

EUCLID CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES FROM MARCH 6, 2023

**This regular Council Meeting was held on
Tuesday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00pm
in the Euclid Municipal Center Council Chambers.
President Charlene Mancuso, presided.**

Council President Mancuso

0:12

Good evening and welcome to the Euclid City Council meeting on this Monday March 6. If able, please rise and join me in **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. Madam Clerk, would you call the roll?

Clerk Laboda

0:43

Tanner, here. Tolton, here. Epps, here. Jarosz, here. Hannum, here. Wojtila, here. Jukic, here. Steele, here. Mancuso, here.

Council President Mancuso

0:55

Thank you. Do we have any **Communications**?

COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Laboda

0:58

Yes, we have two communications. The first is Skinnys Bar and Grill 780 East 222nd.

Council President Mancuso

1:08

Thank you, and we will turn this over to Assistant Law Director Rubadue.

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

1:16

Thank you, Madam Chair. Sergeant Wittreich has reviewed the application for Skinnys Bar and Grill and does not have, there are no objections on behalf of the city to allowing this liquor license. Legal Counsel is here with regard to the applicant, I believe, and can speak to any of the issues.

Council President Mancuso

1:35

Thank you. Would you like to suspend the rules to hear from legal counsel from this particular establishment? No. Okay. All right. This establishment is in Ward 8. Did you have the opportunity?

Councilwoman Steele

2:01

Madam Chair, I see nothing, prohibiting them to go ahead.

Council President Mancuso

2:06

Thank you. Any other discussion by colleagues? Seeing none?
Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

2:14

Thank you, just want to ask., maybe, I guess this was a question to ask to the attorney. I didn't feel a need because there's no objection. But just we have. Are there a list of the incidents that have happened at this particular location? Have these folks been involved in the management prior? And it's just that one ownership change? So I guess I do have some questions that the attorney probably could answer. Unless you could answer them.

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

2:40

I can answer that there is new ownership with regard to Skinnys bar. They took ownership in November of 22. There have, we have reviewed not only did Sergeant Woodridge review this and make recommendation that there's no incidents that would preclude passage there, I did happen to review the past year of incidents. There have been very minor things on what we call the catalog that were reviewed nothing that, you know, there could be anything from activities of people outside that don't have anything to do with the bar. I think one of these cases I saw a car

accident that came up with that address, and things like that, but there's nothing in the log that would preclude passage. And like I said, anything further specifically, council may be able to answer.

Mayor Gail

3:40

Madam Chair, if I could. So the new owners have been involved. One of them was, has previously been involved in running it. The other two are Euclid residents, longtime Euclid residents, all three are Euclid residents. Several of, I think two of the three are here. But long time they've been involved with the operations.

Councilman Epps

4:03

Thank you. And that those are my main questions. So, I still, we don't have to suspend the rules for her to come down. But from time to time, Assistant Director Rubadue, you talk about things that just kind of hit with that address, from time to time things do happen in the area of these bars as public places where it was something that was not attached to the bar at all. And so I don't see any reason why we would penalize them for that. Because that's what you're saying. Right?

Mayor Gail

4:24

That is what I'm saying? Yes. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

4:27

Any other discussion? Seeing none, I will make a motion to receive this request without objection. I need a second. So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

Clerk Laboda

4:42

Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.
Passes.

Council President Mancuso

4:54

Thank you. Congratulations. Thank you. We now have a second license request.

Clerk Laboda

5:05

Bar 32 LLC, doing business as, Paddys Pour Haus, 922 East 222nd in Ward 2.

Council President Mancuso

5:15

Thank you and we will go once again to Assistant Law Director.

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

5:19

Well, thank you, Madam Chair. We have received the reports from Sergeant Wittreich, and there's nothing in the city's perspective to preclude passage at this time, or, for them, entities obtaining the permits. That said there was an incident that occurred on February 26. Those reports have been reviewed, there's one incident that caused concern of the city, the city will continue to monitor it. No charges have been filed in it. There was an incident that occurred in, in which at the end of the hour, patrons became involved in what is deemed, I believe, is being captioned as a felonious assault. However, no charges have been brought that, again, legal counsel is here to address that matter if the council has further questions with regard to what occurred, but I believe it's still under investigation with our police department.

Council President Mancuso

6:13

Okay. Thank you. And we will turn to the Councilman Tolton. You want to suspend the rule, Sir, to bring the attorney up?

Councilman Tolton

6:19

Yes. Yes.

Council President Mancuso

6:20

We have a motion to suspend the rules. Do we have a second? So moved by Councilman Epps.

All in favor, "Aye."

Any opposed? No?

Thank you, ma'am. Would you push the green light?

Mandy Gwartz - Attorney

6:34

Hello, I'm Mandy Gwartz....(Untranscribable)... the owners are seated over there, I became aware of the issue. If there's specific questions I can just tell you in general what occurred.

Council President Mancuso

6:48

If you have your green light. Did you put your green light on? Did you put your green light on? I'm hearing from people in the audience that yes, there you go.

Mandy Gwartz - Attorney

6:55

From reading the report. And speaking with our clients, my understanding is that a gentleman came in at the end of the evening around 2:15am. The bartender even told them, we're not serving people anymore. The person got upset. At one point they started to smoke marijuana in the bar. And that's when the bartender confronted them said you have to go. And then the person started fighting with people who were telling this person to go. So the bar owners were not there. They feel that their employee acted appropriately trying to get this person out of there. And this was just a person who came in that they had no control over. But it doesn't seem like it's anything that's an ongoing issue. These aren't people associated with the ownership or operation of the facility.

Council President Mancuso

7:43

Thank you. Councilman Tolton.

Councilman Tolton

7:46

Madam Chair. Thank you for coming in explaining that, I appreciate that. And I don't want to hold this against, like you said was one incident in the beginning. It's not a great start. But like I said, right now, it's not necessarily something that you know, the bar controlled or anything like that. So at this point, I would not be in objection to it. But you know, definitely, you know, we would have to kind of monitor that establishment and make sure that it doesn't become a problem and nuisance for the community. But at this point, I'm not, there's no objections for me. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

8:22

Any other discussion? Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

8:29

To law, I would imagine this is or no, I can ask this directly to you, have your clients been fined with any nuisance fines from the city pursuant to the 2/26 incident? (Not that I'm aware of) Law director, Assistant Director Rubadue have any nuisance fines or anything been imposed based on that incident.

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

8:49

This ownership took, they took ownership on September first of 22. And there have been, as far as I'm aware, no nuisance activity at the property and it is not currently being monitored or on the list of nuisance problem bars.

Councilman Epps

9:04

We typically we talked about monitoring, ongoing monitoring after this particular incidence, when you spoke in your opening remarks are, would you say then that incident such as these start that process? Typically a nuisance, it's tagged with a nuisance? And isn't fun to start the process of going through this? Would you say that?

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

9:22

Yes. If this would this would be monitored at this juncture. And it has not, there's been no finding of nuisance if there are two or more nuisance activities that are in the list of within the code codified ordinances, then then it would be declared a nuisance or if it was a drug related activity, you only need one, then it would be declared a nuisance and then therefore, every, I think it's every two weeks to four weeks. Another colleague of mine reviews the list and loop reviews all the police reports. However, we will put this on the nuisance watch list at this time. so that we can continue to monitor the activity there. Like Miss Gwartz indicated, we believe that the bar itself the employee of the bar called the police and brought them out there to deal with activity that was going on in the bar. And, at this point, a summary review of the logs. I perceive this as a one time incident. However, obviously, none of us can predict the future.

Councilman Epps

10:28

Yeah, and I appreciate your response. I just want to for the record, say that in bar establishments, there will be incidents, some incidents that warrant police being called and other instances that don't warrant police to be called, but in that nature of their business, they're going to be things that are going to happen. And so of course, I have absolutely no objection to this liquor license transfer today, but just want to make clear and ask these questions for a matter of consistency. And I talk a lot about consistency, doing the same thing straight across the board. And so that's the reason why I asked those questions and your answers were perfect. Assistant Director Rubabue. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

11:02

Thank you, Sir. I will make a motion to receive this without objection. I need a second, by Councilman Tolton.

Council President Mancuso

11:12

Call the roll. Sorry. Call the roll.

Clerk Laboda

11:19

Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes, Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Motion passes.

Council President Mancuso

11:30

Thank you. Do we have any Council minutes?

Clerk Laboda

11:33

Yes, February 21, 2023.

Council President Mancuso

11:37

And I will turn it over to Councilman Wojtila.

Councilman Wojtila

11:39

Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to make a motion to accept the council minutes from February 21, 2023.

Council President Mancuso

11:45

Do I have a second? So moved by Councilman Tanner.

All in favor, "Aye."

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Gail

11:53

Thank you, Madam Chair. Good evening, everyone. A couple of announcements, a couple thank yous. This week is hazardous waste round up. So this week from today, Monday, the sixth through Friday the 10th you can bring your hazardous materials to the service garage at 25200 Lakeland Boulevard between the hours of 8am and 3pm, 8am and 3pm. If you would like a list of what's eligible or what is not eligible, that is available on the city website.

A couple of thank yous I'd like to thank St. Robert-Williams. I was able to attend their Taste of Nations this past Saturday and it's always a wonderful event to support the school there. Lots of volunteers lots of good food made by the volunteer parishioners, so thank you to them.

Congratulations and welcome to Grace Community Church. They had their grand opening service this past Saturday. This is in the old Kmart building on Euclid Avenue. Congrats to pastor Myron Edmonds. We appreciate, they really did some nice work on the building and have more work to do other spaces still to be renovated. But he appreciated the opportunity to be there and celebrate with them.

Welcome to Premier Urgent Care at 27900 Euclid Avenue. We had a ribbon cutting with them last week. They're here to serve health needs for anyone in the community. They have an urgent care and a connected primary care. So welcome to them.

Congratulations to Sophia Thornhill. She will be the second female Eagle Scout at BSA Scouts Troop 161. Her ceremony will be this coming Saturday, March 11. Congratulations to Sophia.

Happy birthday to the American Legion Post 343 who will be celebrating their birthday this coming Saturday as well.

Recreation Department has an event coming up, a little bit early notice, on March 24. From six to eight they will have a sing into spring karaoke

night. They do ask that you register if you would like to participate. Again. It's March 24. From six to eight in the evening at the Lakefront Community Center.

St. Patrick's Day is coming up. I'd like to congratulate Jack Murphy for being recognized as the Eastside Irish American club member of the year. Many people know Jack Murphy from his either Tradewinds Bar or his active support of probably every charitable and community organization in the community. Certainly he's recognized for his work at the Irish American Club, but is very generous and active throughout the community. So congratulations to Jack.

I also would like to send condolences to Senator Kent Smith's family who lost their father Kent Smith. Mr. Smith was a graduate of Euclid High School and went on to be a teacher at Euclid High School for 30 years. He was recognized as teacher of the year. He was inducted in the Distinguished Achievement Hall of Fame for Euclid schools, as well as the Euclid Schools Sports Hall of Fame. I think he's one of the few people to be recognized in both Halls of Fame. So condolences to Senator Kent Smith and his family and Mrs. Judy Smith on their loss.

And then just lastly, I'd like to share a letter that I received from Fire Chief Todd Unger from the City of Willoughby. This was sent to Fire Chief Haddock and copied to myself. "On the morning of February 17, 2023. We responded to incident, a building fire in Mentor on Mentor Avenue in Willoughby. Upon arrival, a four-story building under construction was fully involved with significant exposure concerns on two sides of the fire, along with wind driven conditions that sent flying embers into the properties across the street. Assistant Chief Anderson and the crew of Engine 1313 under the direction of Lieutenant Banning played a key role in protecting occupied buildings that were endangered due to the high heat from the main fire building. Please accept my deepest appreciation for all the help that you gave our department that day. We are very fortunate to have a Fire Department like yours available to respond when needed the most, sincerely, Fire Chief Todd Unger."

