



## **MINUTES**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

**C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**

**1:00 PM**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.**

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Council President Jones asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Councilmembers Sweeney, Tuma, Gallagher, Schron, Turner, Stephens, Simon, Kelly, Miller and Jones were in attendance and a quorum was determined.**

**[Clerk's Note: Councilmember Conwell joined the meeting after the roll call was taken.]**

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**The following individuals addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2023-0182: authorizing a Real Estate Purchase Agreement with CRAIG REALTY GROUP – CLEVELAND, LLC, or its designee, in the amount not-to-exceed \$38,703,000.00 for the purchase of all or a portion of certain parcels of real property in Garfield Heights, Ohio with access to Granger Road totaling approximately 72.1 acres now known as permanent parcel numbers 542-14-002 & 004, 542-15-002, and 542-22-022.; Ordinance Nos. O2023-0012: amending and codifying Board of County Commissioners Resolution No. 2007-073101 dated July 26, 2007, and enacting new Chapter 727, Section 727.01 of the Cuyahoga County Code to change the period of time during which the County sales tax shall be levied at the aggregate rate of one and one-fourth percent and No. O2023-0013: amending and codifying Board of County Commissioners Resolution No. 2007-073102 dated July 26, 2007 and enacting new Chapter 727, Section 727.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code to change the period of time during which the County use tax shall be levied at the aggregate rate of one and one-fourth percent:**

**a) Councilman Blaine A. Griffin, City of Cleveland**

- b) Councilman Mike Polensek, City of Cleveland
- c) Mayor Matt Burke, City of Garfield Heights
- d) Councilman Avery Johnson, City of Garfield Heights
- e) Chief Scott Meyer, Euclid Police Department
- f) Laurie Albright
- g) Josiah Quarles
- h) Katrice Williams
- i) Lu Zucker
- j) Azzurra Crispino

**Loh addressed Council regarding various non-agenda items**

**4. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE / CONFIRMATION HEARING:**

- a) R2023-0179: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Harold A. Pretel, upon his taking of the oath office, as Sheriff of Cuyahoga County for the remainder of the unexpired four-year term ending December 31, 2024, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Council President Jones made a brief statement regarding the confirmation hearing process for Resolution No. R2023-0179.**

**Mr. Harold A. Pretel, County Executive Ronayne's nominee for the position of Sheriff of Cuyahoga County, was called upon to deliver an opening statement. He provided background into his education, experience and qualifications for the position. Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Pretel pertaining to his experience and expertise, which he answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Ms. Stephens, Resolution No. R2023-0179 was considered and approved by unanimous roll-call vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

**Councilmembers Sweeney, Tuma, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Turner, Stephens, Simon, Kelly, Miller and Jones requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to Resolution No. R2023-0179.**

- b) R2023-0182: A Resolution authorizing a Real Estate Purchase Agreement with CRAIG REALTY GROUP - CLEVELAND, LLC, or its designee, in the amount not-to-exceed \$38,703,000.00 for the purchase of all or a portion of certain parcels of real property in Garfield Heights, Ohio with access to Granger Road totaling approximately 72.1 acres now known as permanent parcel numbers 542-14-002 & 004, 542-15-002, and 542-22-022; authorizing the County Executive to take all necessary actions and to execute the agreements and all other documents consistent with this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

- c) O2023-0012: An Ordinance amending and codifying Board of County Commissioners Resolution No. 2007-073101 dated July 26, 2007, and enacting new Chapter 727, Section 727.01 of the Cuyahoga County Code to change the period of time during which the County sales tax shall be levied at the aggregate rate of one and one-fourth percent; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
- d) O2023-0013: An Ordinance amending and codifying Board of County Commissioners Resolution No. 2007-073102 dated July 26, 2007 and enacting new Chapter 727, Section 727.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code to change the period of time during which the County use tax shall be levied at the aggregate rate of one and one-fourth percent; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.

**Clerk Richardson read Resolution No. R2023-0182; Ordinance Nos. O2023-0012 & O2023-0013 into the record consecutively. Council President Jones introduced proposed substitutes on the floor consecutively for all 3 items.**

**Law Director Richard Manoloff addressed the proposed substitutes. Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Manoloff pertaining to the proposed substitutes, which he answered accordingly. Discussion ensued.**

**A motion was then made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Schron and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitutes.**

**County Executive Chris Ronayne thanked Council for the excellent exchange with Mr. Harold A. Pretel, his nominee for Sheriff, and stated that the questions posed by Councilmembers were outstanding and spot on. Mr. Ronayne acknowledged the role of Interim Sheriff Joseph Greiner as being stellar in terms of stabilizing both the Jail and Sheriff's Department. Mr. Ronayne also offered condolences to Councilmember Sweeney on the loss of his Father and Councilmember Gallagher on the recent loss of his Mother. Executive Ronayne gave opening remarks regarding Resolution No. R2023-0182; Ordinance Nos. O2023-0012 & O2023-0013.**

**Mr. Michael Dever, Director of Public Works, Mr. Ryan Jeffers, Senior Vice-President of CBRE, Mr. Jeffrey Appelbaum, Managing Director of Project Management Consultants LLC, Michael Chambers, Fiscal Officer and Mr. Bob Franz, Managing Director of Public Finance, addressed Council regarding building assessments, site selection overview, recommendations and transportation, debt capacity update and project funding.**

**Council members asked questions of Mr. Dever, Mr. Jeffers, Mr. Appelbaum, Mr. Chambers and Mr. Franz pertaining to the items, which they answered accordingly. Additional questions were asked regarding public discussions taking place in Garfield Heights. Mr. Dever, Councilmember Stacey Collier, City of Garfield Heights and Mayor Matt Burke, City of Garfield Heights answered accordingly. Discussion ensued.**

**Council President Pernel Jones stated that discussions regarding Resolution No. R2023-0182; Ordinance Nos. O2023-0012 & O2023-0013 will continue at the next Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, at 1:00 p.m.**

**5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**There was no miscellaneous business.**

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss, Council President Jones adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m., without objection.**