

**EUCLID CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MINUTES FROM JULY 18, 2022**

**This regular Council Meeting was held on Monday, July 18, 2022  
at 7:00pm in the Euclid Municipal Center Council Chambers.  
President Charlene Mancuso, presided.**

**President Mancuso**

0:09

Good evening and good evening and welcome to the July 18, 2022, City Council Meeting. If able please rise and join me for the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Thank you. And if we could, I'd like you to remain standing and have a moment of silence for our Ward 1 Councilwoman Caviness.

And now, I would ask each of my colleagues to place a flower in the vase for her.

Thank you so much. You may be seated.  
Madam Clerk, would you call the roll?

**Clerk Laboda**

2:25

Tolton, here. Epps ---. Jarosz, here. McIntosh, here. Wojtila, here. Jukic, here. Steele, here. Mancuso, here.

**President Mancuso**

2:38

Can I have a motion to excuse Councilman Epps? So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Second by Councilwoman Steele.  
All in favor? "Aye."

Thank you very much. We will now go to **Communications**. And I will turn that over to our Law Director Sweeney.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Law Director Sweeney**

2:57

Thank you, Madam Chair. So, we do have a liquor permit today for O. R. B. C. C. production LLC. I sent a letter to the two permit applicants and their council is here with us today. Mr. Alexander Bibisi is here in the audience.

And I would like council to suspend the rules and allow Mr. Bibisi to speak about this item. Thank you.

President Mancuso

3:21

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion to suspend the rules. So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Second by Councilman Tolton.

All in favor, "Aye."

And would you join us at the podium there please? Just give us your name and address and push the little green button on the bottom, so it's on. There we go.

Business Owner – Alexander Bibisi

3:41

Yes, my name is Alexander Bibisi. And I live in Cleveland at 1717 East Ninth.

President Mancuso

3:51

Okay, Are there questions about this particular liquor license request?

Law Director Sweeney

4:00

Just so Council knows, this is for Collision Bend and there are no issues with the permit applicants.

President Mancuso

4:08

Any further discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Second by Councilwoman McIntosh.

All in favor, "Aye."

Let me go back into a roll call.

Law Director Sweeney

4:23

I'm sorry. So, we need a motion, Madam Chair.

President Mancuso

4:26

We need a motion to allow this without objection. Councilman Jarosz. Second by Councilwoman McIntosh and please take the roll.

Clerk Laboda

4:40

Jarosz, Yes. McIntosh, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Mancuso, Yes. (Tolton – you skipped one) and Tolton, Yes.

President Mancuso

4:55

What a night. Thank you very much, sir. Congratulations. (Mr. Bibisi; Thank you.) Okay, do we have Council minutes?

Clerk Laboda

5:03

Yes, we do. We have them from June 6, 2022 And June 21, 2022.

President Mancuso

5:10

Thank you. Can I have a motion to accept. So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Second by Councilwoman Jukic.

All in favor, "Aye."

Thank you very much. We will now go to **Administrative Reports and Communications** and Mayor Gail.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Gail

5:22

Thank you, Madam Chair. If you would join me, we do have a resolution to honor and recognize Councilwoman Caviness. I don't think the family was able to be here, but I'm wondering if her very good friend Pearlitha Taylor, and former Councilwoman Jones might come and accept the resolution on her behalf.

Thank you for joining us. So, of course, we are all very saddened by the loss of Councilwoman Caviness. We do have a ceremonial resolution that we will read and make sure that the family gets. We did present one through the funeral service, but wanted to make sure the public heard and I appreciate both her very good friend Pearlitha Taylor, and former Councilwoman Candace Jones for accepting this on their behalf. It reads;

A resolution to honor and recognize the life of Councilwoman Stephana Child's-Caviness and her many contributions to the City of Euclid.

President Mancuso

7:00

Whereas Stephana was the cherished mother of Chip Caviness JR, Stephen Caviness and Lana Caviness. She was the adoring grandmother of TJ, Angelo, Ethan and Stella Caviness. And

Mayor Gail

7:16

Whereas Stephana was a devoted member of The Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church. She served as a Deaconess, Audiovisual tech, and was co-founder of Praise Warriors dance group. Stephana's faith was central in her life, and she actively supported Euclid's Faith in the City organization, and many community-based events and activities.

President Mancuso

7:41

Whereas Stephana always worked for justice and democratic values in all she did. She was the first appointed to fill the vacant Ward 1 seat position in 2012, and was elected 3 times. Stephana was the Chair of the Public Safety Committee, where she focused on safety and justice supporting hiring officers, advancing community policing and updating technology. She was a strong advocate for investment in improvements to the Euclid Avenue corridor and the south side of Euclid. Stephana led the way to the new Splash Park in Indian Hills, reconstruction of the Grand Boulevard Wall and the creation of the Green Creeks Trail, just to name a few projects.

Mayor Gail

8:19

And whereas Stephana will be remembered most for her passionate commitment and service to the City of Euclid, she was always available to her residents. Euclid is definitely a better place due to Stephana's involvement and hard work. We will all miss Stephana's friendship, smile, willingness to help, positive outlook and commitment to service and justice.

President Mancuso

8:45

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Euclid, State of Ohio: That this Council and Administration do hereby honor and recognize the life of Councilman Stephana Childs-Caviness.

Mayor Gail

8:58

and her many contributions to the City of Euclid.

I will present this to Ms. Taylor and we will make sure that the family does receive it. Thank you both. I know you were very important in her life both, Candace and Pearlitha, as well as all of members of city council, we do send our sympathies to the family to her friends to the residents of Ward 1 and the community at large. I know we all can share that this covers such a small part of how she contributed to the city. I know she cared so passionately for the residents of Euclid for the residents of Ward 1, Heritage Park Neighborhood Association, the police mini station. Her son Stephen, in some remarks at the funeral service, really described his mother in three main terms; A Mother, Servant and Child of God. And I think those three descriptions describe her perfectly. She loved her children with all of her heart and her grandchildren with all of her heart. They described her as selfless in her love and care and supportive of everything that they did. Servant from the side of city council, we all know the hard work she gave every day to serve the City of Euclid, to serve her residents. She cared tremendously about all of us in everything she did, in addition to the city. Her background as a social worker also led her to be involved in so many community activities, involvements, political advocacy, advocacy, through many, many organizations that we can't name. And then as a Child of God, she was very involved with her church

community and very strong in her faith, which served her through the good days and the bad. I was honored to know Stephana. I believe we all feel the same way. And she will be dearly, dearly missed, but definitely not forgotten. And Euclid is certainly a better place for Stephana Caviness. If you want to say anything now? (President Mancuso - no.) Okay. So, thank you very much for accepting that on her behalf. Thank you, thank you.

President Mancuso

11:39

Okay, and with, there's further administrative reports?

Mayor Gail

11:52

I would also like, just as share a few thank you's. I hope that everybody for those who had a chance to go on the Pond and Garden Tour this past weekend. It was a wonderful event. The Euclid Shade Tree Commission did a wonderful job. I want to thank Charlene Joyce and all of the Shade Tree Commission members as well as Linda Beck and all the hosts, so the number of people who spent lots of time preparing their yards, planting gardens and sharing it with us. One of the things that's always really my favorite part of that as you meet such wonderful people not only the hosts of the tour, but the volunteers, the other people who, the participants who are coming to visit and so really thank you despite the rain yesterday there was still I think a decent crowd and most of the homes were still were all of the homes were open and really able to be enjoyed. So wonderful event, if you missed it this year, please make a point to participate next year. Keep Euclid Beautiful is sponsoring once again the yard of the year. So, if you, if there's a garden or a yard or a home that you always admire, please nominate them for yard of the year. They're accepting nominations through August 1. Ahh, you can nominate somebody through the website [cityofeuclid.com](http://cityofeuclid.com) or by calling Linda Beck 289-2786. A couple of events coming up. The rec department is hosting a food truck feast that is this coming Saturday. It's from 4 o'clock to 9:30 at the parking lot outside of the ice rink on Milton between 222 and Babbitt that will include food trucks, music by Hubs Groove as well as many family and fun activities like Jungle Terry, balloon sculpting and face painting and lots of family fun. So please join us again this Saturday from 4 to 9:30. This weekend is also the St. Robert and Williams festival and that runs Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Thursday through Saturday is 5 to 11 and Sunday begins with the mass at 11:30 and goes till 8pm. It's always a wonderful community event as well. Tomorrow, Euclid Historical Society is hosting a watermelon social, and that is come have a slice of watermelon, but also take the opportunity to visit some of the displays and learn about Euclid history. It is during the day tomorrow, Tuesday, July 19 from 1 o'clock to 4 o'clock. And the Historical Society for those who have not visited is at 21129 North Street. A few other announcements from directors, I'll start with Krystal and then go to Chief Meyer.

