

**COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**

**CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO**

**Monday, July 12, 2021**

**Council President Michael Nenadovich called the Caucus Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Michael Dudley, Sr., Councilman Ward 1  
Charles Donahue, Councilman Ward 2  
Michael Nenadovich, Councilman Ward 3  
Jason Blake, Councilman Ward 5  
Frank Tagliarini, Councilman Ward 6

**Members Excused:** Avery Johnson, Councilman Ward 4  
Thomas Vaughn, Councilman Ward 7

Clmn Dudley moved to excuse Clmn Johnson and Clmn Vaughn from the Caucus Meeting and Clmn Donahue seconded. Motion was approved by 5 yes (Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini) and 2 absent (Johnson, Vaughn) votes.

President Nenadovich stated Jennifer Sopkovich will be the acting Clerk of Council, the new Clerk of Council, Debra Sarnowski, scheduled a vacation last year and could not be here. Barb Molin retired last month.

Clmn Nenadovich moved to accept the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes for Monday June 14, 2021 as written. Clmn Blake seconded. Motion was approved 5 yes (Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue) 2 absent (Johnson, Vaughn) votes.

President Nenadovich asked if someone would take the regular council minutes on the floor. Clmn Blake will make the motions to accept Regular Minutes, two Special Council Meeting Minutes, (doing by order of dates) and the Ways and Means Committee meeting minutes during council meeting.

President Nenadovich stated that at last council meeting we agree that we will go back to individuals sponsoring legislation. They will make the motion to accept and considered by title rather than the President of Council.

ORDINANCE NO. 54-2021 Clmn Dudley advised that he would move to consider by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 55-2021 Clmn Donahue advised that he would move to consider by title.

RESOLUTION NO.26-2021 Clmn Donahue advised that he would move to consider by title.

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2021 President Nenadovich will make a motion to withdraw this resolution.

The Land Reutilization Program, admitting four new members.

Mr. Riley stated they are going to withdraw this resolution because they still have to find another person. There is supposed to be five members total, so it will be withdrawn and replace with a new one. There are two members on that committee whose terms will be ending this year.

Mr. President informed Clmn Dudley that Ordinance 47-2021 will be coming out of committee and voted on tonight.

Mr. Riley suggested that when we come to the committee reports that Clmn Dudley make a motion to take ordinance 47-2021 out of committee and place it on the agenda, then vote on that. Once that is done, just move on until it comes to the agenda, then vote on the actual ordinance at that time. Probably do it first because it's a lower number. He asked if Jennifer had a copy. President stated there are copies here. Then when it comes to reading the title, you'll have a different title on the agenda.

President informed council a few things are going to happen on the floor. Number one, we will be swearing in the new police dog and then there's a presentation being made by the Cuyahoga County and Planning Commission for our master plan. We will be scheduling a meeting for the Community Relations Committee on July 22, 2021 at six o'clock. We'll get that posted on the ordinance boards. And we'll have our legislative meeting on that to talk about Ordinance 53-2021.

Mr. Riley stated it is actually a Legislative Committee meeting not a Relations Committee Meeting.

President Nenadovich said it is a continuation of the one we had on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Clmn Tagliarini has gotten several calls about the "backyard end issues" and it's been 14 weeks since we addressed that. President advised councilman that he is going to turn it over to the law department to be written up and refinements made. It will go for three readings so that people have a chance to discuss what's going on. If nobody's asking any questions then we can pass it right away. Someone asked if it had to go on the ballot. President said no because we are not changing zoning.

President asked if there was anything else. Clmn Dudley will do two things, pull it out of committee and put it on the floor to vote on tonight and then you're going to give a report by the School Board. Clmn Dudley asked if both going on committee reports. Yes, President asked if Ordinance 47-2021 will be put in the beginning and if we have to read that by title again.

Mr. Riley said to make a motion to be considered by title and then go through the rest of it and then waive the three reading and then vote on the adoption.

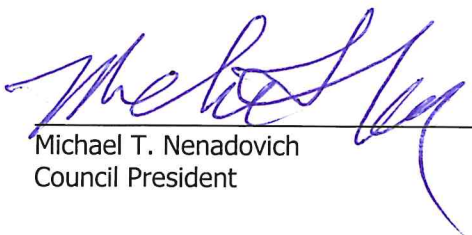
Clmn Donahue asked who will do the invocation. Clmn Dudley will do the honors.

Clmn Donohue moved to adjourn the Caucus Meeting and Clmn Tagliarini seconded. His motion stood approved by 6 Yes (Donohue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley) votes

Council President Nenadovich adjourned the Caucus Meeting on Monday, 07/12/2021 at 6:45 p.m.

Approved,

Respectfully Submitted as typed from recording,

  
Michael T. Nenadovich  
Council President

  
Debra Sarnowski  
Clerk of Council

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO**

**Monday, July 12, 2021**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Michael Nenadovich.**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Good evening ladies and gentlemen. I would like to welcome everybody to the July 12, 2021 regularly scheduled Council Meeting. If everybody would rise, tonight's invocation will be given by Clmn Dudley along with the Pledge of allegiance.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**By Clmn Dudley**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Jennifer Sopkovich will be sitting in for our new clerk of council, Debra Sarnowski, who is on vacation. So if you would please take the roll call, Jennifer.

**ROLL CALL:**                   **PRESENT:** Council Members Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini  
**EXCUSED:** Vaughn

**CLMN DUDLEY:** I make a motion to excuse Councilman Vaughn from tonight's council meeting.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Could I have a second? Seconded by Clmn Donahue. Would you take a roll call Jennifer, starting with Councilman Dudley. Motion passes six yes votes (Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini) with one absent. We will go next to reading and disposal of minutes.

**READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:**

**CLMN BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to accept the special council meeting minutes for the City of Garfield Heights for Thursday, June 10, 2021, as written.

Yes votes (Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson) with one absent, motion passes.

**CLMN BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of council for the City of Garfield Heights for Monday, June 14, 2021, as written. Motion seconded.

Yes votes (Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson) with one absent, motion passes.

**CLMN BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to accept the special council meeting minutes for the City of Garfield Heights for Wednesday, June 16, 2021, as written. Seconded by Clmn Donohue.

Yes votes (Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson) with one absent, motion passes.

**CLMN BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to accept the Ways and Means Committee meeting minutes for the city of Garfield Heights for Thursday, June 17, 2021, as written. Seconded by Clmn Donohue.

Yes votes (Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson) with one absent, motion passed  
**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL:**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Is there was any written communications to council? None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Is there any legislation coming out of committee?

**CLMN DUDLEY:** I would like to make a motion to bring forth ordinance 47-2021 out of committee and place on tonight's agenda. Seconded by Clmn Donahue.

Yes votes (Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini) with one absent. Motion passed.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to read a letter from the Garfield Heights City School Liaison.

Good evening, Mayor, councilman and fellow residents of Garfield Heights. I apologize for my absence, however the board is in a work session this evening. I hope to join you if time allows. Here's an update on the school district. The Garfield Heights City School District held graduation for the class of 2021 on June 3, 2021 at the Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse. Having the ability to host a live in person graduation was enjoyed by all. The Garfield High City School Board of Education Superintendent, assistant superintendent, and Treasurer/business manager, participated in 18 hours of training in government through an equity lens over the spring and early summer. We have a draft of any action Equity statements, and we'll be working on an equity policy that will align with our new strategic plan that was adopted earlier this year. This work will enhance what has been done by our equity tasks force under the consulting consultation of Yolanda Hamilton. The school district is hosting there second two weeks summer school session beginning today, the students are provided with support with their academics during the morning. After lunch the students participate in a variety of activities that promote social and emotional development. The school board is in a work session this evening, beginning at 6pm and can be viewed via our YouTube channel. Our next regular school board meeting will be held on July 19, 2021 at 6pm and can be viewed via our YouTube channel. Humbly submitted, Ms. Millette King, M.Ed.L.S.W.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you Clmn Dudley. Tonight before we get into our regular meeting, we have a presentation by the Cuyahoga County planning Commission on Garfield Heights Master Plan. I would like to call up Patrick Hewitt and Rachel Novak to give the presentation.