So, so wanted to recognize our fire department. We often, often are the recipients as well of mutual, mutual aid and also work to support other neighboring communities when needed. So just wanted to thank and congratulate the fire department for that. Director Grogan-Myers.

Planning and Development Director Grogan-Myers

16:41

Thank you, Mayor. Good evening, Madam Chair, City Council. Just a few brief updates for you. The first is a reminder that on Thursday, March 16, the Community Development Division will be hosting a Fair Housing and Landlord Tenant training at the Euclid Public Library. That's Thursday, March 16, 6pm to 8pm in the public library Shore Room, featured speakers will include Tanisha Hunter from the Fair Housing Center for rights and research and our very own Ed Chenock. So registration is required, and thehousingcenter.org/events. Again, that's Thursday, March 16, 6 to 8pm at the Euclid Public Library in the Shore Room.

Second, and in a similar vein, April is recognized as Fair Housing Month in this country and in discussing this opportunity to affirmatively further fair housing, which is not only a commitment, heartfelt commitment, but a requirement through the city's community development block grant funding. In discussing this opportunity with the system's Advisory Committee, which is the citizens body that informs our decision making around CDBG. We were talking about various ways that we will promote Fair Housing Month in April, and you'll see a number of things that will come up in the city social media and website and opportunities throughout the community. But one of the moments we wanted to take was a community conversation around a book, something that really kickstarts to conversation in the community about how fair housing is an issue that's not only discussed and studied, but lived on a daily basis. That book that we will discuss in April is Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law*. Many have heard the book, about the book, it came out, I believe it was 2019, feels like eons ago. And there was a community conversation that occurred when the book came out. But in the conversation with the community or Citizens Advisory Committee, it was discovered that many people have not had a chance to read and discuss the book. It truly is an academic work written for the layperson to be able to understand for it to be very approachable. And to that end. For those who haven't had a chance to read it, I just wanted to provide an excerpt from the publishers website. "Wildly heralded as a masterful and essential history of the modern American metropolis. *The color of law* offers, quote, the most forceful argument ever published on how federal, state and local governments gave rise to and reinforced neighborhood segregation, said William Julius Wilson, exploding the myth of de facto segregation arising from private prejudice or the unintended consequences of economic forces. Rothstein describes how the American government systematically imposed residential segregation with undisguised racial zoning, public housing that purposefully segregated previously mixed communities, subsidies for builders to create whites only suburbs, tax exemptions for institutions that enforce segregation and support for violent resistance to African Americans in white neighborhoods." So this book is available through the Euclid Public Library, there are copies available, again, *The Color of Law* by Richard Rothstein, available through the public library, available online as a Kindle or ebook, as well as copies available through your local book book seller. So dates for the discussion will be announced later this month. But in the meantime, happy reading. The final announcement is that tomorrow night on March 7 and March 8, Wednesday evening, from 4:30 to 7:30pm, at LaSalle Theatre, we will be hosting a community conversation seeking community input on the future of the Lakeshore Chevy properties. This is done in partnership with the City of Cleveland greater Collinwood Development Corporation and Cleveland neighborhood progress. We're doing this as a team effort, recognizing that there's a total of about two and a half acres of property on the Cleveland side and Euclid sides combined. And so this is an opportunity for the community to share its vision help us mold that vision and really go forward then into execution.

So again, March 7, March 8, 4:30 to 7:30pm at the LaSalle Theatre. Thank you.

Mayor Gail

20:56

Thank you. Chief Meyer.

Police Chief Meyer

20:58

Thank you, Mayor. Good evening members of council, members of the audience, just two quick announcements. Frederick Douglas School it will have a meet and greet this Friday, March 10. And this is from 11:15am till 12:15pm. Again, that will be at the Frederick Douglas School. Meet and Greet is an opportunity for students and faculty to get to know officers, Eric Wright, one of our several our officers will be there, officer Eric Rodriguez, Officer Sam Therian, and Sergeant Shawn Williams will be there and will be available to visit and meet with the students and anyone else who so attends. And we just want to put out an announcement that Friday, March 17 is in fact St. Patrick's Day. We just want to remind everybody to be conscious of drinking, of not drinking and driving and of celebrating St. Patrick's Day, in a responsible way we recommend that you designate a sober driver to take RTA, or rideshare services or simply celebrate at home. That will do it. Thank you.

Mayor Gail

22:02

Thank you, Chief. Madam Chair that completes our reports today.

Council President Mancuso

22:06

Thank you. And now go to **Committee Documentation**. Councilman Wojtila.

Councilman Wojtila

22:11

Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to make a motion to approve the Board of Control minutes from February 21, 2023.

Council President Mancuso

22:18

Thank you do I have a second? So moved by Councilman Jarosz. All in favor, "Aye."

We now go to our first **Committee of the Whole for Legislative Matters Only**. Those wishing to speak, please come to the side podium, give us your name and address and please limit your remarks to five minutes.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – LEGISLATIVE MATTERS ONLY

Resident - Lou Melner

22:42

My name is Lou Melner, I reside at 19711 Edgecliff Drive here in Euclid and have some comments and question on item number three. \$100,000 seems like a lot of money to help support EDCOR to have an Executive Director for nine months. The salary of that position, was is it in line with the salary tables that were developed for the City of Euclid. About a year or two ago with those tables used to come up with this? The salary amount whatever it is. And was there no executive director in the past? And if that is the case, what what are the factors that change that would require one now? And what what are the maybe the main two benefits that will arise of having such a director? If there hasn't been one in the past? How is it funded in the past? Has Euclid each year put in money for that position or not? And the second item is number six on the police liability insurance. Is that the only group in the city of Euclid where we go outside and buy liability insurance, or do we do that for other groups like the fire department. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

24:09

Thank you. Next speaker please.

Resident - David Bechdel

24:16

Good evening. My name is David Bechdel. I reside at 2100 Aberdeen. I'd like to speak to item three. I've been associated with EDCOR for many years wanted to give a little history here so people have a little understanding what EDCOR is, and then we're going to have some people talk about where we'd like to go. EDCOR was formed in 1978 by some citizens who set up a nonprofit 501 C 3 tax code and it was used to utilize some county funds for low income loans, low loans have been offered for the last 45 years at 3%. And these were loans limited to \$24,999. In many cases there for older folks to rehab repair replace home they've lived in for many years. In the last 45 years, we've had nearly 1500 applicants for loan improvement loans totaling \$7,200,000. We have had 47 home fund grants \$663,000. These funds were on a revolving basis, meaning when we made a loan and the loan was repaid, than the loan money was put back out in the community. So it's revolved around in the community for many years. We've also handled the downpayment

assistance programs, approximately 20 per year. Approximately 220 new homeowners because of this program, over the years, we've actually rehabbed two homes ourselves EDCOR and sold them not at a great profit but at a profit. Over the years. We've tried to do it more but had had some problems with that. This program has been around it's hopefully going to stay around and we hopefully can expand on our program and do some other items in the future. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

26:46

Thank you, sir. Next speaker please.

Resident Jeffrey Beck

27:04

Jeffery Beck, 25540 Chatworth. Euclid. For the past 30 years or so EDCOR has primarily offered a 3% low interest loan program for lower income people to fix up their owner occupied homes. This has worked very successfully in improving Euclid, one house at a time. About 10 years ago or so the city asked us to manage the downpayment assistance program the County offered to first time lower income homebuyers. We also took on this task and have managed it successfully ever since. Last year, the city came to EDCOR and asked EDCOR if we would like to expand once again, and become more involved in improving Euclid. We would do this by hiring an executive director and become involved in events including fundraising and seeking grants. Not having an executive director in about 30 years, we once had one. We thoroughly discussed this and decided to move forward. Once in place with an executive director, we would start these expansion plans by having by having the houses in the Euclid landbank transferred to EDCOR, rehabbing and selling them. Future programs will be implemented by the executive director with board approval and in collaboration with the city. Proceeds from the sales and any grants we can obtain would go to further our efforts in this direction and help pay for administrative expenses. This would come in very handy as the city as of January 1 of this year, eliminated the block grant money we have relied on for years to pay administrative expenses. We're now relying on the limited funds that we have available. The budget amendment before you will only cover the cost of hiring an executive director this year, and the budget amount will decline over the next few years until eliminated and to answer the question before, the money includes salary and benefits. So salary is not \$100,000 it's way less than that. By this time, we will become self sufficient. I urge this Council to approve this budget amendment so EDCOR can continue to serve the people of Euclid and expand our horizons. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

29:42

Thank you, sir. Next speaker please.

Resident - Belinda Fulton

29:51

Good evening Belinda Fulton, 27113 Shoreview Avenue, Euclid, Ohio. I'm the president of EDCOR. And just as our city has evolved, we all look a lot different now. And we all have different needs. But on a federal level, the government wants us to create more housing opportunities for the disadvantaged on a County level and a State level, they want us to do things to perpetuate that and expand it. So as part of the expansion, up until now, it's been a handful of us that have approved loans, done the downpayment, assistance to people that have gone through the program have gone on to sell those properties, buy better properties, their quality of life improved. And the only way we can do that is to also evolve. So the expansion doesn't mean, just continuing to make loans. It doesn't mean just continuing to offer downpayment assistance, it needs to address the disparity in the system, and make more opportunities. April being Fair Housing Month, and I'm an expert on fair housing on a National State level. Part of what government does to keep up with evolution is going to either prevent more of that kind of behavior and situation, or it's going to make less of it. And so, as a handful of people, it was okay to do those few things that we were doing, but we're about to do things that are going to impact everyone. So it's going to take expanding our board which we are taking on new members. And it's going to involve a director that knows how to fundraise every year, we've had to have money from the city. So somebody said 100,000 is a bad investment, no, getting able to get off of the bottle and rely on the city every year to pay is going to be worth approving the 100,000 that we need. So we're looking at things to improve our youth opportunities to create generational wealth, which is a goal of a lot of parents in my generation and the generation younger than me that are thinking about that. So it may sound like a lot. But in light of what their primary duties are going to be, which is to fundraise to sustain their existence, that's a pretty good motivator. And so we'll be able to evolve with the city and create more opportunities and reach more of our population. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

32:46

Thank you. Next speaker please.

Resident - Brian Milbank

32:55

Hello, Brian Milbank, 114 E. 212. Speaking on item number three. I've been on EDCOR's board for about 10 years now. And I know the item on tonight's agenda is more about EDCOR's future than its past. But I did want to remind us of some of the positive impacts of the two successful programs that EDCOR's now is now managing the downpayment assistance program and the low interest home improvement loan program. These investments in homeownership and the housing stocks are market signals to neighborhoods. They tell neighbors that their streets and neighborhoods and cities are worth investing in. They improve the neighborhoods around them, they increase housing value, they increase the flow of funds that come back to the city based on that housing value. They've been very successful programs in this regard. I was a member of the CDC steering committee, and there was a tremendous amount of community interest in expanding the community development activities that EDCOR undertakes. That was a long process, but there was a lot of community involvement. And the next step really is for EDCOR to have a full time experienced executive director to put those plans into action. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

34:06

Thank you, sir. Next speaker please.