## Assistant to the Mayor, Grida

14:48

Thank you, Madam Mayor. A couple things, just wanted to remind you this Saturday is our monthly pop up at Shore Cultural Center. It's from noon to four. We have over 22 vendors for this Saturday. So, it's really kind of gaining some speed. So, if you're looking for back to school gifts for the teacher or for your children and you want to come shop, please feel free to pop into Shore Cultural Center. In addition, Silhouette Productions will be again doing their performance at Shore in October, they're gonna to be doing Beauty and the Beast. So, if you sing in the shower, sing to the radio, dance in your living room, there are some tryouts that are coming up Wednesday, Tuesday and Wednesday, a Monday, August 22. Please feel free to go down. Try out, we have the flyer on our website, it's got a little bit more information. But we're really trying to encourage as many Euclid residents as possible. If you would like to come down and try out for that production. I think it will be fantastic. The performance dates again are in October and there are six of them. And they are planning on one during the day for school children and seniors. So, if you have a hankering for the theater, please feel free to, to try out. If you can encourage your folks, that'd be great as well. And then lastly, the Euclid Hunger Center is again doing their annual fundraiser. It's called the Summer Wind Down. It will be held at the golf course at Briardale Greens Pavilion. Tickets are \$30 each, and I do have some with me. So, if you would like to support this nonprofit organization, please grab me or give me a call if you don't have the funds today. But we'd love to again see a lot of people come out and support the Hunger Center. Thank you very much.

## Mayor Gail

16:26

And Chief Meyer.

## Police Chief Meyer

16:28

Thank you, Mayor, Council President, members of Council and the audience. I want to first announce that we did swear in two new police officers this morning. Robert Bailey was coming to us from East Cleveland PD and Dwayne Jackson who's coming to us from Cleveland PD. So, they're both seasoned police officers and we're both very excited to get them on our on our team and, and get them get them out and serving the community. Couple of announcements. We do have a little different version. It's a cookout and Coffee With A Cop. It's at the Senior Center. And that's going to be this Thursday, July 21. That's from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. It's going to be held at the Euclid Senior Center. Seniors can join Euclid police for this cookout and conversation. But to attend the event seniors must join the Euclid Senior Center. This is per the Euclid Senior Center. It's a \$10 annual membership due is required. Additionally, on Tuesday, August 2, we're going to get back to post COVID, Our national night out and it'll be from 3pm to 5pm. That'll be at East 276 Street and Sydney Drive, the playground pavilion. It's open to all Euclid residents. invited to join us please at this family friendly cookout. The event includes free hotdogs, raffles, music, and other fun activities. And

last but not least, is the Shoreview Avenue block watch meeting and that will be Thursday, August 11. From 6:30 to 7:30pm. It'll be, the residents of Shoreview Avenue between East 250 and East 260th streets. Residents in this block are forming and neighborhood block watch and will meet and talk with members of the Euclid Police Department. Mayor, too, I wanted to also let everybody know that we, in addition to the two new officers that we hired today, we're in the process of conducting interviews and now in background and processing for multiple other candidates that we hope we can add to our department. Thank you.

Mayor Gail

18:41

Thank you, Chief. Madam Chair that completes our reports this evening.

President Mancuso

18:45

Thank you. I will now move on to **Committee Documentation**. Welcome Councilman Epps, if you would lead us off with your Euclid Avenue Revitalization Committee that took place on May 25.

## COMMITTEE DOCUMENTATION

Councilman Epps

18:57

Thank you, Madam Chair and good evening, everyone. The Euclid Avenue Revitalization Committee chaired by myself, Marcus Epps, was held on May 25, 2022. On the agenda was a city update packet that was submitted by the administration that we went through, as well as the discussion of ideas in general. The administrative staff admission, administration staff present; none, and the committee members present; Councilman Tolton, Councilman Wojtila, Councilwoman Caviness and Councilman Jarosz was excused. We discussed our, our February meeting that had been canceled due to City Hall closing in the middle of a snowstorm. The agenda was packed for that cancelled meeting and so we took a little time to discuss where we were at that time. We discussed projects within the packet submitted to our committee from the administration. We went on to discuss personal interest amongst committee members and things we would like to work on and get accomplished not just as a committee, but as chairman, I wanted to hear from my colleagues individually. The conversation went on and we, we all agreed as a committee, we would like to move forward with supporting the administration's Park initiatives that seem to have come to the forefront based off of the good work in the city plan and Recreation Committee last term. I was proud to be a part of that alongside my colleagues, McIntosh, Wojtila, Jukic and Councilwoman Caviness. And thank them all for joining me in those efforts at that time. Councilwoman Caviness went on next to give an update and more information on the program she was working on to get money for property improvements to Heritage Park homeowners. That legislation has since been passed. We discussed Ward 1 desires in that area with Councilwoman Caviness, such as the mini-station, she gave a very thorough on the spot presentation on behalf of what it is that the residents

want in that area at my request. The Resource Center is what she'd wanted to see some sort of that is what the residents want. She pledged to keep the committee in the loop moving forward and we will continue to stay focused on these projects. We discussed the Trail at Chardon Road intersection, the storefront renovation program citywide, welcome signs throughout our community that we discussed back before COVID, vacant property on Euclid Avenue for potential development and also discussed individual ideas after briefly going through the packet provided throughout the meeting. We close the meeting all in agreement to move forward with plans to assess our speed limit options on Euclid Avenue. There was no legislation on the agenda. So, no action taken. Handouts provided was the packet from the administration. And that is all for my summary. Thank you, Madam Chair.

### President Mancuso

21:32

Thank you. There was also a work session on June 21, 2022. It was financial, it concerned financial updates given by Director Smith to council members. We discussed the year-to-date receipt, receipt and disbursements with comparisons over the previous year. We also discussed general fund balance in comparison with 2021 general funds showing the 68% increase, year to date income tax collections showing a 4.52% increase over 2021 actual at the same, for the same period. We discussed RITA having charged 3% throughout the year on collections. At year's end RITA's actual charge to municipalities was 1.08%. Returning 1.92% of the 3% to confuse you, at 3% the city paid Rita \$870,000.94 and Rita returned at 1.92% 514,847 to the city. These dollars are in addition to the 4.52% increase in tax collection dollars received by the city year to date. We also discussed the amendments to the appropriation ordinance for 2022 and fund transfers from general fund to other funds needing approval by council. There was no action needed by this work session group as it was an update and information on educational for council members. And with that, I'm going to ask for a motion to accept the documentation from the Euclid Avenue Revitalization Committee, the Board of Control dated June 13, 21st 27th and July 7th, and the Council Work Session that took place on June 21. So, I need a motion. So moved by Councilman Epps. Second by Councilman Jarosz.

All in favor, "Aye."

Thank you very much. We are now going to the first **Committee of the Whole for Legislative Matters Only**. If you wish to speak, please come to the podium. Give us your name, address and please limit your discussion to matters on the agenda, and under five minutes.