**Patrick Hewitt:** Thank you for having us tonight. My name is Patrick Hewitt. I'm a planning manager with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission. I joined Rachel Novak, who is the project lead for the city of Garfield heights Master Plan. We have a whole team that is working on this plan with the city of Garfield Heights form the County Planning Commission, including our executive director Mary Cierebiej, Jim Sonnhalter, Micah Stryker and Laura Mendez Ortiz. Tonight, we are going to talk about ourselves, briefly introduce plans, go through the planning process, some of the stakeholder interviews that we've done to this point and really talk about the community engagement process where we are going to be hopefully hearing from many of you as well as many of the folks in the audience over the course of the next year.

We are an independent board. Our mission is to inform and provide services and support, the short and long term, comprehensive planning and quality of life environments and economic development of Cuyahoga County and its' cities, villages and townships. We have a host of projects we do across the county as well as with individual communities. I'm not going to go through all of them, but four of the big ones that really are taking place right now include the Cuyahoga greenways plan, which is a plan for a system of trails that runs through the entire county. The lakefront public access plan, a plan that is looking at the 30 or so miles of lakefront in Cuyahoga County and trying to improve access to that lake for residents of the county and beyond our data book series, which provides data across six different topics and about 39 different metrics for each individual community of Cuyahoga County, including Garfield Heights. And our last kind of regional project that we're working on right now is our first suburbs



single family zoning, which we're doing with the Northeast Ohio for suburbs Consortium, where we were looking at the zoning of single family homes in all 19 of those communities. To see whether or not infill housing is able to be built using the current regulations, zoning regulations of communities, including Garfield Heights here in the county. We also do work in individual communities, such as Garfield heights, this map just shows some of the work that's happened really in the past five or six years. In Dark blue are all of the completed master plans that we've accomplished throughout the county. In light blue are ones that are currently ongoing, including Garfield Heights, Brooklyn Heights, Broadview Heights and Middleburg Heights. A variety of other ongoing plans, such as Park Plans, corridor plans and connectivity studies. I'd going to turn over to Rachel, she is going to talk about the GH Master Plan.

**Rachel Novak:** So what is a master plan? It's really that long term guide, that's going to outline that vision for how the community wants to grow, and develop in the future about 10 years out or so. We are going to inventory what exists today, what Garfield Heights has right now which is our current condition phase. Once we have the baseline of where the community is today we are going to outline the community's vision for the future and this is where we need the public. We are going to talk about that next community engagement piece later on in the presentation. Once we outline that vision, we are going to be getting into recommendations. So these are our concrete action steps that will help achieve that community vision. Why is master planning important? The number one reason – it gives the community an option to gather input form residents. We want to hear what residents want, need and how that can really fit in with that community vision. It is going to help prepare the city, its residents, its business, for the future. It is going to shape future development to make sure it matches the community's priorities, and it's going to give a competitive advantage when applying for grants and funding. So if the city wants to tackle different types of projects and there is funding that's needed, communities that have master plans, have that competitive advantage. It shows that these ideas have been vetted by the public, the public agrees, this is something the community really wants to strive for.

What's the difference between a master plan and zoning code? A master plan is a general policy for the future growth- it is ideas, it is visions, it is kind of higher level. Zoning ordinance, those are specific rules for development, where you are getting into the concrete of what you can and cannot do. So again, masterplans describes those recommendations about what should happen for the future, whereas zoning code is kind of what is today what is and what is not allowed. A master plan includes broad recommendations that can be undertaken by the city residents, or maybe other partners, such as the metro parks could be a partner in a number of different ways. Whereas the zoning code, those are those mandatory regulations on development that are enforced by the city unless specifically waved through some sort of variance or other types of permanent. Lastly, a master plan is designed to be flexible, it is not a document that lives on the shelf. It's designed to be updated. At the end of this process, we hope the city adopts in and embraces it. We understand, COVID-19 was certainly an example of how things change, how funding changes. The document is meant to be flexible, to adapt, so changes can be made. Zoning code is a rigid set of regulations that can only be changed through a legal process. Looking at the master plan, there are going to be some recommendations that can go right into implementation, some things that the city is already doing, we want the city to keep doing those things. Whereas other options, some recommendations might need more detailed planning, like engineering, we might need to be doing other types of studies before we can implement something larger.

So our planning process, has about five stages that we generally go through. First one, understanding the community as it is today, this is our baseline, this is our current conditions. This is where we are going to be looking at demographics, housing, business, and land use. We are trying to understand Garfield Heights on a very deep level. That is where we are right now, and then we will be getting into community vision, where we need help from the public. We are going into more detail in the next few slides about how this first community engagement period is going to work. Once we outline that community vision, once we hear back from the public, this is when we are going to be getting into recommendations. So these are our goals and actions. So this is going to be where we outline specific policies and actions to achieve the community's desired future. After that, we will again get engaged with the public to get their feedback on those recommendations. This is where we take those

recommendations and outline potential partners and again, feedback from the community. What are the community's priorities where we can start outlining these projects in a chronological order and also help identify who is going to be responsible for undertaking different types of actions? Could it be different department heads, could it be other partners like Metro Parks. And then from there, think of each of those as a chapter, we will combine all of them into a complete draft master plan.

Right now, we are in that current conditions phase about to jump into a community vision. This document will be available on line. So anyone can go on our website, [www.countyplanning.us/garfieldheights](http://www.countyplanning.us/garfieldheights) . It has a dedicated webpage just for the project, where we are going to uploading any sort of draft documents, all of the community engagement materials and web links will be all on the website. There's an introduction to the master planning process at the beginning of the document. We go into great detail and kind of a regional overview. And our first suburbs analysis, which is a great analysis that we've worked through with the project team. Then from there, we have a larger section with all of the maps and the details, kind of discovering the city of Garfield Heights, where we look at a lot of metrics from transportation to building permits to the physical makeup of the community such as steep slopes and water. The last chapter and that is land use and zoning, where we specifically look at kind of where zoning might be working, where it's not working and the specific land use categories. (Rachel went on to reiterate what she previous said) We know some COVID restrictions have been lifted, some have not. We are trying to stay flexible in our timeline. We are going to shoot for September 2021 date to have community vision wrapped up, goals and actions in February 2022, implementation April 2022 and the complete master plan by about Mary of next year. We are going to have 3 engagement periods throughout the entire process. We're here, we met with the project team this morning, we're about to review a very similar presentation going more in depth into the current conditions analysis. Then we're going to be opening up community engagement, number one, and an online survey for folks. (Rachel went on to reiterate what she previous said)

So in addition to the process of us doing our homework, trying to understand the city on a deeper level, we also been conducting quite a few stakeholder interviews. So these are some of the partners that we've interviewed anyone from the Cleveland Clinic, Marymount Hospital to the sewer district, library, Metro Parks, you name it, we've talked to them. All of our conversations, everyone's just been seeing the city's praises, a lot of great feedback and a lot of great ideas. It is a great time to be in Garfield Heights, because there's a lot of projects that are going on.

