Control	Cassandra Pride – did not meet
Board of Zoning Appeals	James McManus – met and a report is on file
Fair Housing Commission	Robert Wright – did not meet
Human Resources Committee	Geavona Greene – did not meet
Planning Commission	David Mills – did not meet
Senior Advisory Board	Cassandra Pride – met and a report is on file
Tax Incentive Review Council	Geavona Greene – did not meet

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **THIRD READING CONSIDERATION: None.**
- b. **SECOND READING CONSIDERATION: None.**
- c. **FIRST READING CONSIDERATION:**

Ordinance No. 2024-17: An Ordinance Approving the Expenditure of Funds to the Estate of Former Mayor Robert L. Nash for Payment of Accumulated Vacation, and Declaring an Emergency.

Moved by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilwoman Greene to waive the three reading rule and referral to committee. All voted aye and the **motion carried.**

Moved by Councilwoman Greene and seconded by Councilman Wright to approve Ordinance No. 2024-17. All voted aye and the ordinance was **adopted 5 – 0.**

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Wright to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye and the meeting concluded at 7:13 p.m.



Cassandra Pride, President of Council



Margaret Sikon, Clerk of Council