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – LEGISLATIVE MATTERS ONLY

### Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz

23:53

Christopher Michael Litwinowicz, 21970 Morris Avenue, Euclid, Ohio. Chair. I know that we're saddened, but is there a reason why there's only four working items, five working four, you don't have to answer just laziness. Transparency... question 30 days ago, we had a meeting, the first reading was number six on this piece of paper. I must have lost it or been outside, but

did counsel not move forward on the ordinance of the special assessment upon all property tax for the payment of street lighting? Or was that to a committee, so now we waiting as a referendum? Who will talk about that, it's just confusing when you got it items here, and now you're talking four items here. You're missing legislation. Because aren't you supposed to pass it two three times? So, I'm a little confused right now. Not about me, I'm just confused what's going on here? What's going on here is tax liens. Three little ordinances to say we can't spend \$675 of city taxpayer dollars to put up a walkway, that the beach is supposed to be public property. The assessments is for the erosion control. So, Law Director, not to put you on the spot, do you have a contract? No. I know, that I'm not just bugging with y'all because we're going to talk a little bit later. And hopefully someone has sense here to Executive Session. Next time, I think these residents, especially myself, I had to go out here and pull this off the post poster board. This gives me a little more detail about when I come to the podium what is this about? I always say what is this about? I just think right now, and congratulations to the council, people, persons and members of the city, they have voiced their opinion, and we see that now we sell them properties for a \$1,000. Smart move, both parties, to the President, to the Council, to the Mayor, you listened up, to that's what we supposed to do. As far as the investment, I think we need more investments so, these council people, you have something on here that a property is being sold we need to come back to council. And I think we need to give them some type of pandemic money? Because all I see is just vacant lands everywhere not getting cut, the neighbor owns 'em. Next year, they're going to pay something, but I'm sure if these few, hmmm, 24800. Not, it's not on nobody's Ward, where I'm talking about, but have we ever researched the Cuyahoga County, and this ain't, to the administration. And I guess we have an Assistant to the Mayor that hasn't listened to my conversations because I've asked, where's that County money? That's why my name is on the ballot. I'll talk in 30 minutes when this thing is over with.

President Mancuso

28:20

Next speaker please.

Resident – Pearlitha Taylor

Good evening. Pearlitha Taylor, 1495 East 193, Euclid, 44117. First, I wanna thank the Mayor for giving me the honor of accepting my dear friend, Councilwoman Stephana Caviness award. Words is not enough to express how special she was. She was a lady with dignity, respect for all. And she had a soft voice. But she had a powerful message that she always said. She was loved by all. I know it's time that she's gone. I will always miss her. Because I think about what all she did for our community is such a short time. She listen. She learned and she worked and she worked hard. Now I know it's time that we have to move on and she has to be replaced. But as I look around in this room, and I think about all the names, not names but numbers that I did see on the city website that apply for her position and where are these seven or eight people that applied? How many can you actually say showed up? How many of those people have been active in the community? How many people that apply care about Ward 1 or care about

their own property? This is something that is placed in Council hand, you guys have a hard job, a hard job to fill. You got to replace that person with someone that care, someone to have a compassion for resident, for the city, not because they've been on committees, that they had a big fancy job, a higher title. But what have they done? You know, John F. Kennedy said years ago, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what can you do for your country." Wonder what these people can do for Ward 1? Ward 1 is a large, large Ward, it broke up a mini segment. How are those people going to come out and present themselves? How would they take care or continue her legacy? You have a lot of questions, a lot of things to answer. Don't think about where someone came up to the podium and say something I don't like and they name on this list. I don't want them. You look at that person. And you think about it. If that person came up to this podium, and made a statement, and voiced their opinion, that person care about the city, that person care about they community? Because if they didn't, they won't come up here. You think about all the people that may have put their name on that list? How many time have they stood at this podium? How many time have they stood up for anything for this city? You have a hard job, I pray for you all. But I want you to think about what you doin' when you put that, pick that person. Stephana did a lot. We came along way. I see the city moving forward. You don't want it to go backwards. So look at a person that's willing to roll up take they time and they go out there and work to make this city a better place to live in, that make this community, their community, a better place to live. So, think about what you're doing. Not well, I don't know if I like that person, I don't like what this person may have said, but think about why that person said it. Think, because somebody you may know personally. Are you look at they resume? And it may be a long drawn out resume. They may have a big title on their job. But are they right for the job as being Ward 1 council? I asked you all to please think. Pray on it. Think about it. We have come a long way. Let's not go back. If I could tell you all the things that Stephana Caviness has done. She worked with the people. She talked with the people, she cared about the people, and she cared about this city. She had integrity. She had dignity. And I asked you all to please bring us someone with those categories. Thank you very much.

President Mancuso

33:40

Thank you. Next speaker please.

Resident - Candace Jones

33:53

Good evening, Candace Jones, 27040 Tungsten Road. And I agree with a lot of the things that the last speaker, Pearlitha Taylor, mentioned about Stephana Caviness. She was a, she will be a hard, someone to follow is going to be hard to fill her shoes. One thing that I was so glad for her to be able to see is the completion of that wall on Euclid Avenue. So, I'm asking is that possible to have a plaque or something on that wall in memory of her with her name or something on it? So that was my request. Thank you.

President Mancuso

34:37

Thank you. Next speaker please. Seeing none, I'll entertain, no I won't. We'll move on to our agenda. Madam Clerk, please read the first agenda item into the record.

## LEGISLATION

Clerk Laboda

34:49

**Ordinance 079-22.** An emergency ordinance to certify as a lien on the Cuyahoga County tax duplicate the assessments for demolition, including the costs of asbestos assessment, abatement and monitoring of properties as provided in Chapter 1753 of the codified ordinances of the city of Euclid.

President Mancuso

35:16

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin discussion. So moved by Councilwoman Jukic. Seconded by Councilwoman Steele.

All in favor? "Aye."

Thank you. And we will go to Director Sweeney to begin our discussion.

Law Director Sweeney

35:27

Thank you, Madam Chair. We have one commercial demolition that we are asking to lien tonight. We did not have any residential demolitions in the last year, only commercial. We did have another commercial demolition. But we have since acquired that property. And that was the Erie Waters, Breeze Cleaners property. So, we would not lien ourselves. So that was stricken from this. So, this is at 24800 Euclid Avenue, the former Lake Erie Lodge, I also wanted to let Council know that property is in tax foreclosure, and that sale will be looming. So, we may potentially be coming back to Council next month, and asking for permission for X dollars to possibly acquire that property. So, then we'll be in control of that. So that's discussions that we're having internally at the moment. I'm happy to answer any other questions that you might have, oh, one more, of this \$323,000, 200 of, 200,000 of that is Cuyahoga County dollars that they gave us with our demolition fund. The other 123,510 is city money. And that also includes our 5% administrative fees. Happy to answer any questions you might have.

President Mancuso

36:37

Thank you. Discussion? Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

36:41

Thank you. Director Sweeney, just briefly and briefly, if you could you mention that the property is going to come up for sale, and that the city, the intent for the city to purchase the property.

### Law Director Sweeney

36:55

So, Madam Chair to the Councilman, there's a couple of ways we could do it. We could try bidding on it at the Sheriff sale. But if there's multiple bidders, that is just going to increase what the price is, we really don't know if anybody's going to be interested in this property or not. It's hard to tell. As we know, there's still Mitchell's on that lot. And so they're taking the property subject to our lien, subject to Mitchell's being there, and you know, the rest of the green space. So, we really have no idea if anybody's going to be interested in the property or not. So, we think our tactic is going to be see what happens. If somebody acquires it, great. If somebody doesn't, then we just buy it back from the tax certificate holder, because it will ultimately go back to them. It's similar, it's a little bit different, but similar, you know, if a house doesn't sell in tax, in mortgage foreclosure goes back to the bank, and you can try buying it from the bank. So, we would try buying it from that tax certificate holder. We know that the opening price at the at the tax foreclosure sale is going to be 150, 160,000. We don't know if we might be able to get it for less once it goes back into the hands of the tax certificate owner. Or if somebody else buys it, somebody else buys it.