Community engagement, number one, what does that look like? We want to make sure we're accommodating everyone we can. We are going to make sure each community engagement period is open for an extended period of time. Traditionally, without COVID-19, we might have only kept it open for a couple of weeks. We're going to try and keep it open for at least a month to give folks the time to look at the information, react to it and respond to our surveys. This is going to include a series of virtual meetings, online activities and surveys. There will also be some small in person events. Community engagement, number one, is going to run from July 17 through August 23.

First type of engagement will be a virtual public meeting, on July 26 at 6:30 pm. We understand not everyone might have access to the internet, we do have a call in option, they can always submit questions to us beforehand. In addition to that, we're going to have an online survey through Survey Monkey along with paper copies placed at three separate locations here at the Civic Center, the library and the rec center that are going to be supplemented with some activity boards that folds can interact with as well. (Rachel recapped what she previously said.)

We are doing a lot of advertising, we're going to have some signs placed throughout the community. Feel free to go up to those signs, interact with them, use your phones to scan the QR code, which will take you to our website. (Rachel repeated information on website and process and meetings.) Thank you to Council for allowing us to speak tonight. I hope everyone is as excited as we are.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Do any council members or directors have a question for Rachel. (No questions) Thank you very much for your presentation. Next. Mayor, you and a new police officer may have the floor.

\*The Swearing in of K-9 Officer Echo took place.

**REPORT OF THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTORS:**

**RESIDENT NENADOVICH:** We will continue with our regular meeting, starting with the mayor's report.

**MAYOR MATTHEW BURKE:** Thank you, Mr. President. I want to say thank you to Rachel Novak and Patrick Hewitt for giving us a great presentation this evening. Like they said, we did this this morning and our presentation was like an hour and 30 minutes because we kept asking so many questions. We are going to be putting the link on our website, the link to the master plan, the survey and also to the presentation. Speaking of the website, I've been in contact with civic plus, they are working on our website. We should start to see that main page being created. We have gone through all the colors and pictures and things like that. So I'm very excited that's actually happening and getting ready to go.

Community Flea Market, July 17, we are trying this for the first time. I don't know that it's ever been done in the city of Garfield Heights by the administration or by the city. We're going to give this a shot and see how it goes. Hopefully, it's something that's good for the community, and we can do more of it as time goes on. I will let Noreen bring more up when she gives her report. I'm happy to announce that the seniors are going to be coming back into the building mid-August. I'll let Cathy elaborate on that when she gives her report. I

I got sent a letter from the board of elections, reminding everybody that Garfield Heights is participating in the August 3 congressional primary election. So they're asking and urging voters to get out and vote that day. And I want to say congratulations to Patrolman Echo here, who I got to meet about a month ago. He's just as spicy a month ago as he is today. I also want to say congratulations to Debra Sarnowski for being appointed clerk of council. I know she'll do a fine job considering she used to be a council woman in the city of Garfield Heights. She understands the procedures that there are on council. Lastly, I want to ask people to support the local businesses. I am starting an initiative here in Garfield Heights, a garfieldhts.com website that I'm going to launch. This is a website that is something that we're going to allow businesses at no cost to the business, to be able to list their business and list a coupon. And hopefully, we can help them in supporting their businesses. As I've gone out and talked to a lot of the local business, I've heard all kinds of horror stories, stories of people in one business talking about another business and promoting another business. I asked a lot of businesses why they sort of abandon the Garfield Heights Chamber of Commerce. And they said they all felt that they were helping out with the Chamber of Commerce, but didn't feel they were being helped out by the chamber. Again, that's just perception, but I think as a city, we need to make sure we're promoting the local business. And I've talked to probably 40 of them in the last two or three months. I am going to bring them together and we're going to talk about helping them showcase their businesses a little bit more.

Let me get into tonight's legislation, Ordinance 54-2021, basically we are selling some equipment that we don't need any longer. It'd be nice to get that out of the way, make some room in our garage for other things. Ordinance 55-2021 is a multi-street reconstruction and water line replacement project, phase six. This is just to draw up the plans. I can let Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ get into that. Resolution 26-2021, is just adopting the fiscal year budget for the tax budget with the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission. I also want to remind everybody and ask for support of Ordinance 47-2021, which deals with the rezoning of Kmart property. Highland Park has a lot of plans going forward and this will be a huge step in the economic development here in Garfield Heights. And with that, you have my report.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you, Mayor Burke. Are there any questions for the Mayor from Council at this time?

**CLMN DONAHUE:** On Saturday, the flea market, it's going to be in the parking lot. (Yes) We're supposed to have downpours. Is there any way we would be able to move it indoors?

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, NOREEN KUBAN:** It is going to be held the 17<sup>th</sup>, this Saturday, rain or shine. And we can't move it indoors. We have it all set up for outside and we'll see how it goes.

**LAW DIRECTOR, TIMOTHY RILEY:** No report tonight.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you, next we'll move on to the brand new Police Chief, Chief Mark Kaye. Congratulations, Chief.

**POLICE CHIEF, MARK KAYE:** Appreciate it, thank you. Real quick, I want to go over a report on a kind of task force we've been running. So we partnered with the Ohio Investigative Unit, which is a unit that serves in the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Their specific task is to run plainclothes and undercover investigations of anybody that carries a liquor permit. So bars, gas stations, liquor stores, anything like that. You as you guys know, we have some buyers in the town that have been up to some questionable activity. So for the past two months, we've been partnering with them. We've ran six details so far. Basically, they gives us two of their officers and we put two of our officers in there. We made 12 arrests and confiscated 16 firearms. We had multiple confiscations of fentanyl, cocaine, crack heroin, ecstasy and marijuana. It's been a positive partnership, and we are going to keep it up. Not just at the bars, but gas stations and anywhere that sells liquor. There's a lot of parking lot violations that happen there, and that's where a lot of drug transactions happen. So that's what this unit specializes in. We are going to keep it up. You won't know where we're at, you won't know when we're out there, but trust me, they're out there. They are in plain clothes and there's a lot of good arrests, getting a lot of guns and drugs off the street. So that's my report.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Any questions for the chief on his report to council? (None) Again, welcome aboard as chief. (Thank You) Next we will move to Fire Chief Strope.

**FIRE CHIEF, KENNETH STROPE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no report this evening.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** We will move to the Service Director, Mr. Sikon. He isn't here but he does have a report that I will read.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR MARK SIKON:** Letter read by Clmn Nenadovich: Council, I will not be attending tonight's meeting, I have another engagement. Currently, we are doing water cutouts, trimming and tree removal. We also started some crack sealing throughout the city. We will be looking into contracting out larger areas of the streets for striping and service garage will be taking care of smaller areas, stops, stop bars, crosswalks and school zones. Driving around I noticed there are many streets that need cleaning. We have not had the sweeper out the past few weeks due to short staffing because of vacations. We will be getting at least one sweeper back out tomorrow and hopefully two shortly thereafter. We do have multiple catch basins that need to be cleaned. We are still waiting for a part to come in for our backhaul. If this part is not coming soon, we will have to contract with the county to get some of these done. We still have some ongoing garbage issues. I, myself, and my staff, have been in direct contact with Kimble in regards to miss stops and trash being left behind. This is a work in progress but understand that we will continue to follow up with Kimble until all problems be solved. Respectfully, Service Director, Mark Sikon.

**PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, PAUL BIRK:** Thank you, currently our T-ball and softball seasons are going on, we're halfway through it.(rain outs) For the first time in the rec center, we have a swim club that is utilizing our pool in the morning, three days a week. We also have had three swim meets that have drawn large crowds on the last three Thursday nights. All that has not affected public swim at all. So no issues with that. I do not know if you had a chance to be at the pool, but myself and my staff did quite a bit of cement work on our concrete benches. Also if anybody has noticed, I want to give a thanks to the service department, we finally had that old deck removed out of there. I'm having some issues of kids jumping the fence and entering the pool after hours. It has happened a few times, last time the police were able to catch a few jumpers – thank the police department for that. Unfortunately with the kids jumping in the pool, we've had some vandalism up by the tennis courts where the bathroom building is. They kicked in a storage door numerous times and smashed up quite a bit of stuff up there. It's things like that, brand new benches that we had to repair, smashed up boards and broken glass all over the place. I know the police do a lot and still try to monitor for us. I want to



thank Pat Salemi, I know she is not here, she helped us with the NOPEC grant. We have a new hockey program for handicap coming here in the fall. With this grant, we have some new handicap accessible doors which are also energy efficient as well. That, along with some new appliances. I think the grant was like \$20,000. So thank you Pat, for that. Then finally, we're taking fall signups for both soccer and trying to implement a flag football program, so check the website for that. And with that, you have my report.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Any questions for the Recreation Director? Being none, we will move on to our City Engineer. Mr. Sickles do you have a report?

**CITY ENGINEER, JIM SICKLES:** I do. Thank you. A couple of items on my report. One is, I'm asking for the backing of the ordinance for multi street phase six. As part of that ordinance, you see there's a list of streets that will be covered. Those include Carpenter, Horton, Andover, Henry, East 135<sup>th</sup> and 128<sup>th</sup>, and Edgepark, a portion of all those streets. The total process to do the design, get approvals from everyone and then start the project will be about a year. So about this time next year, we would probably begin construction on the streets. Phase five, I don't remember how many streets, I think 8 streets, we're going to open bids this week. The good news on that is we hope to get a couple of streets done this year, there's been a lot of delay, COVID related. Reviews have been much longer, materials are harder to get. If everything comes in well with the bids, we should get a couple streets done this year and the rest will have to roll over into spring of next year as the weather breaks. Any Questions?

**CLMN TAGLIARINI:** One of the streets, in my ward six, that I get constant calls on is Wolf Avenue. I think it is probably one of the worst ones. Do you have any type of schedule or date that I can tell these people?

**CITY ENGINEER, JIM SICKLES:** The answer is yes and no. I know that's not a good answer. It is one of the streets listed for phase five. When we open the bids, what we don't know yet, is if we will receive good bids. So if not, we will have to rebid the project. If we do receive good bids, at your next council meeting, you'll get a recommendation from us and then council would have to approve that contractor. Then the whole process would start to get them working on the project which another one to two months. Best guess, I'd say September, the earliest, maybe as late as October when we'll shovels in the ground. That's if things go right and smoothly. There's also material shortage in the world. So if we say go to a contract, we don't know how quickly he can get the materials on site. I don't have a perfect answer but as we get closer, and get more information from the contractor, schedules and things, I can start sharing those with council.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you, Mr. Sickles. Any other questions? Ms. Biro give a report this evening in the caucus room. We will move on to Social Service Director Kathy Rush-Parsson.

**LSW DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES, KATHY RUSH-PARSSON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the mayor mentioned a little while ago, the senior center is planning to reopen for phase one on Monday, August 16. We are starting a gradual reopening with reduce capacity and hours of operation. So our plan is to group cohorts of seniors. So certain groups of seniors who will attend together on Mondays and Wednesdays, and then we'll have another group that will attend together on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is designed to keep seniors together so that they're not exposed to a lot of different people. Transportation will be provided to the senior center however on a reduced capacity, and that will be based on the Federal Transit Authority guidelines according to the US government. We will alter hours of operation for now. Previously, the senior center was open form 8:30 am until 2:00 pm. We are reducing timeframe to 9:30 am till 12:30 pm. There will be limited social distance activities and lunch will be provide once again daily at 11:30 am. We are hoping to get a mailing out to the seniors by the end of this week with more information. It is a work in progress, we are adhering to all CDC guidelines. I have attended numerous meeting with the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Aging, the Governor's office, and Cuyahoga County Board of Health. We are following all CDC guidelines to make

sure our seniors are safe. Our plan is to move into Phase two, where we will open to more capacity and extend our hours once again. If anyone has any questions, they can call the senior center office, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am till 4:30 pm at 216-475-3244. Just so the community knows, even though the senior center was closed during the pandemic, we continue to provide services. We did not stop transportation for the seniors and we did continue to deliver meals to all of the seniors that used to come to the center.

Also Case Western Reserve University contacted me asking for support in locating residents that might be interested in participating in a research study, which is looking at caregiver stress and health of caregivers. Study participants will be compensated for their time. If anyone is interested or if you know of anyone in the community that would benefit please have them call Case Western Reserve at 216-368-8848 Or they can email at [caregiver@case.edu](mailto:caregiver@case.edu). There are also some fliers with information about the study that I put out in the lobby up here on the first floor at the Civic Center.

Finally, the Ohio Home Energy Assistance Program, commonly known as HEAP is currently accepting applications for summer utility bill assistance. The program offers a onetime benefit to assist with electric bills, purchasing air conditioning units and or repairs for existing central air systems. The deadline is September 30, and for more information in application assistance, people can call the Division of Senior and Adult services at 216-420-6700.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Does council have any questions for Ms. Passons? There being none, we will move on to the Economic Development Director, Noreen Kuban.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, NOREEN KUBAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I wanted to thank, (or course, they've already left) the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission for the presentation about our update on the master plan. I urge everyone to complete a survey. Second, following up on the flea market, so far, we have 23 vendors or 23 residents who want to participate. Each vendor gets two parking spots. Some people have indicated they want to pull up their vehicle and have other space for tables, other people just want to use the entire space for tables. The Historic Society will be selling ice cream at the event in the parking lot. I believe the mayor briefly spoke about the Garfield Heights Chamber of Commerce. They merged with the Southeast Chamber of Commerce a few years ago and then due to lack of support and interest, that did not continue on.

Ordinance 47-2021, I urge council to support this rezoning effort at Kmart, and the lot to the west, a vacant lot currently owned by Industrial Commercial Properties, who are the owners of Highland Park, and the changes from U-4 retail to U-11 office park, light industry. That concludes my report.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Any questions for Ms. Kuban on her report? There being none. Barb, I didn't see you sitting there, I apologize. Do you have a report from the finance department?

**FINANCE DIRECTOR, BARBARA BIRO:** Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, I do. I am asking for council support on Resolution 25-2021 which is the tax budget, sending down to the county the tax rates for the year 2022. I have to say that we had a very successful, engaging tax budget meeting at 5:30 pm. In my years that I've been here, even with my former boss, Ron Tomola, it was the most engaging meeting that we've had with the tax budget with residents. It is truly appreciated that you took the time to come out and discuss what is very important to our residents, which is their tax rate, their real estate tax rate for the year 2020. I want to thank the individuals that did come out and participated and for the members of council that showed up for the meeting. And with that, Mr. President, you have my report.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Any questions for Ms. Biro on her report from council? There being none. We will move on to Building Commissioner Mark Moro.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER, MARK MORO:** Thank you, Good evening. I have a couple of comments. If anybody has noticed, the Dominos at Tournay Town has opened and ready for business. The new rebuilt McDonald's is very close to reopening. The first business at the new Highland Park is

very close to opening, which is Switchback. We are very pleased to have that center coming back to life. And with that, that's the end of my report.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Any questions for Mr. Moro on his report? We will move to our new director of HR, Director Jeannie Sowers.

**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, JEANNIE SOWERS:** No, I don't have a report this evening.

**COMMENTS BY CITIZENS ON THE AGENDA:**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Next Comments by Citizens on tonight's agenda, Jennifer, would you read the rules, please?