Resident - Daniel Burns

34:11

Hello, I'm Daniel Burns. 869 E 260th Street. I'm talking about item three on your agenda at EDCOR's future funding I am of the opinion that it's probably not enough. So the, if you've read a lot of my musings in Euclid Observer or if you've chatted with me, you know that I have a really expansive vision for EDCOR. There's so many things I'd love to see it do, like most other CDC's in most other cities. The \$100,000 is really great for getting an executive director who is going to be at least average right \$70,000 is it plus benefits, or you know, somewhere around there, we'll get a relatively good executive director. And that person can go in and get more funding to get more programs. The issue, or I guess the possible issue I foresee is that you give money to this executive director, who is going to come in and be good at their job, except that they also have to get up to speed. They have to find the grants, write the grants, and wait for the fiscal period for those grants to actually be disseminated. Right? If you want EDCOR to do something this year. It kind of depends on how long the executive director search takes how long it takes the executive director to learn about Euclid? Are they from Euclid? Maybe they are, maybe they're not. There's lots of parts of this search that are still unknown, right. So if you're only going to provide funds for an executive

director, then you're probably committing to the idea that EDCOR doesn't actually get anything substantive done until maybe the fall. The other thing is, just is to think of all the things you would love to see EDCOR do that are kind of urgent, right? If you remember the Mayor's State of the Union, our housing prices have increased by about, I believe it was 130% from 55. Perfect is more like 300% \$55,000 in 2016 to \$115,000, median home price, but salary median incomes only increased by about 3%. Right, which means we're coming on to a housing burden housing affordability crisis. And if EDCOR is going to be at the forefront, like a proper CDC, of rent assistance of property tax assistance of home repair for people with fixed incomes, they're not going to be able to do that. Even by the summer, under this piece of legislation. So just a lot of things to consider. I'm gung ho for funding EDCOR, we should definitely do that. I don't know if \$100,000 is enough. I don't know if you want to just make a longer term contract so that you so the EDCOR knows how much it's getting in the future. I don't know if that's even an appropriate part of something to consider in the budget. But just all things for you to consider. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

37:41

Thank you, sir. Next speaker, please.

Resident - Rachel Castle

37:49

Hello, everyone. My name is Rachel Castle. And my address is sorry, I just moved 24101 Lakeshore Boulevard. I was down on Euclid before. So I am one of EDCOR's newest board members. So I'm representing the face of our first part of the expansion, which is expanding the board. I have been a Euclid resident for a few years. And I'm actually considering making Euclid a long term home, a permanent home, because I see so much opportunity here in the city. And my background is in social work with an interest in community change. And so being a Euclid resident and having my background, I became involved when I heard about the CDC Steering Committee. So I was part of the Steering Committee. And we learned about what the residents of Euclid are interested in seeing from EDCOR to expand in the future. So we work with strategy design partners to come up with a strategic plan, we identified you know, hiring an executive director is one of the steps and additional steps to consider expanding our programming. So it's been very exciting working with the Steering Committee and then I became a board member, again, to stay on the team and try and bring fresh ideas fresh perspective into something that has been in the works for some time. So I'm here just to represent part of the new phase of EDCOR that we're looking forward to, to say that I'm very excited to where EDCOR can head in the future. Hopefully you heard from my fellow board members, how we're excited about where EDCOR can go in the future with your support. And hopefully, you've

seen that the values that we have are aligned with all of our values as people invested in Euclid, so we can continue helping Euclid expand, grow and thrive. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

39:36

Thank you. Next speaker please.

Resident - Dante Gresham

39:45

Hello, my name is Dante Gresham. My address is 24650 Euclid Avenue. I wanted to just arise and stand, will lead, lead, legislation Three, but not only that, but because this is the Housing month to recognize housing, we need to also recognize our young people. And not only our young people that are there are seniors that's also on that's in housing crisis. So instead of just giving money, continuously giving money, we need to also think about working together to think about a long term plan. Um, because only throwing money at issues will not only will not solve the problem, or it will just put a temporary band-aid on it. I'm not saying that any giving of funds is a bad thing, or is, I think is a great thing. I support our seniors, I want our seniors and our elders in Euclid to have those abilities to get new homes and fix up their current homes and homes that that that's been in their families and in our legacy legacies for a long, long spirits at times. But when we think about programs, we got to also think about the future when implementing these programs when programs come into our city so that we won't be here where we at right now. Always throwing money at something and then no point trying to find out where can we get it from so that's what I just urge this administration, and also our council on to do not only to be on on counsel or anything, but to also urge this administration to continue to look for different and new ways for housing that will not only be a spearhead not only for the City of Euclid, but also for our nation. That's what I see. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

41:38

Thank you. Next speaker please. Could we begin this session?

Resident - Christopher Litwinowicz

42:24

Christopher Michael, 21970 Morris Avenue, Euclid, Ohio. Everybody stood up here talked about issue three. There's a few more other issues on this. Issue three, I'd like for Miss Miller, everybody to recognize. She's been involved over 15 Some years with this program, give her take if I'm right or wrong. There's numerous times where she has spoken about this

issue. \$100,000 is probably less than 1% of your budget is really 25% or 1%. So at the same time, don't worry about what I pass people. Let's talk about number four. You're gonna go out on some bonds. We've got the infrastructure bill. Each year, there's about \$15 million is unallocated when I say when I say when I stand up and say that the 60% of the city's budget goes to police and fire and administration and running, then a lot of the taxes that come back, like streets and lighting and water bills. You know, I think we under budget. So what we're doing is what your Council President has told you. Come on, let's let's amend his budget. Let's pass this budget right now. And then we could do what we want. So now we find out what we actually need. And this has nothing to do about nobody. Because politics and politicians handle their own affairs. And as long as it gets the job done. There's no issue. Couple things is 1.5. I really think 15 million. Do you want the city to prosper? You know, you're talking about bonds go high? Because I'll tell you right now I could find the federal infrastructure money that will put that back into play. Follow your President and you follow the money. As far as number five, council, council, I mean, I've asked and asked about public access. So from the conversations I've had to the administration, that I have here the lame duck session saying, we don't get this. I'm putting the whole city on task. This public access we see is over \$289,000, 293,000. I keep track. It's 875,000. Right now, when you turn on Spectrum, we're not even doing that to EDT. I can live with the public access. A little Mayor say, get out this building. A little mayor said get out the building. It wasn't council. In the past, y'all tried to shut it down. I'm gonna come back later and talk about this issue. But as far as when you have your conversation today, why isn't the public allowed to go in the basement? Why don't we have programming? Why don't we have a radio station (Mr. Litwinowicz, can we stick with the number five) it is... an emerge... number five second reading an emergency ordinance amending ordinance 148-22, which amends the annual appropriations and all expenditures of the city of Euclid. So the bottom line is that look, Council, this next 30 seconds. We need you to amend your budget. So somebody speak up when you got number four, or when you got number three amend it. Because once it passes, then that's when the allocations can go back to that young lady. And she could keep doing her job with her staff and everybody that came up here from our community. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

46:57

Thank you. Any other speakers? Seeing none, we will then go on to our legislative agenda for this evening. Madam Clerk, please. What what are we doing? What are we doing? Councilman, since you started that.

Councilman Epps

47:23

Madam Chair to the point of order that business owner for item number one on our agenda today was not sure if this was the appropriate time to speak to her item. Okay, answering that for Okay, thank you.

Council President Mancuso

47:33

So let us, I'll tell you what, hang on. And let us get into the first item. And then we'll suspend the rules and you can speak to that you, got it? No, no, just stay where you're at, it won't take long. Alright, Madam Clerk, please read the first agenda item into the record.

Clerk Laboda

47:51

Ordinance 016-23. A resolution granting a conditional use permit pursuant to section 1359.03 D 4 of the codified ordinances of the City of Euclid to Sarita Clay to operate an adult daycare facility at 26250 Euclid Avenue. In a U4 local retail use district. Permanent parcel 648-52-003.

Council President Mancuso

48:28

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

All in favor, "Aye."

Thank you. We will go to Director Grogan-Myers to begin the discussion.

Planning and Development Director Grogan-Myers

48:39

Thank you, Madam Chair. And as the councilman noted, the applicant is here this evening to join us, Thank you, Miss Clay. On February 14, the Planning and Zoning Commission considered the request for a conditional use permit to operate an adult daycare facility in the Euclid medical building. This may sound familiar Miss Clay was before you and before the Planning and Zoning Commission late last year to operate a similar business in the Euclid Richmond shopping plaza. So there was a new location and that's why this request is back before you this evening. Just so you're aware and as noted in Miss Clay's application, the facility will be open Monday through Friday 8am to 6pm. It will, the facility will have 10 employees and projected to have up to 50 clients. The proposal starts with the conditional use approval tonight and for your consideration and pending your approval, we will work with Miss Clay, the Building Department and the Fire Prevention Bureau to handle all of

the necessary permits and anything else required to get Miss Clay up and running. But it starts this this evening with the conditional use permit.

Council President Mancuso

49:40

Thank you, Sir. And can I have a motion to suspend the rules? Just hang on. Councilman Tanner, second by Councilman Jarosz. Miss Tanner (Clay), could you give us your name and address.

Serita Clay - Business Owner

49:56

My name is Sarita, Sarita Clay. (Oh, I'm sorry.) Sarita Clay, 4066 Stillmore Road.

Council President Mancuso

50:06

And does council have questions or discussion for Miss Tanner (Clay), Why do I keep calling you Miss Tanner? (that's okay.) If you sit up here, you'd be you'd be Councilman Tolton, so. (It's ok.) For Miss Clay. Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

50:25

And this is in my Ward. So I appreciate you giving me an opportunity to speak on it. That's great. We already passed this when it was at the other location. This is a great facility that you're looking at going to now with new owners who are doing an awful lot and a lot of ancillary development that may be coming to that area as well soon. So, congratulations to you on this space. And I don't have any questions for you. And I imagine that my colleagues may not either considering this was something that passed, in fact, we were discussing, we passed this already, why is it here, but we did not accept the change to a new venue. So just saying that, thank you for your commitment still, in Euclid. And in my Ward, Ward 3. And obviously, if my colleagues have questions you can ask but um, thank you. Asking everyone to support this.

Council President Mancuso

51:14

Any other discussion? Councilman Tolton.

Councilman Tolton

51:18

Thank you, Madam Chair. Definitely, we welcome you back here. And I'm glad that you decided to stay in Euclid. You know, I was kinda opposed to the first location. So I'm glad you picked this second location. I think this is a better fit. But I do just have a couple of two quick questions here. And I think we mentioned in the last meeting, some of the patients have developmental issues. Am I correct? (Yes.) Okay. So since they do and this is a new location, can you describe some of the security features that you would have to make sure that these people are safe, or not getting out? And in addition, are all your staff certified in CPR, or will you also have like, those auto defibrillators on hand.

Serita Clay - Business Owner

52:02

So okay, so the staff that's going to be working, they will have their C, they do have their CPR and first aid. So this location is actually better because when they come up when they drop get dropped off, they will come under this awning. And then we can come out and get on or they can bring them in the providers that drop them off, but we're going to pick them up as well.

Councilman Tolton

52:23

Okay, so when when they're in the the unit I don't know if it's what floor it's on or anything like that (fourth floor.) Is it locked? Do you have to buzz in, things like, that if somebody wanted to come in, so you don't just, a patient can't just walk out.

Serita Clay - Business Owner

52:39

No. We have we have locks on the door, so they can't get out unless we take them out. And if they're going to the bathroom, we assist them.

Councilman Tolton

52:46

You assist them, okay, and then nobody can just come in? (No. Absolutely not) There's a buzzing system. (Yes.) Okay. Okay. Thank you. (You're welcome.)

Council President Mancuso

52:52

Other questions for Miss Clay. Councilwoman Steele.

Councilwoman Steele

52:59

Thank you, Madam Chair. First of all, thank you for sticking with Euclid. (Oh, you're welcome.) We are so happy that you stayed in Euclid. And thank you for taking care of that community. (Oh, absolutely.) So many people. I just wanted to congratulate (thank you so much,) because that is a hard community to assist. Just continue to grow and prosper. And that's what I want you to do.

Serita Clay - Business Owner

53:25

Thank you. I appreciate it.

Council President Mancuso

53:28

Thank you. Any other discussion? Anybody else want to speak or we will close with Councilman Epps. Okay, Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

53:38

Thanks, again, with the question about the safety and in and out I just wanted to suggest to you, and obviously also offer my assistance in any way. I also want to suggest to you, key fob access into your actual suite for staff and employees that will be an additional layer of security. They kind of keep the buzzing because somebody gets a hold of the buzzer any type thing, so that's another layer of security, just something to think about. Thanks again.