### Councilman Epps

38:08

Thank you and they can, you, what is, what will be our interest in the purchase of the property

### Law Director Sweeney

38:14

Just to acquire that large piece of parcel that might be potential for development down the road. The other thing too is, you know, the, the Mitchell's potentially if the city owns it, we could partition off and sell that, you know to, to Mitchell's

### Councilman Epps

38:33

Does he know about the tax foreclosure?

### Law Director Sweeney

38:37

He does know about the tax foreclosure. He is a named defendant in the tax foreclosure. He also could potentially be a bidder at the tax foreclosure sale if he's so inclined to, to buy the whole property.

### Councilman Epps

38:45

No, but I understand and that was my question was why we weren't talking about his interest in going, but if your intention is to purchase and then section off a piece to sell to him later, it's in his best interest to wait. So, right. Thank you.

**President Mancuso**

38:57

Other discussion? Councilwoman Steele.

**Councilwoman Steele**

39:00

Madam Chair, thank you. My question is, what that area is zoned for commercial? Correct? So, if we purchase that property, it will be zoned for commercial. (Correct?) So, I guess my biggest concern is this. I know at one point in time, Euclid was looking at building more homes, more modern homes for people and that's, that's a great space. It's a lot of space there. And my thing is, my interest would be yes, it's nice to have commercial property, other, other industries, but we need newer homes. And I would think that maybe we can zone it for that, if we get Mitchell's. It's just I'm just putting it out there. Thank you.

**Law Director Sweeney**

40:03

Madam Chair to the Councilwoman, potentially if we know of a developer that does want to build properties, they would come here and ask for a rezoning of this body of for that parcel.

**President Mancuso**

40:14

Other discussion? Councilman Tolton.

**Councilman Tolton**

40:17

Thank you, Madam... Thank you, Madam Chair. To Director Sweeney, very quick, then if, if the city was to purchase that property, then what is our responsibility as far as the condition of the property if we don't immediately sell it to Mitchell's and, you know, the ground that the whole deplorable look of the building there?

**Law Director Sweeney**

40:38

Madam Chair to the Councilman, I would probably put bollards up at some point just to make sure cars couldn't access that lot, you know, for any potential criminal activity or anything like that, or trespassing and, you know, hopefully nobody would get injured, but it's pretty much down. It's pretty much a, you know, level piece of land and there's not much really to do there. Besides the Mitchell's lot. And building.

**Councilman Tolton**

41:05

Okay, right, because of the side of the building.

Law Director Sweeney

41:08

The side of the building. He is supposed to put brick up or some type of covering. I understand him not wanting to invest in his business quite yet until he knows that he might be owning that building. He is still open.

Councilman Tolton

Yes. Okay. Okay. Thank you.

President Mancuso

41:26

Thank you. Other discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilwoman Jukic. Second by Councilwoman Steele. All in favor, "Aye."

I'll entertain a motion to suspend the rules to forego the second and third reading. So moved by Councilman Jukic, Second by Councilwoman, Councilwoman McIntosh.

All in favor, "Aye."

Those opposed? One.

Madam Clerk, please call the roll on the merits of the ordinance.

Clerk Laboda

41:54

McIntosh, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Motion, ordinance passes.

President Mancuso

42:13

Thank you. Yes. All right. Madam Clerk, could you please read the second agenda item into the record?

Clerk Laboda

42:21

**Ordinance 080-22.** An emergency ordinance to certify as a lien on the Cuyahoga County tax duplicate the assessments for criminal nuisance abatement as provided in Chapter 529, of the codified ordinances of the City of Euclid.

President Mancuso

42:38

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin the discussion. So moved by Councilman Epps. Seconded by Councilwoman McIntosh.

All in favor, "Aye."

And we will go once again to Law Director Sweeney.

Law Director Sweeney

42:52

Thank you, Madam Chair. I forgot to mention before I spoke about the first assessment to address the resident's comments, the garbage and street

lighting assessments were passed in June. That is why it is not on the agenda for this evening. You have three assessments today, one's the demo, two more, and we will have grass assessments at the next meeting in August. Right. So, this one pertains to criminal nuisance. There were eight parcels or eight times that there were different charges for criminal nuisance activity. And five of those were paid. And these are the three that remain unpaid. Two are residential and one is commercial. Happy to answer any questions that you might have.

President Mancuso

Yes? Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

43:33

Yes. Thank you. 26191 Euclid Avenue that is B Stone property, correct? Just making sure. It's been a long time coming, glad to see it. Thank you.

President Mancuso

43:45

Thank you. Other discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilman Epps. Second by Councilman Tolton.

All in favor, "Aye."

I'll entertain a motion to suspend the rules to forego the second and third reading. So moved by Councilwoman McIntosh. Second by Councilman Wojtila.

All in favor, "Aye."

Nay, one.

Madam Clerk, please call the roll on the merits of the ordinance.

Clerk Laboda

44:10

Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. McIntosh, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Ordinance passes.

President Mancuso

44:23

Thank you. Madam Clerk, would you please read the third agenda item into the record?

Clerk Laboda

44:27

**Ordinance 081-22.** An emergency ordinance to certify as a lien on the Cuyahoga County tax duplicate the assessments for the construction of stairs for the Luikart Drive Association "LDA" in association with the Waterfront Improvement Project, being constructed by the City of Euclid.

### President Mancuso

44:50

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin. So moved by Councilwoman Jukic. Second by Councilwoman Steele.

All in favor, "Aye."

We will go once again to Law Director Sweeney.

### Law Director Sweeney

45:00

Thank you, Madam Chair. This is the last year of three years of assessments for the Luikart Drive Association. And to answer the residents question, we did have a contract or memorandum of understanding with the 19 owners of Luikart Drive Association. The city was paying for a certain portion, and they wanted it upgrades to the steps so they were responsible for \$35,000 of access improvements to the steps leading to the waterfront. For the last three years, I've sent invoices to all the property owners advising to pay the assessment or would be assessed on their property taxes. I am asking for an amendment today. I got one check in the mail today. So, I would ask Council to amend this piece to strike the second item 6440402 for 111 Luikart Drive. I received that check today. And this will be the last year we have to do this. Thank you.

### President Mancuso

45:56

Thank you. Can I have a motion to accept that amendment. Councilman Epps. Second by Councilman Jarosz. Discussion on the amendment only? Seeing none. I'll entertain a motion to close debate on the amendment. So moved by Councilman Epps. Second by Councilwoman Jukic.

All in favor, "Aye."

All right. Let's move back to, is there any further discussion on the entire ordinance? Councilman Epps.

### Councilman Epps

46:22

Thank you to Dr. Sweeney. I feel like this is what you discussed as in the meeting with Ward 2 similar to that. So are these basically, and this is what would happen with them as well. Folks who have not voluntarily paid? Do we have these folks agreed though, as well. Like just as with the other everyone had to agree for the payments?

### Law Director Sweeney

46:40

Yes, Madam Chair to the Councilman. All 19 homeowners signed off on this and three years ago. And so we assessed every year \$614 to each parcel owner. One gal has two parcels but the Association said we only want her to be charged once because one was a vacant lot similar situation. Exactly. And so they all agreed to this and some people actually paid for all three years in advance it just kind of depended, kept the spreadsheet over the three years and here's what we have left.

### Councilman Epps

47:11

Got it. Thank you for explaining that because those folks are at home watching. You can see how this process plays out.

### President Mancuso

47:16

Any other discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilwoman Jukic. Second by Councilwoman McIntosh.

All in favor, "Aye."

I'll entertain a motion to suspend the rules to forego the second and third reading. So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Second by Councilman Wojtila.

All in favor, "Aye."

Any opposed? One.

Madam Clerk, please call the roll on the merits of the ordinance.

### Clerk Laboda

47:41

Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tolton Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. McIntosh, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Amended ordinance passes.

### President Mancuso

47:54

Thank you. Madam Clerk, please read the fourth agenda item into the record.