**CLERK:** Comments shall be strictly limited to brief statements not to exceed five minutes with comments limited to legislation on the current evening's agenda. No citizen shall speak more than once.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Any citizen wishing to speak on tonight's agenda? None? We'll move into ordinances and resolutions. First off, we have Ordinance 54-2021. Jennifer, would you read the title.

**LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY:** Mr. Chairman, point of order. I believe you were going to put Ordinance 47-2021 on the agenda tonight.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** You're correct. We will move on to Ordinance 47-2021. Thank you, Mr. Riley for the point of order. Jennifer, would you please read the title

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

ORDINANCE NO. 47-2021

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, KNOWN AS ORDINANCE 121-1962, PROVIDING FOR THE REVISION OF THE BUILDING ZONE MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF CERTAIN PARCELS AS FOLLOWS.

Moved DONAHUE TO CONSIDER BY TITLE: (Seconded)

YES: Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Seeing we went through this once, do we still have to suspend the three reading rule?

**LAW DIRECTOR TIME RILEY:** Yes, you should suspend the three reading rule and also we talked about the yeas and nays and yes's and no's, instead of doing a roll call on each like we always done.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Yes, I will. In view of some of the confusion last meeting, when we had the partitions up, on the roll calls, we will just be voting either yes or no. Ayes and Nays sound too similar.

Motion by Nenadovich to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

YES: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

VOTE ON ADOPTION by Nenadovich:

YES: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Ordinance 47-2021 passes with 6 and one absent.

ORDINANCE NO. 54-2021

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE AND DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED PROPERTY WHICH HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE NO LONGER NEED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES PURSUANT TO SECTION 129.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

Moved by Dudley to CONSIDER BY TITLE: (Seconded by Tagliarini)  
YES: Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini

Motion by Nenadovich to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

Motion by Nenadovich to WAIVE RULE 24:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

VOTE ON ADOPTION by Nenadovich:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** The adoption passes with 6 and one absent. Ordinance 55-2021, Jennifer would you read the title.

ODINANCE NO. 55-2021

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING DAVID KROCK, ENGINEER, TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, PER OHM ADVISORS, PROPOSAL, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A", AND TO COMPETITIVELY BID, FOR THE MULTI-STREET RECONSTRUCTION & WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT – PHASE 6, AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF COSTS FOR THIS PROJECT, WHICH COSTS WILL BE FUNDED THROUGH THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, THE CLEVELAND WATER DEPARTMENT AND AN OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION LOAN PROGRAM.

Moved by Donahue to CONSIDER BY TITLE :( seconded by Dudley)  
Yes: Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley

Motion by Nenadovich to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

Motion by Nenadovich to WAIVE RULE 24:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

Vote on Adoption by Nenadovich:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** That passes 6 with one absent. Next we have resolution 26-2021. We will the 72 hour rule. Jennifer, would you read the title.

RESOLUTION NO 26-2021

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 HERETO ATTACHED, AND SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION.

Moved by Donahue to CONSIDER BY TITLE: (Seconded)  
Yes: Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** On suspension of the three reading rule.  
**LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY:** Point of Order, you need to waive the 72 hour rule.



Motion by Nenadovich to WAIVE THE 72 HOUR RULE: (Seconded)  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

Motion by Nenadovich to WAIVE RULE 24:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

Vote on the ADOPTION by Nenadovich:

Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** That passes six to zero, with one absent.

**LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY:** Did you waive the three readings rule on that?

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** I do not believe I did.

**CLMN:** What would be the point of order on that?

**LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY:** He would have to take a vote on the three readings and then go back on the adoption.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** I would like to make a motion to suspend the three reading rule. Starting with myself.

Motion by NENADOVICH to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:  
Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Do I have to Waive Rule 24 and Waiver of 72 Hour Rule again or just the adoption? (Riley – Just the adoption)

Vote on the Adoption by Nenadovich:

Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** That passes six with one absent. Thank you Mr. Riley for the correction. Do we have to state that we are removing Resolution No 27-2021 from tonight's agenda?

**LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY:** I would have somebody make a motion to withdraw from the agenda.

**CLMN BLAKE:** Mr. Chairman (Yes Councilman) I would like to make a motion to withdraw Resolution No 27-2021 from tonight's agenda. (Seconded by Dudley)

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** On the motion by Clmn Blake to withdraw the resolution. Just go right to the motion, there's no title to read. (Riley – Yes just go right into the motion) Ok, starting with Clmn Blake, would you take a roll call please, Jennifer?

Motion by Blake to WITHDRAWN RESOLUTION:

Yes: Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Johnson

#### **MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** That covers our ordinances and resolutions. Next we will have comments by citizens. Jennifer, would you please read the rules.

**CLERK:** Comments shall be restricted to any problem a citizen has which has previously been submitted to his/her council person or to the city hall department directly involved. If submission of a problem to a city hall department or a council person is made, and there is a lack of service rendered in this regard. The problem may then be presented during comments from citizens at a future meeting. It is the intention of this rule that no request of a first nature is presented on the floor at this time. Comments shall be limited to five minutes no citizen shall be heard more than once.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Is there anybody wishing to speak? Please state your name and address for the record.

**DORA HUSTON:** 4712 East 144 street (44128), I don't know when he was doing ordinance 55 about the streets. I had a comment about the street that I stay on. It is a divided street, Cleveland on one side and Garfield on the other. I have been a resident over 70 years. The street was fixed one time, but

all they do now is patch. They patch and it is back out. We have holes over there all the time. Even though our councilman come and look, I don't think he's looking too good. So we need some attention over there on 144<sup>th</sup> street.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** What I want to mention is 144<sup>th</sup> is a split street, part belongs to Cleveland and half belongs to Garfield. The problem I have, is you have to be able to work with your neighbor over there. We cannot take the responsibility for the whole street. I have approached several council members, the last two council members who have served in Ward one in Cleveland. I have not been able, and I'm not going to go into politics with the individuals by name, I have not been able to bring any of them to the table to enter into a conversation with us to be willing to do a part of that street. We cannot do the whole street ourselves because half of it belongs to Cleveland. So hopefully, God bless them, something changes over there this year and we can get somebody working with us to get that street resurfaced. So it has not been ignored, we cannot approve anything to do that entire street. The right half is Cleveland and the left half is Garfield. It's something we have to do as a joint project like Rockside, you have to get your neighbor willing to put up something, and that has not been a success talking to the last two elected officials who have served in Cleveland, ward one area. So it's nothing that I forgot, it's just something I've not been able to get them to move on. Hopefully, the next person that goes here and the next person that goes in there, will get together and will be able to work something out. It's something I've been trying to work on for years but been unsuccessful working with individuals next door to us.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR MARK SIKON:** Clmn Dudley, I'll give you a call tomorrow. Let me take a look at this and see if there's anything we could do between our service department and the City of Cleveland service department to try to get this addressed. We'll be in contact tomorrow and we'll try to get this addressed, Ms. Huston.

**RHONDA CREIGHTON:** 4470, Martin Luther King, I just wanted to say congratulations to the new police chief, I haven't had a chance to meet you. So I look forward to working with you Community Relations. I have a statement more than a complaint. Many chief positions are appointed by mayor and are non union positions. I did not see a posting for the chief position and wondering why. We're talking about transparency and how things are done here. I had the opportunity to speak to some people here at City Hall today. They explained things to me but may other citizens might be able to get a better answer on the process on how things are done. I just find it odd that the test was given on June 26 and already there was a chief position made that fast. So you know, with the city being 55% African American and we only have 8% African American full time employees here. I just think that we need to do better about getting posting put up when the panels are going to be filled on these committees, when employment is going to be available, so that everybody can have an opportunity for these jobs for these committees. Like I said, we have 55% African Americans in the city and looking at the panel, it's not reflective on what's going on here today. Some of us thought that the posting was going to be made available for other chiefs to come in from the community and apply for the position, be a panel interview and be properly vetted.

**LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY:** Mr. Chairman, may I address this issue? Ms. Creighton, just so you know, the civil service rules for the City of Garfield Heights are very clear. When a position opens up as a sergeant, all patrolmen have the opportunity to take that test. When a lieutenant position opens up, all the sergeants have the opportunity to take that test. Captains, and all the way up, so when we have the chief's position open up, all the captains have the opportunity to take the test. The situation we had here, lieutenants took it and the top scoring person gets it. That's what the rules are set for. So according to our rules, we could not bring people in from different places to take the test or to apply for the test.

**RHONDA CREIGHTON:** I believe that they should, I'm not saying that they shouldn't. I said that anyone qualified outside of the City of Garfield Heights in some cities have had the opportunity. It depends on what's your rules. If we are really looking for change, we should look into changing those rules. Anybody in administration is non union and I get that you all have a lateral thing going on. And because they are union and police are protected by union, I'm a union member. When you're in administration, chief positions are appointed by the mayor. So they have an opportunity change, rules are meant to be broken and changed. In some municipalities, the mayor can make those changes and

the law director can implement those changes. What I'm saying, if we are truly looking for diversity and change, we have 55% African Americans in this city and we have 8 to 12 full time African Americans working for the City of Garfield Heights and you have 168 people, full time employees for Garfield Heights, that's less than 8% for the city. I've been here my entire life and is panel does not reflect what's going on in the city, something needs to be done real quick. We have to do something if we want to be transparent. We shouldn't have panels and committees where people don't know how to get on. We shouldn't have employment where people are being appointed and there's no posting. That's the statement I want to make, we need more transparency, and we need to make a fair and equitable. That's all I wanted to say.

**CLIFFORD KELLY:** 12312 Eastwood Blvd, I know that this is the section where you ask us not to bring an issue that hasn't already been presented to council. Then if it hasn't been resolved, then we can bring it to council. So my issue is, at the end of the day, I'm still a resident in Ward six, in Garfield Heights. So as a resident, I presented or emailed my councilman on June 13. That was a Sunday because we had a council meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup>. I wanted to be fair and I didn't want to sabotage council, at least give council a chance to hear what the concern is and seek a response. I waited, the 15<sup>th</sup> still didn't receive anything so I fired off another email. The email was in response to the fireworks, the M 80s, M100s, explosive stuff and the gunfire in the ward in the city. No response. I just sent an email to Chief Kaye, within an hour, I get a response. You guys, later receive an email from Chief Kaye in regards to how to address the concerns if anybody has about fireworks. That was based off my trying to get a response to the residents that I spoke to on. June 22, I sent another email to my councilman, in regards to the social media drama. Why do we have so many Ward 6 pages? (Went on to talk about the social media).

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** That's social media, Sir that is not concerning council.

**CLIFFORD KELLY:** I sent an email, all I need is a response right now in the email, nothing. Then on the 30<sup>th</sup>, I sent another email in regards to lights out on Woodward between Fairlawn and 130<sup>th</sup>, whatever that street is 132<sup>nd</sup>, street light out. These are not even my concerns. If I have an issue, I know where to go and I know who to email. I am addressing concerns from other people. No attempt at all to respond to my email. However, you had time to do a background check on me and find out that I had tickets, a speeding ticket.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** I am calling order right now. I have to speak. You're talking about social media, council is not responsible. (very loud voices heard as president tried to reason with Mr. Kelly and Clmn Tagliarini responded to statements) What was the email about?

**CLIFFORD KELLY:** Again restated information about emails. (More very loud voice back and forth between Mr. Kelly and Council) I sent an email about a streetlight out.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Ok we are talking about the streetlight, that's council business, social media is not. (More loud voice from Mr. Kelly about "striking email") Now let's talk about your other problem, the street light. Was it fixed?

**CLIFFORD KELLY:** No, Ask Mr. Sikon what happened.

**CLERK JENNIFER:** (assistant to service director) I personally emailed that to First Energy. They are probably working.

**CLIFFORD KELLY:** Great, at least we got an answer. Thank you, I appreciate that. But the point is, you send emails to your councilman and you do not get a response. Ward six looks like crap. Look at all the grass. I didn't even bother to send you anymore emails about the grass because you ain't answer the other two anyway. So I'll just send them to the city. (Mr. Kelly went on to ask councilman again why he did not respond to emails and stated he knows where to go if he has an issue.) But what about the ones who didn't know what to do, who to contact and I contact you on their behalf. I get no answer, is that good?

**CLMN TAGLIARINI:** I don't have any answers for you.

**CLIFFORD KELLY:** So he just said he will not answer a resident. Forget the political crap. I'm a resident.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Okay, let's stop right there. Your five minutes are up. But, I'll tell you what, if you're not getting results from your council person, and this is for everybody, call the mayor's office and find out why. You have that option. It's not here for us to argue social media or anything else. You're talking emails. That is, if you're sending emails and not being responded to, call the mayor. He'll

take care of it for us. We have a good mayor. (Mr. Kelly continue to talk loudly from his seat about what he has previously said.) I hope that issue was resolved. Anybody else have anything to say?

**WENDY WALTERS:** 9525 Park Heights, I have called my councilman and I want to address this to Mr. Moro. There is a house on Park Heights, 9607 Park Heights that is becoming an eyesore. People broke into it last night. I called Clmn Johnson, he came over, and he checked the house. The police department was called and I got an attitude from the police officer who showed up. He says, well what am I supposed to do? You're suppose to call the service department, not the police on it. All we needed was to have the house checked and make sure it wasn't broken into, nothing was stolen. Luckily, Clmn Johnson came and investigated the house. We want this house to be checked to make sure there are no more violations. I talked to Janice numerous times, but this is getting to be more of a problem and I want it addressed. I don't know if it's a building department or service department problem.

**BUILDING DIRECTOR MARK MORO:** If it is a board up issue – if the doors are open or the windows are open, that comes to us and we ask for a board up on that house through the service that we engage.

**WENDY WALTERS:** Even Clmn Johnson has seen the house, how terrible it looks on the outside. He secured two of the three screen doors. The one that was broken into from the backyard has signs that someone prided it open. The neighbor that was next door, called the police and said the screen door was broken into plus the big door was broken wide open. And the officer said what am I supposed to do, that's the service department job not out job.

**BUILDING DIRECTOR MARK MORO:** We're happy to check into this for you. No problem.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you Ms. Walters. Anybody else wishing to speak?