Serita Clay - Business Owner

Okay, thank you for that.

Council President Mancuso

54:05

With that, I'll take a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilman Epps, second by Councilman Jarosz.

All in favor, "Aye."

Madam Clerk, please call the roll and the resolution?

Clerk Laboda

54:19

Jarosz, Yes. Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Ordinance passes.

Serita Clay - Business Owner

54:30

Thank you guys.

Council President Mancuso

54:33

Congratulations. Madam Clerk, please read the second agenda item into the record.

Clerk Laboda

54:38

Second reading of Ordinance 013-23. An ordinance to determine to proceed with the plan of services of the downtown Euclid Improvement District and to provide for the levy of assessments in said district.

Council President Mancuso

54:57

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

All in favor, "Aye."

We will go to Director Grogan-Myers again.

Planning and Development Director Grogan-Myers

55:06

Thank you, Madam Chair, Council. This is the third of three pieces of legislation to get the Downtown Euclid Improvement District up and running. As you may recall, the resolution of necessity, which begins to outline the execution of the plan of services was before you back in January, and was passed, and this is the piece that then carries that resolution to fruition to the actual levying of assessments. And, in case I believe there's a question that came up with the last meeting, but just to remind Council, we do include the city property special assessments, the portion of the special assessments attributed to city parcels in the Planning and Development Departments budget, so that is budgeted already, and included in the legislation considered a few items later. One amendment that we will kindly ask council's consideration on is to amend this to make it an emergency ordinance and pass it tonight. Miss

Cripps with the Economic Development Division will be outlining some of the details as to why that is necessary in the thought process. Thank you, Miss Cripps.

Economic Development Manager Cripps

56:16

Thank you, Madam Chair, Director. So just a little context, why we didn't actually present this for emergency passage; we had to give all the property owners a sufficient notice to object to their assessment, which provided about a 30 days. So by the time we had to get this on the agenda, we had to put this under second reading because we were still under that objection timeline. As of March the third that timeline has passed, and we received no objections to the assessment. So just wanted to provide some reasoning for this request. First of all, if it decided to pass on to emergency that would give the Board two weeks additional lead time to create notices for assessments for all the property owners to request that voluntary contribution, which is the primary source of funding for 2023 for the Special Improvement District. Secondly, it allows for our, the planning and development department, to craft legislation, which would come before you at the next council meeting, which would request that voluntary assessment to be approved by council so that we can fund the special improvement district. And then lastly, the quicker the that we can actually receive funds into the board, we can set up bank accounts and pay contract services. So there's just a number of reasons behind why we didn't do this, why we're asking for it today. So I'm happy to answer any questions. And also I want to note that Councilwoman Hannum is also on the board. She attended the first the initial membership meeting, and is also on the CID board as well. So feel free to ask her or I probably, any those questions if you have Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

58:02

Thank you. Do we need to make an amendment or can you put as we've done in the past, put in the paragraph at the bottom? It's talks about why it's an emergency, and perhaps read that for them?

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

58:12

I'm happy to, thank you, Madam Chair. I'm happy to read the portion that would be in there, but we would have to then vote on the amended language. Okay. So obviously, the first paragraph would just change the top paragraph to begin with an emergency ordinance. And then the final paragraph, which is paragraph 13 will be changed to state that this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Euclid. And provided it receives the two thirds vote of all

members of council elected thereto shall be in full force and effect from its passage and approval, otherwise to be in full force in effect, and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Council President Mancuso

59:01

Thank you. I will make the motion to amend it. Do I have a second? So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Any discussion on the amendment only? I think Miss Cripps has handled it pretty well. Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

59:13

Thank you, Madam Chair, to Assistant Director Rubadue. Can you read the first portion of that statement? Again? In listening to you the first time we read it, I'm not sure if this meets the burden needs to in order to be an emergency legislation. Can you can you read that again, please?

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

59:35

Thank you, Madam Chair, that this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Euclid.

Councilman Epps

59:47

So the, So can you explain to me how or what our explanation is for it being necessary for the peace, safety and welfare?

Council President Mancuso

59:56

Miss Cripps.

Economic Development Manager Cripps

59:58

So this was going on second reading. That's the standard language that appears in the in the legislation. It was what was given to us by counsel or we have third party counsel. It's standard language. The reason that we're requesting this under emergency passage were for the reasons that I mentioned prior.

Councilman Epps

1:00:18

We have the ability to support this. So let me also make that clear. But again, I'm always going to be trying to make sure that we're doing this aboveboard. And by the book. Yes, this is a tool that we could use to expedite this process. But if it does not, and I don't, I'm struggling to find where it meets the burden under the general description that you gave for it to be an emergency. And so I guess, from a legal standpoint, and what would it do to your timeline, I'm in support of forgoing the third reading and passing legislation tonight. But I don't I'm not comfortable doing that as an emergency. So can you tell me what that would do to you, if we pass this deal tonight, not an emergency, I know that it would take 30 days before it can go into effect. And I love the explanation as to the reason why you would need the extra two weeks, because it gives the impression that the goal is to have better for a better notification for residents. But that's the reason.

Economic Development Manager Cripps

1:01:15

So not better notification. It actually allows the board, so we saw the board president as of last week signed a contract with block by block to administer Ambassador services. He did that under the auspice of we were able to fund that contract that he signed. That was obviously a negotiation and a trust that block by block had with the board and the existing relationship that he had with the city. If we delayed it additional two weeks, there would be a gap in time between when we could actually fund the organization and pay those contracts service.

Councilman Epps

1:01:51

But it was still get funded and those folks will still be paid, just puts a two week gap, correct?

Economic Development Manager Cripps

1:01:56

It would put a delay, yes, it would put a delay where contractors were would not be paid.

Councilman Epps

1:02:01

Got it. I would love to be able to vote on this tonight. And we'll be happy to make the motion to forego the third reading in order to be able to do so. But I'm a little uncomfortable with the language that was read. And also in our last meeting the director mentioned that the purpose of or

that you wanted to see this go through three readings. I would have been more comfortable today had what been said at the last meeting was that, hey, we have this notice that needs to be given out. And this is the reason why we're doing this and we're doing something that was it makes me very uncomfortable to amend the legislation to an emergency and do this, happy to support it. But I would like to see that 30 days play out. So whatever may happen within that 30 day period could happen or take place.

Economic Development Manager Cripps

1:02:39

And so, 30 Day objection period has already passed.

Councilman Epps

1:02:43

No, the 30 days in which the legislation takes to go into effect if we pass it tonight. Absolutely in an emergency. That will make me feel comfortable. Not sure what my colleagues would like to do. But as it stands, I would not be able to support this motion tonight. But we'd love to be able to support you.

Council President Mancuso

1:02:56

Thank you. Any other discussion on the amendment only? Seeing none, take a call to close debate. So moved by Councilman Jarosz, seconded by councilman Wojtila.

All in favor, "Aye."

Madam Clerk, please call the roll and the amendment.

Clerk Laboda

1:03:15

Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, No. Jarosz, Yes.

Amendment passes.

I'm sorry. Mancuso, Yes.

Council President Mancuso

1:03:30

Okay, now let's go back to the amended version of this. Is there any further discussion on the amended version? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilman Jarosz. Seconded by councilmember Wojtila.

All in favor, "Aye."

Madam Clerk, I will entertain a motion to... I don't need to I don't need to be motioning here. Okay, so we can call the roll on sending and approving this amended motion and ordinance. Oh, my God, the motion. Did you say I'm sorry. (Did you say the motion to suspend the rules?) to forego... start over. We close debate a motion to suspend the rules to forego the third reading.
All in favor, "Aye."
Any opposed? No. One.
Now we will go to to call the roll and the amended version of the entire ordinance.

Clerk Laboda

1:04:36

Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, No. Jarosz, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.
Amended ordinance passes.

Council President Mancuso

1:04:53

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

Clerk Laboda

1:04:59

First Reading of Ordinance 018-23. An ordinance authorizing the Director of the Department of Planning and Development of the City of Euclid to enter into a contract with the Euclid Development Corporation, EDCOR, for operating support at a cost not to exceed \$100,000 for a nine month period from April 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Council President Mancuso

1:05:31

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin the discussion. So moved by Councilman Jarosz, second by Councilman Epps.
All in favor, "Aye."
And we will go once again to Director Grogan-Myers.

Planning and Development Director Grogan-Myers

1:05:43

Thank you, Madam Chair, as you heard from the member members of the public who were commenting on this legislation, so this is really setting the groundwork for a new imagine reimaged at core. And beginning in 2020, the city partnered with Strategy Design Partners to help begin an exploration of what CDC services could look like. As we move forward

into the 21st century, really taking a different look at how we provide housing support for our residents, new residents all the way through to end of days as residents celebrate their golden years in their home. And so with the help of Strategy Design Partners, and was included in your packet is a report of findings outlining really a vision and a path for the future. This is in line with the city's 2018 Master Plan which called for financially supporting a community development corporation that can carry out the neighborhood level work necessary to strategically invest in struggling neighborhoods and invest in the city's housing. Principal to that work is really hiring an executive director. Currently there is one part time staff person Karen Tomsick, who many residents know and have worked with over the years. And she works in program administration, administering the downpayment assistance program, and the low interest loan program which the members of the public and members of headquarters board had shared the impact of and certainly there are many metrics that we can measure the impact, whether it's financial, or we can measure it anecdotally for the quality of life impacts that those investments have had on residents in the community. But certainly, the work of Miss Tomsick is not, the time she invests is dedicated to those programs that currently exist in hiring an executive director to help start to carry out really is the the goals imagined the plan imagine, through the help of Strategy Design Partners, is the focus. So through this, and you heard some discussion around the escalating or de-escalating commitment proposed this year is up to \$100,000 to support an executive director that his salary and fringe benefits. That funding would then decrease by approximately 1/3 in 2024. And again by 1/3, in 2025, to be phased out completely by 2026. In working with AD Corp. The idea is that the city's planning and development department is providing technical assistance along the way to help support the executive director in grants and fundraising to help create a financially sustainable model for a community development corporation. One thing we have learned and one thing that's highlighted in the city's master plan is that the city cannot do it alone. We have to be part of an entire ecosystem that supports the community. And the city is one part of that. We have many partners throughout the community who helped to support this work. So that is just a brief bit of background. I know we're referring this to committee to discuss this further, but I want to be sure to address questions from the audience. The first was, is the executive director salary in line with the salary table adopted by the city. This is not a city position. This is an executive director of our affiliates, CDC. So this is in line with executive director salaries based on the study by Strategy Design Partners. This is their expertise. This is their recommendation based on their work. But this is not a part of the city salary tables and compensation scales. Has there been an executive director previously? Thank you to board member back? I actually did not know that EDCOR had an executive director some 30 years ago, but there has not been an executive director recently. And for that work, again, we need we need a person a full time staff person committed to this work in this vision. And what are the benefits, I think the number of benefits out

far outweigh any potential costs. Again, this is seed money. This is an investment in the future. And so really, this is designed to get EDCOR up and running as we start to imagine these additional services. Board Member back had outlined some ideas as far as how we can turn EDCOR loose, if you will, into supporting affordable housing opportunities that go beyond low interest loans that go beyond downpayment assistance. But there are a number of opportunities in the housing area that can be of assistance through EDCOR. Additionally, one other area that was outlined was economic development. There's an opportunity for EDCOR to be of assistance through the help of Miss Cripps, but also to the Chamber of Commerce to the Downtown Special Improvement District. There's a number of ways and services that EDCOR can provide as it expands and grows through the assistance of an executive director and through the leadership of an executive director. I apologize I spoke a little bit longer than I planned, but this gives you just the framework, the background for what we will discuss further in depth in committee.