### Clerk Laboda

47:58

**Ordinance 082-22.** An emergency ordinance authorizing the sale of permanent parcel number 646-31-013 vacant land at 21317 Euclid Avenue from Euclid Landbank to Pamela Smith, in the amount of \$1,000 as authorized by ordinance numbers 98-2010 and 101-2011.

### President Mancuso

48:30

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin discussion. So moved by Councilman Epps. Second by Councilwoman Steele.

All in favor, "Aye."

We will go once again to Director Sweeney to begin our discussion.

### Law Director Sweeney

48:43

Thank you, Madam Chair. This is a land bank parcel at the almost at the corner of 212 and Euclid Avenue. And we've had this parcel in our land bank since 1998. Next door neighbor Pamela Smith would like this for yard expansion. I don't know if Miss Smith is here this evening? I don't think so. And this sale was approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission on June 14 of this year. And I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have.

President Mancuso

49:10

Thank you. Discussion. Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

49:12

Thank you, Director Sweeney. I didn't get a chance to watch that Planning and Zoning meeting. Was it discussed about potential commercial, any of that discussed in that meeting? Do you know? Director Sweeney?

Law Director Sweeney

49:23

Yeah, I'm not aware of it. Madam Chair to the Council. And I'm not aware of any commercial use being discussed. I believe side yard expansion.

President Mancuso

49:32

Other discussion. Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilman Tolton. Second by Councilwoman McIntosh.

All in favor, "Aye."

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion to suspend the rules to forego the second and third reading. So moved by Councilwoman Steele. Second by Councilwoman Jukic.

All in favor, "Aye."

Any opposed? Seeing none.

Madam Clerk, please call the roll on the merits of the ordinance.

Clerk Laboda

50:03

Steele, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. McIntosh, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Ordinance passes.

President Mancuso

50:14

Thank you. Madam Clerk, please read the fifth agenda item into the record.

Clerk Laboda

50:19

**Ordinance 083-22.** An emergency ordinance authorizing the sale of permanent parcel number 641-20-044 vacant land at 20330 Nauman Avenue from the Euclid Landbank to Teresa, Nerissa Suttles and Deonta Hillman for the amount of \$1,000 as authorized by ordinance numbers, 98-2010 and 101-2011.

President Mancuso

50:54

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin discussion. So moved by Councilwoman Steele. Second by Councilman Jarosz.

All in favor, "Aye."

We go again to Law Director Sweeney.

#### Law Director Sweeney

51:06

Thank you, Madam Chair. The city has owned this Landbank lot since 2013. We previously demolished the home that was at that lot. The next-door neighbor's Nerissa Suttles and Deonta Hillman would like to purchase this for yard expansion, and that sale was approved by Planning and Zoning Commission on June 14. I don't know if those residents are here. Nope. So happy to answer any questions that you might have.

#### President Mancuso

51:32

Thank you. Discussion. No discussion. Okay. I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilwoman Jukic. Second by Councilwoman Steele. All in favor, "Aye."

I'll, I'll entertain a motion to suspend the rules to forego the second and third reading. So moved by Councilwoman Steele. Second by Councilman Jarosz. All in favor, "Aye."

Any opposed? Seeing none.

Madam Clerk please call the roll on the merits of the ordinance.

#### Clerk Laboda

52:02

Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. McIntosh, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Ordinance passes.

#### President Mancuso

52:15

Thank you. Madam Clerk, please read the sixth agenda item into the record.

#### Clerk Laboda

52:22

**Resolution 084-22.** A resolution to honor and recognize the life of Councilwoman Stephana Childs-Caviness and her many contributions to the City of Euclid.

#### President Mancuso

52:36

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage. So moved by Councilwoman Steele. Second by Councilwoman Jukic.

All in favor, "Aye."

And is there any further discussion on the resolution? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilwoman McIntosh. Second by Councilwoman Steele.

All in favor, "Aye."

Madam Clerk please call the roll on the resolution?

Clerk Laboda

53:03

Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. McIntosh, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.  
Resolution passes.

President Mancuso

53:15

Thank you. We now go to our second **Committee of the Whole**, which is the **public portion** of our meeting where residents may speak to anything for the good of the city. Please give us your name, address and keep your comments to five minutes.

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – PUBLIC PORTION

Resident – Audrey Kalan Goodman

53:49

Good evening, everyone. I'm Audrey Kaplan Goodman, 20201 Glen Russ Lane. If anyone is looking for an experience, for a unique theater experience, I urge you to come downtown this weekend and attend the BorderLight Fringe Festival. It'll run from Wednesday, July 20 through this Sunday, the 24th there will be live performances featuring dance, scripted plays, circus performances, one man plays and more. Many of the activities will be free and very family friendly, taking place on public square and the small venues at Playhouse Square. You can find out more by visiting the website which is [borderlightele.org](http://borderlightele.org). If you're a fan of live theater, I urge you to check it out. Victor and I will be down there volunteering this weekend so we hope to see lots of you down there. I, like so many others, are saddened by the passing of Stephana Caviness. The last time we spoke, it was two weeks ago on a Sunday morning. We were both online messaging each other, when Stephana messaged me and asked if she could call me. I said, of course. A few seconds later she called and told me she had something to tell me. That's when she shared with me that she was dying. I had no words, of course, except to ask if there was anything that she needed or that we could do for her. She said no. But thanked both Victor and me for all of our support and commitment to the city over the years. She considered us both good friends, and thanked us for all our hard work and dedication to the city. I assured her that we would continue working for a better Euclid in any way possible. Stephana was a woman of great strength, courage, commitment, honesty, integrity, and so much more. She was truly, she was a truly giving and a very kind person. I'm truly thankful that her pain and suffering are now over. May she rest in peace. To Chip, Steven and Lana May your mom's memory always be a blessing to you. And know that she will live in your hearts forever. She certainly will forever be in mind. Thank you

President Mancuso

56:08

Next speaker please.

## Resident – Victor Goodman

56:24

Victor Goodman, 20201 Glen Russ lane. You know, I related this story to someone at the funeral, but, or at the wake. But Stephana and I started off real bad. Real bad. In her first meeting here. She voted on something after admitting that she knew nothing of the subject, but she was voting anyway. And I left her a not very, nice email, a voicemail that you know if you're going to vote, know what you're voting about. I don't care whether you vote yes or no but know. At 1:30 that morning, 1:30 that morning, my phone rang. It was Stephana. And she was very upset that I was upset. And we spoke for over an hour that evening. And I don't know how many of you are familiar with the movie Casa Blanca. But at the end, Rick and Louie are walking. And Rick says to Louie, I think this is the beginning of a great friendship. And from that day on Stephana and I became very close and good friends. If Euclid ever desires to build a statue for someone, maybe one of the first should be for Stephana Caviness. She gave her all and she gave it without reservation. She was a remarkable woman. And we will forever miss her. Any hour of the day or night she would call you or you could call her. And may she rest in peace.

## President Mancuso

Thank you. Next speaker please.