**STACY COLLIER:** 13500 Cranwood Park Boulevard, First of all, I want to say congratulations Chief Kaye, and I want to say thank you to Chief Kaye because I had two issues that he immediately came out and to care of for me. He called me back immediately when I called him and left a message saying that I needed help. So I want to say thank you for that. While I was on South Parkway, Alvin, Thorn Hurst, Martin Luther King Drive, while I was over that way, it was brought to my attention that the street sweeper has not been down those particular streets in a long time. The streets look like they have not been swept. I can say that the street sweeper has come down Crown Park Boulevard, twice. So I'm just asking for equity and equality and the services that are given in Ward one. Can we make sure that the street sweepers and the services that are received in the other wards because there are some streets that I was told across Broadway that have had their streets swept several times. These poor citizens over in Ward one Garfield Heights have not seen the street sweeper, catch basins are getting clogged. Because of the debris that goes down, then that causes flooding in your homes. At this meeting today, we've had several conversations about flooding in homes. So I'm asking, when you bring out the one sweeper that we have, can you make sure that it manages to come to Ward One. I would appreciate it.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** That's not true. They came down. I was actually the one out there cleaning the basins. I have been on Alvin, and talked to the guys coming off Saybrook. We have had the sweeper even on 131<sup>st</sup> street where I am working on something with a couple of neighbors addressing concern in "Terrace" construction. I do call "Terrace" Construction personally and make them come up and sweep on 131. We have had the sweepers out and I have visually seen them. I know these guys and have talked to them. I have been on "Gerald Stephens", sitting on the porch and with Ms. Price on Alvin. I have sat out there with Ms. Young on Saybrook and the sweeper has come down. I have been with Ms. King on Rexwood and a couple other families and a sweeper has come down Rexwood. Sometimes if they don't see it, they assume that it doesn't come down there. If I even thought that the sweeper wasn't coming down, I would pick up the phone and call these guys. But the sweeper has been down some of the streets you named.

**STACY COLLIER:** Perception is 99% of it, when you stand outside and look at the street, so I realized that the street sweepers have come down those streets. But can we please make it a priority for them to come down again because the streets are dirty. I would appreciate it.

(Too many people were talking at once, unable to tell who said what)

I have another question about the master plan. I know they are tearing down Roosevelt, and I know we tabled Roosevelt for Ways and Means. I would like to say maybe we should keep Roosevelt on the table



until we come up with a master plan and make Roosevelt part of the new development in the master plan. So we shouldn't worry about zoning in that area until after we come up with this master plan.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Will you bring that up on the website?

**STACY COLLIER:** I definitely will.

**ECONOMIC DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN:** That is an issue that is going to be looked at. We've divided the city into several quadrants. We're looking at each quadrant as for business development, housing development, recreation, vacant space, etc, so that will be addressed.

**STACY COLLIER:** I do appreciate that. Thank you. Then one more. I have a question about the bringing back the seniors into the senior center. Who will make that determination who fits into those cohorts?

**SOCIAL SERVICE DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PASSONS:** What we're going to try to do is get the seniors to choose their friend that they normally are with. We have ladies in the craft room who have been friend for years. I personally have been here for almost 18 years and some of these seniors have been here longer than me. We will take a look at the bus routes, many of our senior drive. So if they drive in, we don't need to worry about transporting. We're probably not going to look at taking a lot of seniors that we transport all on the same day because we can only do 50% capacity on the busses. So we do not seniors riding on the buses for two hours. So there's a couple considerations, there's personal preference, activities that we have, exercise classes that some ladies have always participated in so we would want to bring them in on those days.

**STACY COLLIER:** So would they contact you? If a senior wants to come should they contact you?

**SOCIAL SERVICE DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PASSONS:** Absolutely. And we are going to do a mailing to anybody who has come in the last year and a half. We are also going to send something out to all the senior apartment buildings. I'm on the board of directors at St. Timothy Manor and St. Timothy Park, so those two as well as the three independent buildings at Jennings. So we will get the word out as best we can. Our issue with the seniors is they don't have access to computers.

**BUILDING DIRECTOR MARK MORO:** Ms. Collier, Did you say South Parkway, Alvin, Thornhurst and MLK? (Yes, sir) When I take to Mark Sikon tomorrow about Ms. Houstons' issue, I'll add that to the list.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Anybody else? Ms. Tubbs.

**JANICE TUBBS:** Janice Tubbs, representing the Building Department tonight. As my name was mentioned about calls for the property on Parkheights, dating back to 2019. And all the calls, how were they resolved when you reached out to me? (Ms. Tubbs was talking to someone in the audience)

Okay, just here to clear up the misconception that any calls that I get, I return as well as emails and any issues with that house have been addressed since 2019. Thank you and that's it.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you Ms. Tubbs. Ms. Ryan had her hand up.

**MARY RYAN:** 5014 East 114<sup>th</sup> street. About a month ago, I don't know who did it but I have 1 blue flags and yellow flags on my tree lawn. Today I have more yellow flays with orange paint all over my front lawn marking.....(Ms. Ryan, did you address this with somebody?) I called the service department. Yes, I wouldn't come up if I didn't, I know the rules. I called Jennifer and left her a message about the street lights. Nobody called me back so I drove down to the service garage and talked to them. How can they put this stuff all over my lawn, paint and flags? And also there's a screw in my tree with a tag like a dog tag. Nobody knows what that means. How can they dig up my front lawn? There's only three houses on 114<sup>th</sup> - it's me, next door and across the street. So, Mr. Sickles, why would they do that without notifying the homeowner? On the yellow tags it says the gas pipeline. So can you explain to me what all this means?

**CITY ENGINEER JIM SICKELS:** What is can pass on is if it's a Dominion or gas line project, like you're thinking it might be, it could be one or two things. It could be they are just preparing plans. A surveyor has been out and located this stuff. But it could also be some construction, if one of your neighbors called for any reason.

**MARY RYAN:** They marked with orange paint and circles and lines and flags, all over the place. But where the gas line is, I can see because I know where the gas line is. The blue means water. It says on

the those little yellow flags, the pipeline, and when they did it on McCracken, they dug up the sidewalks. I think that's what Mark told me, they're going to dig up my sidewalk and do it.

**CITY ENGINEER JIM SICKLES:** I was going to say Mark actually tends to have more information than I do. He gets what's called an ops request (OHIO UTILITY PROTECTION SERVICE). It's something that when work is going to be done, they often send out these request to anyone who has any utilities in the area. Then all those people come out and mark where the utilities are, but they don't necessarily know what the works going to be. So you as a homeowner should call and request something if you were going to plant a new tree in your front yard. So the short answer is, I don't know what is happening in your front yard but I can work with Mark Sikon in the morning and see if he has any information for us.

**MARY RYAN:** He said something like the Western Reserve did a survey of trees in our neighborhood. They have a tree in the tree lawn next door but they don't have a screw in their tree with a dog tag thing on it with a number. Why don't they notify the homeowners that they are going to dig up your sidewalk or street or whatever they're doing.

**BUILDING DIRECTOR MARK MORO:** Mr. Chairman, I'll add that to my list for Mr. Sikon, Ms. Ryan and I will give you a call. I will try to find out why they didn't notify the residents. It looks like me and Mr. Sikon have a long meeting tomorrow.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Ms. Collier. You have the floor. State you name and address, please.

**HELEN COLLIER:** 13500 Cranwood Park Blvd. I am her about Twin Lakes. Years ago, they asked the Catholic Church about building a bridge to Calvary. All of a sudden, I see the Twin Lake is filled in. and a company actually have a building in there. That's where a lot of the water goes from our properties. I want to know when did and who gave the company permission to go in there.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** If you remember back a long time ago, we they first came to us. They approached us and said that Calvary was expanding the cemetery, initially that's what we were told. We were told we would have a nice little walk area, a walkway set by the Alvin woods and came up to 131<sup>st</sup>. They actually passed out flyers for this. They were to suppose to expand the cemetery and we were supposed to have a nice little park area including a wetland area. Now when Calvary cemetery for some reason pulled out, I think one of the residents shared this information, they never informed anyone that they were going out of the deal. And this left Terrace Construction up there actually operating in that area that was supposed to have been our wetland area and our park area. I believe that I asked for the bill to add it to the lands but that was the wrong department, it was the building committee department that I specified that we wanted to hold a meeting. But what they are doing up there, this operation now has become absolutely ridiculous. And I believe, Mayor, you had a conversation recently that we need to look into that process. We even had somebody from the park area spoke to us one time at the meeting. They told us we are going have something like Mills Creek, and somehow along the line, you had Terrace Construction get their hands on it. They started an operating process over there, and that's what I brought to your attention. I said I wanted to take it to the building committee and find out how they are operating because I don't believe they are operating in accordance of what they do or operate with the proper permits.