Council President Mancuso

1:10:41

Thank you. And since this is to go to the Business Development City Planning Committee, Councilman Jarosz.

Councilman Jarosz

1:10:49

Yes, thank you, Madam Chair. There is a committee date set for March 13. We will be discussing this. I welcome this in that committee. Also want to invite any members of the EDCOR board to attend. We could get you up here to answer your questions. This is this is very exciting. Actually, I was thinking back before even Strategy Design Group, I remember Council President Mancuso and myself made a visit to Lakewood Live maybe six, seven years ago that maybe maybe got the ball rolling a little bit with this idea. One thing, Director Grogan-Myers, as we go through this, maybe a little primer on what is a CDC would be helpful to the community understand how they could kind of supplement city funding like the grants they could go for different than grants in the city can get it just kind of why you want to see CDC's, an example of maybe some other CDC is in the area and some of the interesting things they're doing just to kind of help folks get a vision of, you know, the value that a CDC can add to the community would be kind of a little little briefing of that before we go on to answer specific questions and get into the specific program that we're discussing here with EDCOR, but nah, I, you know, the meeting is next week. We'll dig into it then. So with that, I'd like to make a motion to send this to committee.

Council President Mancuso

1:12:08

Okay, I need a second. So moved by Councilwoman Steele. Madam Clerk, please call the roll on sending this to Business Planning and Development.

Clerk Laboda

1:12:21

Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. Hannum, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Motion to send to Business Development and City Planning Committee passes.

Council President Mancuso

1:12:36

Thank you. And Clerk could you please read the fourth agenda item into the record?

Clerk Laboda

1:12:40

Ordinance 017-23. An ordinance to provide for issuance and sale of general obligation bond anticipation notes of the City of Euclid Ohio, in anticipation of the issuance of bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,525,000 to retire certain outstanding bond anticipation notes of the city issued to pay costs of acquiring motorized vehicles and equipment and declaring an emergency.

Council President Mancuso

1:13:19

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

All in favor, "Aye."

And we will go to Director Smith.

Finance Director Smith

1:13:29

Thank you, Madam Chair to Council. So this is something that we do annually in the city is issue short term notes in order to finance some of our capital needs and purchases. Currently, we have one point, approximately 1,525,000 dollars of notes outstanding. Those notes come due at the around April, I think April 20. So what this piece of legislation allows us to do is issue new notes in order to pay those down. So we will

price the current notes that we're issuing, sometimes here in the next few weeks. And then we will go ahead and issue those notes approximately two weeks before the current notes come due. As we did talk about in the budget meetings, we pay for these notes out of the bond retirement fund. Part of the budget was we were anticipating paying down approximately half of the current outstanding short term notes. So there is \$750,000 appropriated in the bond retirement fund in order to pay down these the current outstanding notes, which will leave us with a balance of about seven and a half million, I'm sorry, seven 750,000 dollars of outstanding notes that we anticipate paying down the amount off next year. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Council President Mancuso

1:14:39

Thank you, discussion? I know we discussed this in work session and in our budget hearings. Councilman Jarosz.

Councilman Jarosz

1:14:48

Thank you, Madam Chair just to comment and I, yeah, a comment. We currently have obviously, we've seen interest rates rise and the yield curves actually the inverted which means short term interest rates are higher than longer term interest rates. If this is a piece of paper we roll over every year, and the yield curves inverted mean, it's higher rates at the short end. Is it worth considering? I don't even know if we can, I don't fully grasp all municipality debt funding. But would it make more sense if we go a little further out at a potentially lower rate, instead of continuing to roll debt over at the short term higher rate just, you don't even really need to comment.

Finance Director Smith

1:15:29

Typically issuing bonds, which is a longer term debt issuance is more expensive. It's as a as a process. (It's a process.) And currently, what we are rolling over these are short term assets. So what we do is, we issued notes every year. And then at a certain point, we bond those notes out for longer term debt. The way we determine how long we bond these out are the useful life of the assets in which they're included. So these assets that we currently have notes issued for are are the shorter term assets that we should have paid down with.

Councilman Jarosz

1:16:03

Perfect, thank you very much.

Council President Mancuso

1:16:05

Thank you. Other discussion? Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

1:16:08

Thank you, Madam Chair. I apologize. I stepped out to talk to EDCOR staff member now, remember, but I remember during budget hearings, you mentioned that the reason why we were paying cash for our capital projects, was because you've been advised by a financial advisor, that interest rate, the way interest rates are right now that we shouldn't do any borrowing. Can you explain if even if you did already, but while I was stepped out, I apologize. But can you explain what the changes in this or does this not fall under that category?

Finance Director Smith

1:16:43

Madam Chair to the Councilman. So this is a little different. So new, these aren't for new purchases, these are for outstanding debt that we already have. So that we issued notes last year that come due they're a year long debt instrument. So these notes come due in April, so we have to pay them off. What we talked about in the bond, or I'm sorry, in the budget hearings was the purchase of new capital items that we were looking at, for the current for 2023. And the recommendation of bond counsel was if you don't need to issue any new debt this year, and you have the cash available, it's better to just use the cash on hand.

Councilman Epps

1:17:18

We're, no that's exactly the way I understood it.

Finance Director Smith

1:17:21

This is not this is not new debt, this debt. And we are paying down a portion of, there's 1.5 Outstanding. We're paying down what we're able to in the bond retirement fund.

Councilman Epps

1:17:31

Correct? That's exactly the way I understood it. So I go back to my question. The or is it because this is not purchasing new equipment? It's not subject to interest.

Finance Director Smith

1:17:42

It is subject subject interest. It's just not, It's already debt that we've already issued. We issued notes last year that come due.

Councilman Epps

1:17:49

The question. And maybe I need to be more clear with the question. So I apologize. The question is, we're gonna borrow, you're proposing that we borrow 1.5 million to pay off the existing debt? Correct.

Finance Director Smith

1:18:03

We're proposing to borrow about \$750,000 of notes.

Councilman Epps

1:18:08

Got it, at what interest rate?

Finance Director Smith

1:18:10

We will know that once we go out for pricing of the current debt.

Councilman Epps

1:18:15

Subject to a different scale of interest based upon the fact that it's for paying down debt, or is it going to be, we're going to be subject to the same interest in the market as if we took out loans to do capital projects for new purchases? (Correct.) Okay, so that was the question. So what is different? We decided that we were not going to end? Is that your answer? Then the difference is, we're not taking on new debt. That's the difference. (Yes.) Got it. I'll wait for the budget item to address the rest. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:18:43

Any other discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilwoman Steele, second by Councilwoman Jukic. All in favor, "Aye."

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

All in favor, "Aye."

Those opposed? "Nay."

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

Councilman Epps

1:19:11

Madam Chair, Point of order was that a motion? I thought it was a motion to forego the second third reading because there are no discussion on the motion.

Council President Mancuso

1:19:20

There was, we suspended the rules to forego the second and third reading. And then I asked all in favor? Yes. Those opposed. No. We now go on to the final. Alright. Thank you. (Sure.) Would you please call the roll?

Clerk Laboda

1:19:35

Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.
Ordinance passes.

Council President Mancuso

1:19:54

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

Clerk Laboda

1:19:59

Second reading of Ordinance 015-23. An emergency ordinance amending ordinance number 148-2022, which makes the annual appropriations for all expenditures for the City of Euclid for the period ending December 31, 2023.

Council President Mancuso

1:20:23

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin the discussion. So moved by Councilwoman Jukic, second by Councilman Jarosz.

All in favor, "Aye."

Thank you, Director Smith. Discussion.

Finance Director Smith

1:20:33

Madam Chair to Council, this is the second reading of our 2023 appropriation ordinance. We've met three times in a group to discuss the budget. I think Council knows we, I think we plan on going three readings. And this has to be to the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission by March 31.

Council President Mancuso

1:20:52

Thank you. Discussion. Any discussion here? Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

1:21:07

Thank you, Madam Chair. This afternoon, I this afternoon, I sent an email to my colleagues on council addressing the budget and general over the since our budget hearings began, I have been making suggestions that we should be making strategic cuts within the budget this year, anticipating that we will not have funds to do revenue replacement, in the end, starting in 2025. That's going to put us in debt or in a situation in which we're going to have to make some tough decisions about cuts with anticipation of those cuts, trying to minimize the impact of what those cuts will mean to the community. I have been working on a series of strategic cuts to propose to this administration. I sent that email, it's an email to my colleagues offering them after our last meeting and an opportunity to come up with some of their own, I did receive some feedback from some folks, I appreciate that. But I still want to reiterate for the public while we're having these hearings that come 2025 we will be broke. Simple as that. And so we have got to be a little more responsible with the spending this year, I understand it's an election year, we have to be more responsible with spending these capital projects, etc. In this year, adding new positions, this sort of thing. And so I said that my proposed cuts to my colleagues this afternoon, I hope that if we can possibly get an A meeting between now and the third reading of this legislation, so that we can have a serious conversation about doing some of these things. I think our conversations that we had earlier today as well should be on the forefront of everyone's minds that we need to be thinking about our fiscal situation a lot more closely than it seems this administration is. So I just want to make that clear. And with that, I will propose a motion to close debate. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:23:05

A motion to what I'm sorry. (Close debate.) Is there a second on that motion? So moved by Councilman Jarosz.

All in favor, "Aye."

Madam Clerk, call the roll on sending it to third reading with a possible meeting in between. But for here it's for a third reading only.

Clerk Laboda

1:23:34

Steele, Yes. Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes. Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.

Motion to send to a third reading has passed.

Council President Mancuso

1:23:49

Thank you. And I would I would say to all of our colleagues, we received this at 6:46pm. So nobody's had a chance even look at it yet. Okay. And Councilman Epps, I would also make sure that the Finance Director has a copy of it too, so he may be able to help you.

Councilman Epps

1:24:05

Thank you, Madam Chair. also invite him to the meeting.

Council President Mancuso

1:24:10

Next agenda item please.

Clerk Laboda

1:24:15

Ordinance 019-23. An emergency ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Euclid to enter into a one year contract with Greenwich Insurance Company, 70 Seaview Avenue, Unit 6, Stamford, Connecticut 06902, From April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 for police professional liability insurance at a cost not to exceed \$129,891.

Council President Mancuso

1:24:53

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion for passage to begin the discussion. So moved by Councilwoman Steele, second by Councilman Wojtila.

All in favor, "Aye."

And we will go to Assistant Law Director Rubadue.

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

1:25:05

Thank you, Madam President. This is, as the council understands the city of self insured in all aspects of our buildings and structures, however 2018 the city made a decision and move to have obtaining police liability insurance. McGowan insurance acting as our broker received quotes from four sources in the quote, quote received from XL Catlin was the lowest and best. This is simply a renewal of our current liability insurance for our police. And this slight increase from the 2022 rates is due to the addition of several new police officers. This policy will run from April 1 of this year until March 31 of 2024. And therefore, we this is put forth to for council's consideration as an emergency ordinance so that we could go ahead and accept this bid and have it implemented before the April 1 deadline. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:26:10

Discussion. Councilman Wojtila.

Councilman Wojtila

1:26:12

Thank you, Madam Chair. I think I ask this question all the time. Can it be can we renew it for a longer period and locking up.

Mayor Gail

1:26:27

We have asked they only do a year at a time because they review your history every year. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:26:34

Other discussion? Councilman Jarosz.