## Resident – Pearlitha Taylor

58:54

Pearlitha Taylor, 1495 East 193 Street. I was trying to get some of my other residents that come up and read this so I wouldn't be up here again. But Heritage Park is so grateful to have had Stephana Caviness our Ward 1 Councilperson. In an honor in Heritage Park Community Association, we like to take the opportunity to stay in our heart their gratitude to Councilwoman Caviness, Savannah Childs-Caviness, for all of her hard work and dedication She shone toward our community. She was a hard-working person. She cared about the people not only in our community but all over. But when she joined Heritage Park Community Association in 2012, she attended our first meeting, she rolled up her sleeves and walked right in and decided she will listen to our complaints. She will hear our cry. At first she couldn't understand why all the complaints. But then after a while, and after she constantly attend our meeting, as she worked at neighborhood, she realized that things that we were was talking about, and she worked hard with us. She even listen, and she even gave us guidance, things that she couldn't do, she would let us know what we could do. And we worked hard together. Many, many nights, she and I on the phone, we talk about different things that we can do. We plan different activities. And we talked about how we can bring and make our organization stronger. If you notice, I'm not reading all of this on the list, because it's too much. But it's not enough to really explain how she really was and the type of person she was. And she worked very hard. And it is very impossible for me to stand up and read and talk about all the things that she did. But as one of the speakers spoke tonight, she cared a lot about the wall on Euclid Avenue. Not only the walls on Euclid Avenue, but also the street, Euclid Avenue street itself. We fought and we worked hard,

we fill out petitions and everything they get Euclid Avenue completed yet, finished yet, but we wanted to repay, we gave her a message that we want it and she brought it to Council and let you all know and voted on it. She worked with us, not only the street on Euclid Avenue, but all the other neighborhood streets and all the other things that was needed to playground, the mini-station, the wall. It was just so many things. And we just got started the pilot program that Heritage Park where she was so passionate about it. She came to council meeting as she was dying. She was dying. But she felt so passionate about it. She had to come and put the frosting on the cake. And she did it elegantly. She was a dynamic person and words is not enough to express what all she has done not only for Heritage Park, but the City of Euclid. She would go out of her comfort zone and help anyone she was just that type of person. She will always have a special place in my heart and a special place in Heritage Park Community Association. Thank you.

President Mancuso

1:02:53

Thank you. Next person please.

Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz

1:03:11

Christopher Michael Litwinowicz, doing business as Wild Distribution, LLC. From one somber note to another with Council neglect to have total transparency within our city, through communications with majority of the council members a lot of y'all knew what was going on last year. Now all of a sudden, it's where's this instrument? Law Director. We supposed to abide by police order. They've asked me for this little piece of paper and kept it on the best interest of the city of the city, you should find that because it is detailed in there. I think it's \$5 a bag, but there's other enemies. There's entitlements. Council, Mr. Jarosz, Mr. Wojtila, senior members of this Council, Miss Mancuso. If you ready to sign a document stating that you're not even intending the discussion to pay out an individual, I, and, Miss lawyer, where lawyer go? She'll advise you on some things. I think we need executive sessions. Y'all taking my heart, the kindness of my heart, and turn into pieces of the pie. I ain't scared to go to the Supreme Court. I sure ain't scared enough to come tomorrow morning and get a piece of document signed by the clerk that don't want to sign it, that she has to sign it. I'll start the petition without it. It doesn't invalidate it. Cuyahoga Chris feels like I need to give a referendum to the Law Director with the Finance Director tomorrow, that starts the 45 days, doesn't end 45/30 days. We know the laws, too. But this is a sad somber moment that you playin' someone to a fool. 16,750 bags. I moved that Council right now. You got three little A, B and C, 2.50 A bag 1.50 A bag or 1.25 a bag. Who gonna, who gonna, who gonna start saving the city money when all we doing here is wasting each other's time. You ain't wasted mine. 'Cause you wasted my business. Wild Distribution LLC, ADA compliant. Y'all facing a little young person that cleaned up hills on the faith of the city. I'm looking at Council particular Ward 2 that voiced their opinion like the Mayor that brought me back to the job when the job was done. And a lot of these bags ain't even yet on the invoice. But the question is to this council person. Do you have a legal instrument? Yes, I did. Law Director

when the Clerk of Council last year because it was told to me that our Mayor had chosen a certain individual for a project, a project, a job, whatever this be. I know one thing \$989,000 of taxpayer dollars money at the general fund. That's my money. Taxes been paid on that. So, before we start any discussion, we talking at least that money back. I think, I'm putting it to you. You should pay somebody for four months of cutting grass. That's a \$750 check, a week check for 16 weeks. Look, it's a disgrace on Euclid Avenue right now high grass when I kept it clean, like a sergeant. You also need a Sergeant at Arms, Police Chief. I've also requested this through the telephone, please contact your officers tomorrow and find that instrument of business because it's obstruction of justice charges next. I gotta wait another month to get paid. If we ain't on the same page let me know right now so I could start the recall and you could resign out of office.

**President Mancuso**

1:08:13

Next speaker, please. Sure. Law Director Sweeney.

**Law Director Sweeney**

1:08:21

Madam Chair, Mr. Litwinowicz has come to the microphone a number of times at multiple meetings. The city did not engage him or his company to cut grass or rake leaves. There is no contract. He did it as a volunteer and we're not going to pay him.

**Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz**

1:08:39

Law Director. Did you text me?

**Law Director Sweeney**

1:08:42

There's no contracts. There's no written instrument. We told him multiple times to stop cutting people's grass, to stop raking leaves, to stop depositing the leaves in plastic bags in the Recycle Bin. He was told multiple times to stop. Charges were even sent over to the Prosecutor's Office for littering and illegal disposal of...

**Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz**

1:09:06

At least you admit that I got a ticket. (Mr. Liwinowicz). You bring my name up, I'm not allowed to speak on the issue.

**President Mancuso**

You are no longer permitted to speak. Your time is up.

**Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz**

Can someone extend my time?

**President Mancuso**

No, no, your time is up, sir. Please move away...

Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz

Swiping... you bein' recalled tomorrow morning, ma'am.

President Mancuso

1:09:21

Fine. Time to go.

Law Director Sweeney

1:09:23

So he wants to know where we stand. We are never paying him for his services here. Thank you.

Resident – Christopher Litwinowicz

1:09:29

Never told me. Law Director... (inaudible) Removed for disruption of a public meeting by Police Chief Meyer.

President Mancuso

1:09:35

Next speaker, please? If there are no further residents to speak, we will now go to **Councilman Comments**. And we will begin with Councilman Wojtila, I believe.

Councilman Wojtila

1:09:57

Thank you, Madam Chair. I was emailing with the Service Director about a committee meeting. And we're looking at a week from Wednesday. So, this is just late breaking news that we've got a lot going on the first week of August and the following week. There's also another meeting on Wednesday. So unfortunately, we're looking at a week from this Wednesday, which I believe is the 27th. Thank you. So, Council Clerk, if you could send out an email to the committee members, and I wanted everybody else to be aware of that potential date for the committee meeting on the 27th, where we'll be discussing the annual study from the Bob Fink and Associates, Mr. Fink would present that and be a continuation of the committee meeting that we held about a month and a half ago. So again, look for that email and for the other committee members or other council members. Look for another email, if that's in fact, the date we pick. If not, we'll be looking at probably August, the third week, the third Wednesday of August.

Law Director Sweeney

1:11:05

Madam Chair, if I can give Councilman a heads up, I don't think you're going to have a quorum for next week. Because really, nobody was available next week for Ward 1 interviews. So, I don't know that you're gonna have a quorum for next week. So, I'm just suggesting maybe look at that August day.

### Councilman Wojtila

1:11:21

That being said, then it would probably be the third Wednesday of August. So, our Thank you. Oh, well,

### President Mancuso

1:11:35

Looks like we have a lot more to come. More to come.

### Councilman Wojtila

1:11:39

We're trying to give everybody advance notice. But I'd like to take a few moments also to provide my comments about Stephana. It's certainly with a heavy heart that we're all here today. I know when I found out I had to call somebody and, and talk about it because it was just so, so difficult to hear. And, and I just couldn't believe, you know, when we heard and think about, she was such a servant of the people that she was here not a couple of weeks ago, and that's just talked about her and her commitments Stephana's commitment to the residents of Ward 1, the resident, all the residents of Euclid. I just, she just amazed me with her kindness and her compassion and her thoughtfulness. I just couldn't believe the times if she had reached out to me where I was just, it just floored me how kind and compassionate she was. So, I will miss her. Again, it's with a heavy heart that we're here. I look forward to the ways that we can honor her. And I know there's some ideas tonight, and there was some other ideas that were tossed around. So, I look forward to playing a role in that and honoring her and her commitment to the City of Euclid. Thank you, Madam Chair.

### President Mancuso

1:12:58

Thank you, Councilwoman Jukic.