**MAYOR MATT BURKE:** I was just going to say, we've been in a lot of discussions in the administration and anybody that's violating a zoning ordinance that is piling up stuff is going to get cited. We're in the middle of doing that right now. I would rather chase those businesses out of Garfield Heights and put something very nice into those areas. And that is what we discussed. So Ms. Kuban, go ahead.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:** Mrs. Collier. Hi. We discussed that this morning when we had our stakeholders meeting with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission about that. Just for people who are not familiar with the property, it was a quarry and it was mined. It spring fed and we did over the years, I don't know the dates or years, but there were some accidents there where kids went swimming and they got caught under a ledge (and cables) and drowned. So part of the thought with the plan, was to fill it in for safety, for everyone, formerly our service garage was over there, and Calvary Catholic Cemetery wanted to have a road which you can sort of see, they're laying out. It's owned by Calvary cemetery, from 131<sup>st</sup> street up to Calvary cemetery, as a secondary route. And we did discuss this today in the original plan, how to link by Cranwood Park Boulevard and Forrestdale Park, across the street through that area. There's a railroad track there, so the question is, how do you safely create a

trail across Broadway and the railroad. I bought that up to the Planning Commission today, how to link different recreation areas and get to Garfield reservation, so we are addressing that.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you Ms. Kuban. Anybody else wishing to speak? If there being none, we'll go into miscellaneous business. (Can we have a break for five minutes?) We have to make a motion for a break. I would like to make a motion that we break for five minutes so council can use the restroom. (Motion was seconded). Jennifer, would you take a roll call starting with myself?

Yes: Nenadovich, Johnson, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue (Vaughn absent)

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Motion passes, council will take a five minute break.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Will council and directors please take your seats. Mr. Riley, we have to make a motion to convene again, correct? (You can just convene) Ok, we're going into miscellaneous business. We'll tart off with Clmn Dudley.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** First of all, I want to congratulate our new officer, our four legged friend, Echo, and welcome him to Garfield Heights Police Department. I want to congratulate Chief Kaye on his promotion to the Garfield Heights Chief of Police. I also want to put out to the people that when you come and set up to do things in Garfield Heights, just because there is a lot there, do not assume you can do what you want to do on that lot. What happened this week, I won't go into detail but on 131<sup>st</sup>, we had this lady set up a shop on the corner. She set using some explicit toys, should we say, lined up on the table where everybody could see. Then she put a little kid bouncy ball house in the back with children walking by the table to get to the bouncy bounce. It was brought to my attention, I did go right there. Cars were stopping while the light was green. So they were really looking. I did approach the lady and told her that she needed a permit. He said it's okay for her children to look at stuff like that. Well fine, I said, why don't you take it home and let your children look at it because I don't want my grandkids or the people in the community or their daughters looking at stuff like that. She did come down to the building department. The building department did explain to her that she could not be operating because that area was not zoned to do outdoor sales. People have to understand, you cannot use these lots for stuff like that or to park your vehicles. Those city lots, you can not put vehicles up in the lots. We have one incident where an individual had so many cars, which I have a picture of, it was really a car lot he was trying to run from this one particular lot. But I'm glad I did approach him because he was getting ready to trim the lot up. He had a landscaper pull up and they were going to trim the bushes, the grass and everything. I said no, because the city would do it and they did come and do it. You cannot do what you want to do on city lots just because it sits next door to you and your house. Also I want to mention that elections are coming up next month, and we still got a distance. I am still trying to work this out. I believe by next year when the next person takes over, they are actually going to have a site that we are working on, by November, that will allow us to vote back in Ward one because that's a big journey to make. I want to let people know if you live in Ward one, I'm not going to take you to the grocery store but I will drive you over there for you to vote. Your voting is important to me in August, you call me up, I got myself and a couple other people, we will take you over to vote and we will bring you back to your home. I want you to vote. When they start breaking these areas down, to me it's just a deterrent to have less people show up. We want to show up strong. We got some big races coming up this year. As you're well aware, I will not be running for my seat in council. The reason why I didn't take the seat in council in November, I'm most likely going to temporary return to public employment until I go do something else. Under section nine and eleven, I'll be prohibited from sitting in the seat.

We want you to show up for the races in August, I want you to show up for the races in September and to come out in November. I don't want you to have an excuse. If you don't want my ride, vote absentee, but vote. If you forget to vote absentee, and you don't get your form, you call me and we're going to get somebody to come out and pick you up. That's one of the most important things we got going on, vote people for this year.



If you live on MLK, I know that we have an issue with the lights, it has been turned over to First Energy manger and they are going to get somebody out to fix that. Its pitch black down there and neighbors brought it to my attention.

We got to realize that with these coming elections, we have a lot of conversations going on. We want to clear misinformation. I don't want you to be discourage by that as a reason not to show up. Voting is important.

I want to thank also, most importantly, Smart Academy. If you're not familiar with Smart Academy, it's up there on Cranwood Park Drive. They are the ones that organized the group of people and went down to clean up at Cranwood Park Ballpark on 131<sup>st</sup>. They did a great job. I want to thank Dr. Aikens and the rest of them for coming out and doing the work they done. That's what it is all about, coming out and taking care of business, helping the community where you reside at or work at. I appreciate everyone coming out tonight and bringing up your issues and your concerns because it does help the community. We have issues in Ward one that we are addressing, we got to work a little more. Last year is no excuse, it set a lot of people back. The pandemic set us back tremendously. We couldn't hold no meeting, and we always had town hall meetings, we couldn't have no town hall meetings. Last year, you couldn't pass out papers. CDC didn't want you passing out papers that you were touching and putting in people's boxes. You were restricted on some issues and making contact. This is a new year, you get an opportunity to communicate with each other, getting a chance to see your family and grandchildren and at the end of the day, you got to care about each other. Sometimes you have to put the politics to the side, and let people know you care about them. And that concludes what I have for tonight, Mr. Chairman.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you, Clmn Dudley. Clmn Donahue

**CLMN DONAHUE:** Clmn Dudley says it all. I can never say anything else. Thank you for coming out and please be safe and try to stay dry.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Thank you, Clmn Johnson.

**CLMN JOHNSON:** No, I'll pass

**CLMN BLAKE:** No comments tonight, Thank you.

**CLMN TAGLIARINI:** No comment tonight.

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** I would like to congratulate our new chief, our new Deputy Chief Officer Merchant, who is standing over there, our new canine unit, ECHO and want to remind everybody, like the Mayor said, Shop Garfield. Let's keep our business, let's build our business. You can say all we want, but if you don't shop them, they fold. If you don't promote the businesses, why would they stay? So we got to take care of our own. I am going to schedule a legislative meeting on 7/22 which is next Thursday at 6:00 pm to continue talking about the Community Relations Committee. I would like to make a motion to adjourn. (Seconded) Would you take a roll call please, starting with me?

YES: Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini, Dudley, Donahue

**PRESIDENT NENADOVICH:** Six to zero, one missing. Tonight's meeting is over.


(Meeting lasting 2 hours 20 minutes – adjourn 9:20 pm?)

**APPROVED:**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED from recording,**







Michael T. Nenadovich  
President of Council

Debra Sarnowski  
Clerk of Council