Councilman Jarosz

1:26:40

Thank you, Madam Chair. And maybe this is something we could ask them or any other communities that have had a liability insurance? Do we have any idea how high rates go? Should we have an incident which requires our insurance to pay? And the reason I'm asking that is you know, you, you insure for money you don't have. But if we're and we have, and for years, the city had been self insured. And what we're concerned about is some sort of liability that just blows up the budget that we just can't cover. On the flip side, if we're paying \$130,000 per

year, that's \$130,000 per year, that's not going in our self insurance bucket, then if an incident does occur, which the insurance covers, does our rate go to five? It's just like, you know, I understand there's no right or wrong answer. And I am in favor of having kind of this insurance. But there is an interesting, you know, there is some point where, you know, you get life insurance. But as you get older and you accumulate assets, maybe you don't need life insurance because you accumulate enough assets that would cover the cost should something happen to you for your family. Just something that I'd be curious about what we would anticipate a jump in the premium to be Should we have a, you know, multi million dollar kind of incident, because that might help future decisions about reopening and settling. Just kind of curious, from that perspective. Thank you.

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

1:28:22

Thank you, yes, to Councilman Jarosz, I will look into that and see if there's some type of table that would be able to anticipate that kind of jump and insurance. I know we all make these decisions on our personal level, what insurance we're going to carry, hoping we'll never ever have to spend it and hope hopefully, hoping that if we do a claim won't cause the cost of insurance become cost prohibitive. So I will see from our vendor table of some sort, I'm sure there will be no guarantee. But it might give us a guideline as to where we could see this coming. Or going.

Council President Mancuso

1:28:55

Thank you, Councilman Tolton.

Councilman Tolton

1:28:59

Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair, to the Assistant Director. On kind of the same note as my colleague, then could we just like your home insurance and car insurance, could we shop around so say, after a couple of years, there's no incidents, they review it? And they say okay, you're kind of can we go to another vendor? And you possibly lower the price or something?

Assistant Law Director Rubadue

1:29:25

Yes, thank you, Councilman. And with regard to this, we did seek for bids and our vendor did seek out different pricing based on our needs at this time. As in the personal as soon as the first time you cancel your insurance is when you're going to need it. So I think that it's always the best case scenerio as to what's going to occur in the future. And again, we

would hope that we would never have to use insurance but as Council's aware this can become very costly to defend legal actions and liability. So what we obviously council's always able to recommend not passing it. However, there's been the recommendation that we proceed with insurance. And I think history has shown us that it's it's benefiting, it would benefit us. But the council can always move in a different direction. If they saw fit.

Councilman Tolton

1:30:20

Well, I guess it, I hear your point. But I guess my question again, was, if we can shut, you know, after maybe a certain amount of time, we can shop around and shop for another vendor, that maybe the price will be a little bit less or something like that I, we need it. That's definite. But could we go to another vendor at some point in point in time?

Mayor Gail

1:30:40

Councilman, yes, we could. And so we do use an insurance broker who shops for us. So it's their business before giving us this quote, to get quotes from other places. So we, they do that regularly with every renewal?

Council President Mancuso

1:30:58

Councilwoman Steele.

Councilwoman Steele

1:31:01

Thank you, Madam Chair. This goes to either the Mayor, Mayor Gail or Assistant Director. I guess my question is this. My concern is, as you said, Mayor Gail, that they have to reevaluate or reassessed yearly to see if they're going to renew with us. Um, am I correct in saying that? Does this apply to the other insurance companies? When we have the broker look into this? Is this the standard procedure? For all the insurance companies that handle cities liability insurance?

Mayor Gail

1:31:48

Yes, in our experience, and you know, we all would benefit us to lock in at this rate for a couple of years. They don't do that. So and, you know, to the insurance companies, that's why they do it. It's similar with health care, they want to see what your claims have been for the year before they give you next year's rate, because they can change dramatically. So

it's that's common practice in the insurance industry. In you know, health care insurance, in liability insurance and building insurance. You've got to rate renewal or evaluation every year.

Councilwoman Steele

1:32:24

Thank you. I do have another question. With that being said. Say for instance, we don't have any issues or anything like that, as my colleagues asked. Is there a way that we can negotiate and get it locked in to two or three years or what you know, instead of having to re shop or renegotiate every year? So if we don't have any issues? Is there a way that we can lock you in because this can be it's a daunting task to be able to get good insurance, especially during this time with the interest rates going up, up up? That affects everything. So that's my concern. Thank you. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:33:15

Thank you. Other discussion? Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

1:33:19

Thank you, Madam Chair. A couple quick things. You mentioned we use an insurance broker, Do we pay this broker?

Finance Director Smith

1:33:29

Assistant Director, Madam Chair to the Councilman, the broker works on a commission on the premium of the insurance.

Councilman Epps

1:33:39

Now I imagine it goes to through, it goes through Board of Control, is there...

Finance Director Smith

1:33:43

When we, when we issue the when we pay for the insurance, it does go through Board of Control.

Councilman Epps

1:33:47

We do that every year. Yes, we've already made we haven't done that for this current. So we're renewing this, but we haven't shopped around this time you have shopped around our broker.

Finance Director Smith

1:33:56

So we have a broker who's shopped at different insurance companies and has gotten prices back from those insurance companies based on our premier, our police department.

Councilman Epps

1:34:07

And he didn't get paid because he didn't find anything.

Finance Director Smith

1:34:10

Correct. Once that premium comes in, we issue the check to the broker who issues the check to the insurance company. And just another question, you know, as far as shopping around it, that doesn't help that you can only go through one broker when you only have one broker because the insurance company will only give you quotes one broker so we can't get a couple brokers that both go to the same insurance company won't do that. And also, a few years ago, we

Councilman Epps

1:34:32

One broker gives a quote for the city, they're not going to give another broker quote.

Finance Director Smith

1:34:36

Correct. So you pick your broker, the broker shops it out. And then also we have looked at looking at some consortiums with other cities where they have group insurance where a few cities will get together or in multiple cities. I think the last one I was at we there were 11 cities in the thing in the group insurance but we they weren't interested. They were actually weren't it wasn't they weren't interested. The price was extremely high for us to under that group, and they vote you in, so.

Councilman Epps

1:35:03

Okay, thank you. That question came up just listening to you. The other thing that you could you mentioned and respect, as my colleague mentioned about the assessment, the annual assessment that happens. What is our increase this 129, 891? Number? What does that increase from last year? If any?

Mayor Gail

1:35:24

The fact sheet indicates it's a 2% increase from last year.

Councilman Epps

1:35:27

A 2%. Increase. And from the previous year to last year, do you know?

Mayor Gail

1:35:37

This was last year's amount? 126,000? You mean the amount, do you mean, the increase before?

Councilman Epps

1:35:42

The increase? So the increase from the previous year going into 2020?

Council President Mancuso

1:35:47

2021 to 2022?

Mayor Gail

1:35:48

I don't have, what you're asking last year's increase?

Councilman Epps

1:35:52

From 20. Just trying to find out if this is a consultant 2% increase?

Mayor Gail

1:35:56

I think it was a higher increase based on market but we'll get you that figure. Okay.

Councilman Epps

1:36:00

Yeah if you could send it, I'm curious, we'll pass this and move forward this tonight because we have no choice. We absolutely have to do this. Right. So it's it's been good as being a good steward of Euclid residences money to make sure that we do this. So at this time, we have to do it. But I asked that question to assess what our situation is. If we had an increase a significant increase, but decrease the increase decreased from 22 to 23, then I think that shows positivity. And that was my reason for asking. So if you could get it to me. Great. Thanks.

Mayor Gail

1:36:30

Yeah, I'm fairly certain the percentage increased less this year than it was last year. But I will get that and send it to all of Council.

Council President Mancuso

1:36:42

Any other discussion? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close debate. So moved by Councilwoman Steele, second by Councilman Wojtila.

All in favor, "Aye."

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

All in favor, "Aye."

Those opposed? One

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

Clerk Laboda

1:37:06

Tanner, Yes. Tolton, Yes. Epps, Yes. Jarosz, Yes, Hannum, Yes. Wojtila, Yes. Jukic, Yes. Steele, Yes. Mancuso, Yes.
Ordinance passes.

Council President Mancuso

1:37:19

Thank you, we will now go to our second **Committee of the Whole** where you can speak to anything for the good of the city, please give us your name, address, and keep your comments to five minutes, please.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – PUBLIC PORTION

Resident - Lou Melner

1:37:35

My name is Lou Melnor, and I live at 19711 Edgecliff drive. I just have four small items. One was if someone could eventually tell us, is the liability insurance for our fire department, is that also farmed out? Or is that self insured? EDCOR, When my mom passed away about five years ago, the single mom that bought her house, got her downpayment loan from EDCOR. And I always go past that house that looks as nice now as it did when my mom lived there. And all the kids help take care of it. Very pleased with the person that went through the training to get that downpayment money, managing finances, and she obviously has done a good job with that house. We have, we're getting more and more special needs seniors in our community that come to these meetings that are using these great new hearing aid hearing items. I'd appreciate it now maybe if there could be a box of disinfectant wipes in that cabinet. I used to be the only one wearing them. But then word got out that they were pretty good. And I'd like to not share my earwax with everyone else. And the last comment I have is when Director Grogan-Myers talked about the book Color of Law. Earlier this week, there was a special it was either on CNN or HBO. I would presume they check their facts before they have it in the program, unlike maybe Fox. But they mentioned that when Eisenhower had the development of the interstates that that contributed to the flight out of the cities into the suburbs, because now there was a way to quickly move to the suburbs, and that the poor people were left in the inner city because if they didn't own a car, they couldn't commute back and forth to the suburbs because the height of the overpasses on the interstate did not permit the buses to get underneath? I don't they kind of presume that was maybe done on purpose, I don't know. But I would think they would have checked that fact before they put it out. But it's just one of the examples that could be how some discrimination is really systemic in our society. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:40:30

Thank you, sir. Next speaker, please, Madam.

Mayor Gail

1:40:33

Madam Chair, if I could just quickly answer the questions. I apologize. We didn't answer during the discussion. We are self-insured for fire. So this liability that was approved by Council is strictly for the police officers. We are self-insured for our other staff, including Fire. Thank you. And we will get disinfectant wipes.

Council President Mancuso

1:40:57

Next speaker, please.

Resident - Daniel Burns

1:40:58

Hello again, Daniel Burns. Two things. One was during COVID. We had people could call in to do this. And we had to zoom, which both seemed like really good ways to allow people to access the meeting without having to come down here. So I was curious what happened to that? And then the other thing was regarding police liability insurance, assuming that it is like home insurance or car insurance, then I assume it's related to like number of incidents, like needs for the insurance to pay out. So I guess, how long does it take for things to fall off? Of those types of records? I'm just curious. Thanks.

Council President Mancuso

Thank you, Sir.

Mayor Gail

1:41:55

Thank you. I can't answer that. But I think we can in our asking our insurance broker or the police liability insurance company. We about the other about Councilman Epps question. We can you know, what are what the impact of the insurance, Councilman Jarosz's question. I apologize. We can ask that too. How long do they last? How long would an event last?

Council President Mancuso

1:42:26

Thank you. Next speaker please.

Resident - Dante Gresham

1:42:29

Hi, Dante Gresham again. Um, one quote I want to wanted to leave everyone with tonight is; "The environment is no one's to destroy. But it is everyone's responsibility to protect." There are train tracks that run right through my ward, which is Ward 3 in the City of Euclid. Which means every day those train tracks are are used to transport goods and materials across our great nation. And God knows what else while us on support ways to transport goods and supplies on throughout our country. I rise to date for everyone in the City of Euclid including you all here on to urge this council and also executive administration to be to began exploring ways to protect our city on its assets and its people by on basically controlling and or regulating on and or eliminating outright toxic chemicals on that can basically on this this disable or stabilize our arm environments, because of the chemicals are through various ways like train tracks, and if there were derailments that will be very major for our city, or environmental terrorism events that we currently see that's occurring here in the United States and in our state, State of Ohio, and East Palestine, which I would like to also pray and also on share my heart with them on as well and also the whole State of Ohio. I believe I've wanted to shine a light on this issue on a situation because these railroad companies, they put profits over humans, and I want them to know that here in Euclid, we will put humans over profits. Thank you. That's all. Thank you, sir.

Council President Mancuso

1:44:38

Thank you, Sir. Next speaker please.