### Councilman Jukic

1:13:01

Oh, thank you, Madam Chair. I would like to send my deepest condolences to Councilwoman Caviness' family, friends Ward 1 and the whole city and everyone who knew her. I only knew Councilwoman Caviness for the two and a half years while I've been serving on council, and unfortunately, a year and a half of that we didn't really get to interact. So, I really only knew her for a year. And I remember in the very beginning looking down at her, you know the far end for me while she would speak or ask questions, and I was so impressed by her. I admired her, looked up to her and I learned so much from her. I so wish we had more time so that I could have learned more and carried on her spirit. Stephana and I were talking about several things we would like to do together on council and in the community. And I'm so sorry that we won't be able to do those things together. But I will keep her ideas and wishes nearer to me and keep working on them. And as Councilman Wojtila said, besides being an excellent Councilwoman, Stephana was such a good and caring friend. When I went through some health issues recently, she was so caring and supportive to me, even as she was struggling with her own illness.

As the Mayor said earlier, it was my honor to have known and worked with Councilwoman Caviness, and I will carry her with me always. Thank you.

**President Mancuso**

1:14:43

Thank you, Councilwoman Steele.

**Councilwoman Steele**

1:14:48

My condolences to the Caviness family, to the City of Euclid and her Ward. You know, when she came to the last meeting, I saw how she struggled to get to her seat. But she had a drive. She had a charge to keep. When she came in, she, she said I had to come. And I said to her, you have a charge to keep. And I don't know if people know what that means. That means that when you are committed to doing something, follow through with it. I didn't know her long. But I remember we had conversations on the phone. And she not only was a kind person, she was a Mentor. She mentored so many people. And I guess what I'm saying today, what is your charge to keep? Let us not let her legacy be in vain. She worked hard for the city. She worked hard to the very, very end. And I'm asking you as residents, what's your charge to keep? This is your city. She loved this city. She worked hard for this city. And I think we as residents, we as council, friends, family, we need to take her ideas, her willingness and just her passion. And don't let that go in vain. We all have to keep on pushing like she did to the very, very end. And I just want to say thank you. Rest in peace, my sister, rest in peace.

**President Mancuso**

1:16:47

Thank you. Councilman Tolton.

**Councilman Tolton**

1:16:56

Thank you, Madam Chair. To the Mayor, quick question. We're supposed to be doing a study on the speed tables. Is that, when is that going to take place? And what locations have we decided to put them in?

**Mayor Gail**

1:17:18

Thank you, Councilman Tolton. We're waiting for NOWACA to, I believe it's a supply chain issue they're supposed to we're supposed to be getting two from them. Those were designated for the driveway into Sims Park. And we're still looking at other options and learning from other communities that are using them. So, nothing new since then.

**Councilman Tolton**

1:17:40

Okay, well, I would really respectfully request that we put one on Miller drive. I mean, I've got a lot of complaints from residents about that particular stretch, and we know, you know, they fly down here so we can use that street as one of the tests streets. That that'll be great. That'll be great. Also, to Ward

2 residents; Just want to remind you guys, some might know, some may not. We're having a Ward 2, city, a Ward 2 resident Block Party it will be next month on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Saturday, August 13, from 12 to 3pm, at Heroes Park, and the address there is 1540 E 221st. That's 1540 East 221st Street. So, if you pass Cortinas, if you know where that is, that drive is right there, you make a left and just come down and we'll have the block party there. We'll have food, games, music, just a fun time for the family, for the residents of Ward 2, anybody's invited, also. But we always want to make sure we get the Ward 2 residents, we've been locked in for the last couple of years. And just a way that we can kind of mingle, we can meet one another. And, also, people can meet me learn what, as your council person, I can learn you, learn from you, we hear from you. And, also, there'll be city officials that you could talk to also. Just real quick, Madam Chair, I, too would like to pay tribute to our colleague, Councilwoman Stephana Caviness. Because Stephana Caviness is one of the city's longest serving Council persons, having first been elected to serve the people of Ward 1 in 2012. As most know, she would go above and beyond for her constituents and for the city at large. She was passionate about serving and getting things done for the people. I first, first met Stephana many years ago through being involved in the city issues and city issues at attending council meetings. Over the past year, I've been able to glean some of what others have known about her for years. While serving on Planning and Zoning Council, Councilwoman Caviness would call me wanting to know my insight on zoning issues coming before the full Council. She would listen intently to my observations and reasoning as to why I voted for/against a particular zoning matter. After joining Council this year, she was more than willing to help me and my colleague, new colleagues understand and navigate the rules, processes and procedures of a council member, I was able to call her up and bounce ideas off of her, and what she was always willing to do. If I called and she didn't pick up right away, I could be sure there will be a phone call back within an hour, we would sometimes have our hour long talks about issues facing the city, and what can be done to address them. She would tell me that she appreciated and value my opinion. And I would tell her the same. Although I have not known her as long as others, I will always cherish and remember her kindness, words of encouragement and friendship. The City of Euclid and Ward 1 has lost a champion. And I hope whoever takes this seat will carry on the legacy of fighting for and advocating for the people of Ward 1, as she did for so many years. So, I send my deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Councilwoman Stephana Caviness.

### President Mancuso

Thank you. Councilman Epps.

### Councilman Epps

1:21:09

Thank you. I, I just will say my condolences again to the Caviness family. The Caviness brand. And I say that jokingly. I was privileged to be able to join Mayor Gail and some of my council colleagues at her funeral service. And for all the things that I thought that I knew about Councilwoman Caviness, and I think everyone there would agree there were hosts, not just a

few things, like I didn't know that there were so many things that I had no clue about this woman, and watching us look at each other and throughout the service and just a beautiful service and to watch that family, that ministry honor what Dr. Caviness called in his sermon, her to be the queen of the Caviness clan. And I think that speaks, it goes to the heart of who she is, being that she was the ex-wife of his son, and still for him to stand, her ex father-in-law, to stand and give such a glowing tribute at that service. And calling her the queen of his clan, I think was that was all the eulogy I needed to hear. And so, my condolences definitely to the family, did that obviously that day, but I want to send that not only to the family, but to Ward 1. I don't think you would ever find someone to serve one of our little Wards here in Euclid the way that Councilwoman Stephana Caviness did and I thank her for being my, I would joke and call her my council therapist because she would, she would listen to me. And she'd hear me all the way out. And then she gives me her two cents on it. And she also always took the opportunity to do what does not happen very often and that's to point out the great impact that she feels that my presence here on council's made. And so, I thank her for that. I thanked her for that recently as well to her face. And so, I was glad to be able to as I will add my flowers to her bouquet tonight. I was glad to be able to give her, you know, those accolades or that tribute to her face as well. So, but it was over the phone. Excuse me, it was over the phone. So yeah, so there's that everyone has spoke already to what it means to try to fill this seat. And I will just segway a little bit and just ask, in this process for the vacated seat of Councilwoman Caviness. It's councils, councils duty to appoint and fill this seat. And there are seven applications, I believe are eight applications up four applications. Thank you that have been I get must be the city site that saying that because everyone is saying and telling me that when I'm talking to them too. But nevertheless, for applications, and I have no idea who these people are. I've not seen these applications. So, I, if we could talk a little bit about the process for that. Am I missing that in my email? I've been asked by one of my colleagues here on council as well. Do I know any of these people that have applied? And so, it just seems that I don't want to be given these applications on the first when we're meeting these people and talking to them. It's not how I run my business, we shouldn't be taking, we should be taking the seat a lot more serious than that. So, if you could talk a little bit about, Council President, a little bit about the process that's playing out right now it seems like it should be something internally for council rather than the administration leading the effort. So, can you talk a little bit about the about what that process looks like?

#### President Mancuso

1:24:45

I'll turn it over to the Law Director.

#### Law Director Sweeney

1:24:46

Thank you, Madam Chair. So, administration is not leading this process. It is Council's process. I did send all of council an email explaining the process. Applications are due by this Friday. The application process was open for two weeks. I'm not sure where people are saying seven or eight applications.