Bishop Tom Owens

1:44:43

Bishop Tom Owens, 24951 North Lakeland Boulevard glue harmful for 1321 start by saying thank you to the Mayor and to Kristal and I think the young man's name is Nick, who helped us from the city. We're going to be putting up a guardrail, some decoration, but I still haven't heard anything and I'm not I'm not gonna go away. Somebody has to obey the law. The only problem I have Chief is that you can't arrest prosecutors and judges for not people keeping these people in jail. So this man is a felon has a felony warrant. Now he's two felony warrants. He had a gun drugs hit my building. That's unthinkable. The next day after I spoke the first time, guess what happened? You guessed it, an accident on our corner. I don't care how much plan you got. You can plan all you want to if you don't control this crime, what's going on the streets, it will be worth nothing. And you won't have anybody to live there. And people will leave and then what will you have? somewhere online, we got to come together. I serve on a committee with the police department. Excellent job pulling guns off the street. They're doing an excellent job. I talked to Judge Gallagher he asked me if I would serve on another committee. I said, Sure. As long as it's producing, I want to I want to I

want to do that. We have a young woman in our community that has nothing. She has two beds and a son. As of this week, she has couches, chairs, tables, chairs, lamps, and everything she needs in her kitchen will help will help the crime. But somebody has to give us a direction. Some of these parents have got to be held accountable for their kids 52% increase 52% of increase of homicides by juveniles. 52% 312 children were killed in Chicago one year. From the ages of 13 to 27. It's suicide is the number two cause of death, we got a problem with our kids and our families. Today, this week, we started a nonprofit work, low income and any family can get a psychologist on counseling on the on the phone for 21 bucks a month, 24 hours a day, they can call him 1000 times or they can call them two times. And so we're trying to get it out to these kids and these help but we've got to do something to get to crime on the streets. While we're doing this. 25 years ago, we said the latchkey kids and the problems we're gonna have, we're gonna face and now we're facing it. It's where it is. single moms, single dads 85% of all, all inmates in the United States, male and female alike, were raised without it without a father. The problem is real. The situation is real. And I'm not going away. Because it's just gonna get keep getting worse, gonna keep getting worse and gonna keep getting worse. And we've got to come up with a solution, I'll help. I'll go out and raise money. Whatever it is you need me to do. But to ignore it is and it's not going to go away. It's not going to happen. The police are doing an excellent job, the chief is doing an excellent job. But before they get even get the ink to dry on the report that baby kids on the street. How's that possible? And as you can imagine, when I showed up to court to our travel to our traffic court, and and he's not even in custody, how's he not in custody? How's that possible? Well, then everybody says, Well, you know, it's the prosecutors, it's whoever, of course to talk to my brother in law, who is a deputy for BCI. They say the same things, then Chief somewhere along line, we got to find some way for the City Council or the state or whoever, to pass laws and the judges and prosecutors are held accountable for what they do. Because when they cut them loose, and they kill somebody, they're hurt somebody. They ought to be accountable. Good answer. Well, you know, we have we have no liability. Well, if I did that, guess what will happen? If somebody comes to my church and confesses to raping a child, you know, what happens if I don't turn that in? I go to jail. I go to prison. So they're no different than I am. They should be held accountable for their actions just like I am as a pastor. And so I'm urging you I'm begging you to find a way to help us and we'll get involved if I have to, we'll go to door to door will knock on every single door in this city if we have to. If you just tell me how we can do this, and how we can make it better how we can help the police and make it better. Because they're doing an excellent job. Columbus has already got enough enough laws on the books also good to enforce them. Young man's gonna face five years to eight years. So if they can find him, if he's smart. He ain't in this state. If he's smart, and what they do, they cut him loose. So, whenever you guys are ready, you want to sit down I'll buy lunch, I buy dinner. I buy lunch and dinner every day until we find a solution but we

can't ignore it. And spending all this money on the future will mean nothing if you don't fix this. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:49:42

Thank you, sir. Next speaker please.

Resident - Christopher Litwinowicz

1:49:50

Christopher Michael Litwinowicz, 21970 Morris Avenue the solution is jobs. The solution is to educate our youth. The solution There is a charter amendment by the city of Euclid to amend it so we can build a college. 18 year old kid you know, that's the evolution and the future. Euclid. Future Euclid. Oh, yep. By the way, you can do something about the railroads. I expect something done in two weeks on the railroads. Look at the magnesium fire as a wake up call. What are we seeing on the news? So we elected ya. And our mayor. We are a charter government, nonpartisan. You make the law of the land. Coming I was in Cleveland, and in the tracks go all the way out. St. Clair, you know, 152 right there. So when you see a backup, coming into your city on 200 Street, you wondering what's going on? Because you ain't never seen this just rows of rows. The next issue is you guys passed the budget, a part of their budget is collecting something called I think, the taxes. So, streetlight in charge, like I spoke about before, even though if Council has passed something to keep it I expect this council, I expected the mayor. But now I expect this council, these are your constituents, these are your residents. suffrage. I mean, the violence insurance, a building, I lost the car five months ago, I'm back riding. But now I still got a issue with an insurance company. So if we throw these people in jail, your situation I applaud you. But at the same time, now you wait an insurance check. And when we talking about insurances, 100 and some \$1,000 for that for the year, that must be like a \$15 million policy. How come that information wasn't? Let us know. What are we purchasing? You know, don't look at it like that. Because the you have no way to control your carbs. You have no way to control your police officers with the violence. And I'm standing here as a Polish American, and the violence and I grew up with African Americans. But it just always does seem like this town is a ticket town. And to the last constituent, you know, to the prosecutor. It's not her fault. It's never the city fault for why sir. It's not even the judges fault. Because that's not why we elect a judge. We elect the judge to oversee the law. So to put blame and punishment is crybaby stuff. You know, there's been situations where, you know, this individual has, you know, felonies. Well, I got five minor misdemeanors that I you know, you gotta hold that against me. And I'm only speaking and a generation that's in Euclid. So, for someone to sit there and come and talk about something, you know, do good. You don't have to tell a word what you're doing. But keep doing it. You know, coming to this podium is not gonna help get into the school

board is going to hell. Here's the school board application, you want to run for office. You know, those type of scenarios, stop the blame, stop all the blame. You know, I'm just frustrated. Because this city for 40 Some years has been my hometown. And there is some upgrades in crime. But at the same time, you know, all we could do is what we do, we do more than any other community. It's just been up to, because there's no way go to the county. Go to the county meeting, talk to Sonny Simon. You know, that's where your problem is. Not usually we don't even have a juvenile jail. So the crime starts when you a kid because you got nothing to lose.

Council President Mancuso

1:54:54

Thank you, sir. Next speaker please Seeing none, we will then go on to our **Councilman's Comments**, and we will begin with Councilwoman Jukic tonight.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Jukic

1:55:07

Thank you, Madam Chair. The first thing I'd like to do is thank the people who came in supportive EDCOR. Coming in today, I was really inclined to support that I like different ideas to help our community. And to hear all of you speak, just solidified that more, so I wanted to thank you for coming out. The second thing, I wanted to let everyone know that there's a Community Assets and City Buildings Committee on Wednesday, March 8, and the topic is a presentation by prospectus for the Community Recreation and Wellness Center. So I know a lot of people were interested in that. So I just wanted to let you know that it's this Wednesday, at 630. And the third thing, it's related to the the Bishops comments, at the last meeting, we were all upset after some of the comments coming from our citizens. And I said, we have to try everything. Let's try everything. So I went to Coffee With A Cop. I saw the chief there and a bunch of our officers and we had some conversations of some ideas that we could do. On the level of you know, the juvenile level, what kind of things can we do for young people to get them involved in interested? We're talking about the Rec Center on Wednesday, we're talking about community connections. At some point, the bishop has invited us to lunch and dinner. I don't know if we're allowed to accept that law director. But we can pay for our own. But you know, I would like to take you up on that. Because in my ward in the last, on top of just increasing crime and shootings, there have been quite a few incidents very recently. Yeah, like in the last week or so. And my constituents are emailing me and calling me and talking to me. And I got to the point like, what can what else can we do? What else can we do? So one of my ideas is to put on some of those streets that cut from 250 to 260, where people drive and shoot and do bad things, put barriers on the end of the streets.

I know we're not allowed to do that. I know, it makes no sense for safety forces for right of way, Ohio Department of Transportation, whoever. But in some ways, it's come to that point where we have to throw everything on the table. And if one thing is to keep these people from driving down our streets late at night shooting, then maybe we need to look at some of those things. So I just wanted to share that with you because my people expect me to and trying to think of a solution. Can we get more police? Yes, we're trying to get more police. Can we do some community programs? Yes, we're trying to do community programs. Can we do activities for youth? We're trying to do that, too. So what else can we do? And I thought of putting barriers on the streets guardrails or something I know it's not allowed. But I'm just sharing that as an idea that came to my mind, and we have to keep throwing the spaghetti on the wall. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

1:58:08

Councilman Steele.

Councilwoman Steele

1:58:10

Thank you, Madam Chair. And again, thank you to all those people who came in from air core of the speakers. Just let you know that this is our city two, and we are concerned about what happens in our city. We're working hard to try to get things done. And with that being said, I have to stress that the majority if I'm not mistaken, Chief Scott, the majority of the crimes are committed by juveniles. Am I correct in saying that?

Police Chief Meyer

1:58:45

Yeah, juveniles are young adults. Yeah, very young adults. Yes.

Councilwoman Steele

1:58:48

So my father used to say idle time is the devil's workshop. I guess my concern is this. Like my my colleagues said, I don't think our young people have enough to keep them busy. You know, and up, I'm just trying to think of ways that we can get them off the streets, get find purpose for them, because the majority of the crimes are being committed by our youth. That's that's, that's major. And we keep on saying hire more police. Okay, but we all know that the police will pick them up, take them down to juvenile court, then you know, they can't hold them because they are juveniles. So what can we do? I have a few ideas. And I talked to the as a matter of fact, I met with the superintendent. Young people need to know that they have purpose. Okay, if a, if a young person knows they

have purpose, they're not going to want to mess up their future, period. They're not. So how can we help them find purpose because that is the foundation. No matter what you say how you look at it, I have more years behind me than in front of me. Okay, our youth, there are a, tag there it there it, look around you y'all. Everyone here has more years behind them. Some of the majority has more years behind them than in front of them. So what can we do? We can keep on saying let's hire more police officers. But I am sure I'm almost 99.9% sure that we can put our heads together and give our young people purpose because they don't know, their children. So I'm not saying become social workers. I'm not saying that. But it is our responsibility as a community, to guide, to instruct, to inspire, to teach, because we're not going to be here much longer. And that is the truth. So if you all are interested in hearing my thoughts on it, I have some ideas. Give me a call. Thank you. Have a good evening.

Council President Mancuso

2:01:44

Thank you, Councilman Tanner.

Councilman Tanner

2:01:48

Thank you, Madam Chair. I wanted to say to all residents, and everyone that came out, thank you. And I want to start off by saying Good evening residents, members of council, city leaders. Tonight I have brought with me a word in this envelope and say this envelope, but before I reveal this word, let me tell you a little bit about it. This word has caused great confusion, caused companies to go out of business have knocked down great men and women to their knees. This word is so dangerous yet it's passed around like a hot scalding potato. If it comes to you, you want to get it out of your hands and pass it to someone else as fast as you can. It's just that you as an individual don't want to get stuck with it. Let everyone else has it. This word seldom is associated with good things happening. But mostly, this word is always associated when things don't go right. For us to make a better city, we must take firm hold of it. Each one of us needs to own this word without passing it on to someone else. Because that is the only way we're going to make it. Before I reveal this word. There's a normally two words in front of it, that makes even more frightening. So just as a precaution, I am opening this envelope, I will ask the Chief of Police to unholster his side arm, God forbid, this word gets away from me and attaches itself to someone and the word is responsible. The two words that's in front of it is who is who is responsible? And the answer is all of us, from residents, property owners, tenants, business owners, elected officials, and city leaders. We are all responsible. Together by owning this word, we can move this city into the future or not own it and climb aboard the Titanic. And you all know how that turned out. So with that in mind, it's your choice. And with that, I will say good night. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

2:04:02

Thank you, Sir. Councilman Tolton.

Councilman Tolton

2:04:07

I don't know if I want to follow that. There's two quick things. First, I want to send my condolences to my friend Senator Ken Smith and the loss of his father. I wasn't able to attend the services, but I just want to say my condolences and my family's condolences. So I have a quick question for Miss Grida. I think we talked about some months ago you know my pet peeve is in a lot of people's pet peeve is the trash. We talked about the trash along the marginal there. And you were supposed to, we were talking about coming up with a plan. And I noticed again, there was plenty of trash out there, the same pieces of garbage is out there. You know, I know the Mayor mentioned it's not just a City's of responsibility. But unfortunately, you know, people do dumb things with trash. And it is the city's responsibility, responsibly, to clean up, unfortunately, people mess up, I had a conversation with one of the managers at the speedway, a couple of weeks about by the trash out there. And you know, he was giving me you know, the kinds of excuses about, you know, when people dumped a car, they pull the cars and dump the trash? I got all of that, you know, but can you clean it up? And lo and behold, the last two weeks they've been clean it up, and it looks pretty nice. So let's go back to the plan. Is there a concrete plan to make sure that we're cleaning up? Not just that section of the city, but all city streets? And if there is a plan, can you make sure that we get a copy of that plan?

Assistant to the Mayor, Grida

2:05:47

Yes, I can. I am so, so the the nuisance department is working with the Service Department. Service Department does public roads public right away. The nuisance department does private property, commercial and residential. So we are working on that we I had shared with you guys, before that we had three nuisance inspectors, we're down to two. So we are hiring again. But it is an ever workable plan. The other piece that we're doing is we really partner with Keep Euclid Beautiful, as you know, because they also do a lot of neighborhood things. But it's I don't know if there exists a plan where litter could be picked up and stay that way for a day. It is just constantly, we're constantly out there picking up. And that's not the only thing obviously, that they do. I think we discussed that already, too.

Councilman Tolton

2:06:40

Which is, you know, I know it can't be done, you know, maybe every day, but some kind of plan, you know, twice a week or something they those guys can make around and just got to pick up the trash and just try to keep the city looking nice. Again, you know, perception is reality. If people drive through and they keep seeing trash, they just figure Hey, we you know, they don't care. We'll just throw my mines, too.

Council President Mancuso

Councilman Epps.

Councilman Epps

2:07:03

Thank you. I'll be brief tonight. Not very long at all. I definitely would like to send my condolences I did so online, but to Senator Ken Smith, in the past and of his father, I was able to learn via social media of quite a bit of who he was as a man, I didn't know him at all. But again, my condolences with their family, I too was not able to make the memorial. So which I believe was on Friday. So I definitely want to send my condolences to the Smith family and thank his father for his service to our community in the various capacities that he did. I also want to thank the residents for being here tonight. It's always the best part of this for me is to hear you all help to feed us and feed our souls and feed our minds and our hearts as we move on to make these decisions. And so definitely glad to see that. And to Bishop Owens, I appreciate you not going away. And I don't mean this to you directly. But way too often what happens is when there's an acute issue, people come in, they express it, there's something minor that doesn't accomplish anything an olive branch of which that happens. And then they will be done and walk away. And so it requires exactly your presence here and what you've been doing here tonight, and I'll see you soon. Thank you, oh, to residents on tungsten. I also want to say apologize in advance for some of the noise that you guys have experienced over the weekend. That stuff should be over in a few days. Thank you.

Council President Mancuso

2:08:35

Thank you, Councilman Jarosz.

Councilman Jarosz

2:08:36

Thank you, Madam Chair, again, sending condolences to the Smith family. From a Committee meeting perspective, there will be that Business

Development and Planning meeting on the 13th where we will discuss the headquarters legislation that was here today. There will also be a Safety Committee meeting on 3/22, where we'll have a presentation from our fire department. You know, we I appreciate a person brings their own props, you know, to council meeting. And, you know, for the record, you know that in 2022, there was a parental responsibility. legislation proposed and discussed a couple of times within the safety committee. Majority of members of the committee at that time thought it wasn't ready for primetime. And as may be something that we will be reworked and readdress down the road but it is something that has been discussed and we are always looking for ideas and ways to help knock on wood but spring is hopefully around the corner. We're already starting to see some of our tulips break through the ground and right before they are about to bloom, at least mine anyway will be eaten by deer. So we have some new members of council here and there have been several meetings on deer over the years. So just to kind of get everybody up to speed on where we are with that, as well as residents who are listening in between 2020 for all of 2020 and into 2021, there are four separate committee meetings were deer were addressed nearly five hours of discussion on the issue. There was a community survey done, as well as experts and representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources who came on discuss the deer issue with us. A couple of things that might be worth the I learned in a way taking away from that the concern or the thought of calling deer, they usually take place for one of two reasons. One is a significant amount of auto accidents causing serious damage. Because our community is very densely populated with you know, mostly 25 mile an hour roads and not 35 We really don't have those country roads. We have very few actual automobile and deer accidents. Just interestingly enough, because of how slow traffic generally is through the neighborhoods. So that's one issue, or the fact that there is an overpopulation of deer. And despite the number that we see, the Ohio Department Natural Resources kind of assured us that there wasn't an average when overpopulation issue. Question came to calling deer. Many of the residents who are expressing frustration with the deer have to do with the deer eating landscaping, plants, flowers, et cetera. perfectly valid nuisance concerns. However, when communities engage in calling that calling doesn't take place in people's backyards or neighborhoods, they take takes place in parks takes place in wooded areas, and really calling wouldn't help that issue. The other thought that people had was allowing residents to hire bow hunters, as well as maybe even possibly sharpshooters. And then at that time, majority of council as well as admitted members of the administration, and specifically our legal department had real concerns about obviously, not only safety in general, but also liability, right? If you dare say with an arrow, it runs through a neighbor's fence, it runs out and gets hit by a car who is ultimately financially responsible, let alone should an errant arrow fly or bullet ricochet. So we ultimately despite the end result of those five hours or so a meeting, essentially culminate with with us deciding, there's really not a lot we can do. Because the issue is in people's

backyards, it is in neighborhoods. And it is mostly landscape, flower, vegetable type oriented and not really causing significant property damage or anything like that. So we're kind of at an end point with that, if any of the new members of council would like this readdressed. If they think it is something that we need to look into more, please let me know we can discuss it. But I think from my perspective, we've kind of exhausted those discussions until we have new information, Clear. Clear signals on liability issues, the ability to have the safety issue completely under control. So you know, we didn't do nothing. We addressed as best we could, we're just kind of stuck because it is a pretty tricky situation and dicey from a safety and liability perspective. So there's that, and I ran out of time, so thank you. Thank you, sir.

Council President Mancuso

2:13:45

Councilwoman Hannum.

Councilwoman Hannum

2:13:50

Thank you, Madam Chair, I would like to take a moment to thank my colleagues on council, the administration, the staff. I have sent you guys a lot of emails, I've made a lot of calls lately. And it's been some very delicate situations with some of my residents. And you guys have helped guide me to the right places and who to talk to and how to handle situations. So I really appreciate that guidance. And my, my residents appreciate it as well. They have sent thank yous and have talked about how fast the city responded to them. You know, how things were looked at, you know, that they felt like somebody was actually looking after them because someone came out that day and took care of stuff. So I really appreciate how quickly the Directors have acted on some of these and the conversations that we've had to kind of help me feel out who to talk to and how to handle some of these situations because they have been a bit unusual at times and not something that I'm used to dealing with on a day to day basis. So I just wanted to express my gratitude for that. I also wanted to state that I I'm a member of the board for the downtown economic improvement area. We had we set up the board, we had some discussions, and it became really apparent that if the business tenants are not involved in this process, then that process is not going to go very far. And we're not going to have the buy in that we need, and then the district is not going to survive. So I've talked to manager Crips about going out to the businesses talking to them. And so we are working on a plan to kind of go out, talk to them individually, you know, kind of see what we can do to kind of get people to buy into this economic development area. Because even though we have the owners of the property, stating that this is something that they want to do, we really need to get the tenants to respond the same way, but that and so we're hoping this outreach will help. So I'm willing to do whatever it is that I

can do. If you have ideas, please let me know. I'd really appreciate it. And thank you guys again.

Council President Mancuso

2:16:01

Thank you. Councilmember Wojtila.

Councilman Wojtila

2:16:04

Thank you, Madam Chair, Director Grogan-Myers. Could, Can you I think, last meeting you, we've gotten that we received a copy of that traffic report that was very good. And I remember reading it and thinking, Boy, I really need to sink my teeth into this. But I thought at the end of the meeting, or maybe Council President even talked about it, so what was the next step relative to that report?

Planning and Development Director Grogan-Myers

2:16:28

Madam Chair, the Councilperson. So the next step is then outlining that neighborhood traffic safety program that's outlined in that report. And that's currently what we're working on. And we committed to having that to you by the next council meeting. So that will be a portion of what we share at the next council meeting is the draft outline, you know what that program looks like? Because we did acknowledge at the last meeting, that we received four speed radar signs. So it's really then how do we deploy those into the community and make sure that there's a standard process that you can tell your residents, when they ask how do we get this onto my street, you know, that there's a standard process with data will then come educated and informed decision making. So rather than just throw in speed tables, or roundabouts or whatever the case may be, without any sort of justification data, that's the focus of this next step is how do we collect data to make informed decisions and informed investments?

Councilman Wojtila

2:17:25

So recommendation that we read that, but prior to next meeting? That's correct. Thank you. That's all I have.

Council President Mancuso

2:17:33

Thank you. First of all, I'd like to say for anybody who has not seen the orchestra at Shore, over this past few months, including last Sunday, yesterday, you're really missing out on a wonderful group of people,

some are wise and been there for a very long time. What I noticed yesterday is how many young people are actually playing the instruments. The gentleman who was directing, had a young man who was in training that he allowed to direct a composition. There's a young man who plays the trombone, who's from Cleveland State, a graduate studies in music, who composed a piece that was just phenomenal. And the orchestra played it. It was phenomenal. So this is an asset that we need to support. And it was fairly well supported yesterday. But I think each of us needs to get out there. I mean, it's a wonderful way to just sit, no books, no pens, no, nothing. And just listen, because the music is that beautiful. And the acoustics are unbelievable. So they do their next concert in April, I think it's like the 16th. And then they have one more in June, June or May, maybe May. Very worthwhile effort. And as council, we all need to support these things. They're fabulous. Okay, everybody went over the meetings that they are having. So far. I didn't get and it might be a reason because it's far out to April, you had April 4 that you wanted, a Euclid Avenue Revitalization and then in May you had an Ad Hoc meeting on the books. I'm just trying to get this so that she gets out to people because we're meeting an awful lot guys, which is good, means we're working. And then another, Euclid Avenue committee at the end of June. Correct? Okay. We're going to add, we're going to have an E&F committee meeting on the 15th of this month. And we will we will be adding an executive session to that particular meeting. I'll go through to see if we're going to do it first. We're gonna do it afterwards. We'll see if we can be there. Okay, so and we will start that earlier. They normally start at 6:30. Can people get there by 5:30? Anybody who can't because this is for the no, no for the executive session, so everybody can get there. Okay, all right. Great. All right. With that, if there's nothing else to come to this august group, I'll take a motion to adjourn. So moved by Councilman Jarosz, second by councilman. Wojtila. All in favor, "Aye."

We are adjourned.


Clerk of Council


Council President