I'm the one who's gotten the applications. And there have been four applicants. So, I don't know where this information is coming from about seven or eight. If somebody has seen that somewhere, I'd like to, I'd like to know about that.

#### Councilman Epps

1:25:16

They were saying that you can see it, I didn't see it. I looked for myself, but they're saying that you can see it on the city's website, where you go in and I'm like, wait a minute, the applications aren't published? And I'm like, No, just the number of people. So I appreciate...

#### Law Director Sweeney

1:25:26

Yeah, that's not true. So, I don't know. I will look at that. But I appreciate you telling me where to go. But that's not accurate. So, there have been four applicants so far. The deadline is this Friday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, applications were open for two weeks. And on the city's website, it is under the news section. So, any Ward 1 residents who are registered voters who are intrigued...

#### Councilman Epps

1:25:47

I'm sorry, I don't, I just have a little bit of time left. But I just so we're going to get the applications after it closes on the 22<sup>nd</sup>?

#### Law Director Sweeney

1:25:52

Yes, and that was in the email. I can resend that email to everybody. But I did send that email on Monday last of last. So...

#### Councilman Epps

1:26:01

In closing, thank you. In closing, I will just say that it's very important that we get this right, council. There are a lot of factors, I think we need to factor into the decision. But obviously, the people that will be in front of us are the people who have applied and that's what we'll have to choose from. But we definitely need to get this right. And so, as everyone has said tonight is a tough decision. And I look forward to being closely a part of it. Thank you.

#### President Mancuso

Thank you. Councilman Jarosz.

#### Councilman Jarosz

1:26:28

Thank you, Madam Chair. So many people had said so many nice things about Stephana that they must be true. We all share similar stories, frankly, similar experiences with her. So, if you don't mind in the few minutes I have, I'd like to add my own. And I might repeat what has already been said, but I think it's true, it might be worth repeating. First, we have myself and my family, I'd like to express our most sincere condolences to Stephana's family,

and thank them for sharing her with us over these many years. Serving on council is not often an easy task, especially for those who carry a deep commitment to the community in which they serve and are willing to take the time necessary to work towards its betterment. No one was a truer champion for Euclid than Stephana. As I think about it, I doubt that any single council person in any city, in any state, cared more about their community or spent more time with their residents than Stephana. She was not only a tireless advocate for Euclid, and its residents, especially those in Ward 1. But she was also one of our two assets. It's a story that's been told a few times, I will I will reiterate, I don't think I could find a better example of her commitment to this community than what she displayed at what would sadly be her final council meeting just a few short weeks ago. At this meeting, there was an agenda item she sponsored designed to start a home repair pilot program in Heritage Park, which is in Ward 1. Now this was a not a controversial piece of legislation by any stretch, it was a good idea. We all supported it, and they would surely pass easily and with little or no debate. She arrived a little late, we could all see that she was having difficulties, and that she was struggling just to make it to her seat. And in retrospect, we now know that she was aware of just how little time she had left. Yet, despite all this, she managed to make it to that council meeting so she could see the project that she had worked on for about two years all the way through to its conclusion. After the meeting, I wept. I went up to her and I said, you know Stephana, if you're not feeling well, you don't have to be here. I mean, we could have taken care of this. She looked at me kind of confused, almost puzzled, as if not coming to support her legislation and her residents was even an option. She just smiled back and said, Oh no, I had to be here for my people. Euclid is a better place because of her service. And we were all better for having known her and we are diminished by her passing. I am grateful that we, this evening, are afforded this opportunity tonight to reflect on just how special she was. Stephana was a true public servant, always mindful, always caring. She conducted her duties with dignity and grace, while leading with humility and empathy. Always open to new ideas. It was never about her. It was always about us. And she encouraged discussions and effort to build consensus. And sometimes we couldn't reach that consensus and that was okay, too. From time to time, we all could question the reasons somebody voted and someone who's certain way on any specific issue. But no one, not for any instant, could ever question her motives. As a member of council, she actually managed to the impossible. Somehow she was able to embody all the virtues one could ever hope for in a public servant. Yet she possessed none of the vices. I'm happy to hear that we will continue to honor the legacy and spirit of Stephana. In what form that will take is yet to be determined. But we can all learn from her example. And, I one last personal note. My wife had a special relationship with Stephana, and I like to take a moment to acknowledge that and to thank Stephana for the time she spent with my wife to help provide her questions, or providing answers to her questions when my wife received her cancer diagnosis several years ago, Stephana was always open to answering her questions and or just listening. We only carry the fondest memories of her in our hearts. Thank you.

## President Mancuso

Councilwoman McIntosh.

## Councilwoman McIntosh

1:30:53

So, tough one to follow. Thanks to everybody who's come out this evening. To be a part of today in memory, you know, in memory of Councilwoman Caviness. She indeed was someone who led with integrity and determination as many people said, she was the epitome of selfless service. And, um, role model to me when I got on council, just you know, what, five years ago, if that. She helped me, guided, she guided through me, me through decisions and just topics and when there were major issues going on in the city, she would call and we would talk and she just always had the best interests of the city at heart, always. Her intimate knowledge of the city and her Ward and her residents were of particular note to me, just going around the pond and garden tour this weekend. You know, in Ward 1, I mean, so many people are just devastated by the loss. And will miss her tremendously. So, she really made an impact on so many lives. That we know of and to come, she, her impact will not fully be realized I think for, for a long time to come. Just as some of my colleagues mentioned, there was a lot we didn't know about Stephana. And going to her funeral service was definitely eye opening. And I knew she modeled, but I didn't know that she was Miss East Cleveland of 1971, total knockout. And just all of, her obituaries are so full of accomplishments and, and just amazing things about her personally and how she cared about her family, her community, any level of community, every group that she was involved in, it's just, if any of us can reach one iota of what she accomplished, I think we'd be better people. So, I just want to take this brief moment to remember Stephana, thank her for what she brought to the community, what she brought to me personally, and offer my sincere condolences to her family, friends, residents and loved ones. She will be missed, very dearly. And yes, there are big shoes to fill. So, I look forward to being involved in that. And I'm glad I made this through without tears. Thank you so much.

## Clerk Laboda

1:33:44

Okay. Council President has asked me to read two texts.

“Hello, this is Stephana’s daughter-in-law, Denise. I'm checking mom's phone. We appreciate the resolution and all of the support you have shown our family during this very difficult time. Thanks.”

“This is chip. I just wanted to let you know that we have been watching and we thank all of you for your kind words.”

## President Mancuso

1:34:13

Okay. I'm going to try and get back to business.

A little bit about our applications. We need to do that work well. We will pass out the applications with some instructions and how we're going to do the interviews on the first and there will be second interviews on the third. On the third because of our 30 day, we have to turn it around. There will be a

Special Council Meeting where we will then appoint somebody to that position. So, nothing's been rushed. We're doing it the way we're supposed to do it, according to our ordinances, so everything is on time and on the right path. Since we no longer have Councilwoman Caviness, her Safety Committee now will be chaired by Councilman Jarosz, who was the most senior member of our Committee. And I will replace her as a member instead. There will be other things that we need to do, but those are the types of things that are coming up soon. We also will have on August 10th, E & F Committee where we're going to talk about our safety center and budgeting. We will have our bond person here with us. Let's see what else, I think that's, I think that's about it right now. I don't know what more can be said. It's, we're all feeling a loss. And with that, I will ask for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Councilman Jarosz.

Resident – Candace Jones

1:36:10

This is Candace Jones again, I just wanted to, this was a late entry by a resident of Euclid, Yvette Andre, who made this pillow in memory of Stephana. So, if her family is watching, I just wanted to make sure that they know that this was made for her and this will get to the family with the resolution. Thank you.

President Mancuso

1:36:33

Thank you so much. All right. So, we have a motion on the floor. Do we have a second? So moved by Councilwoman Steele.  
All in favor, "Aye."

We are adjourned.

## ADJORNMENT

  
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Cheryl Steele  
Clerk of Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlene Mancuso  
Council President