

**WOODMERE VILLAGE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF  
FEBRUARY 11, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Woodmere Village Regular Council Meeting of February 11, 2015 was called to order by President Benjamin I. Holbert, III at 7:12 PM

**ROLL CALL:** The Roll was called by Clerk of Council Sheryl C. Blakemore.

**Present:** Mayor Charles Smith, Council President Benjamin I, Holbert, III, Councilwoman Lisa Brockwell, Councilman Tennyson Adams, Councilwoman Jennifer Mitchell Earley, Councilwoman Glenda Todd Miller, Councilman Azaadjeet Singh, Councilman Craig Wade; Law Director Frank Consolo, Treasurer Thomas Cornhoff, Police Chief Sheila Mason, Fire Chief Johnny Brewington, Director of Public Service James A. Fisher, and Building Inspector Nino Monaco.

**Absent:** No one.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**MINUTES:**

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Singh] to **APPROVE** the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of **November 12, 2014**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 5/2 vote (Adams, Earley, Singh, Wade and Holbert voted **YES**; Brockwell and Miller **ABSTAINED**.)

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Brockwell] to **APPROVE** the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of **December 10, 2014**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 6/1 vote ( Adams, Brockwell, Earley, Singh, Holbert and Wade voted **YES**; Miller **ABSTAINED**.)

A **MOTION** was made [Miller, Brockwell] to **APPROVE** the Special Council Meeting Minutes of **December 16, 2014**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 6/1 vote (Adams, Brockwell, Miller, Singh, Holbert and Wade voted **YES**; Earley **ABSTAINED**.)

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Singh] to **APPROVE** the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2015. The Motion **PASSED** by a 6/1 vote (Adams, Brockwell, Earley, Singh, Miller and Holbert voted **YES**; Wade **ABSTAINED**.)

**Councilwoman Earley, The Clerk and Members of Council expressed thanks to Hannah Lee for preparing the minutes in such an exemplary fashion during the Clerk's absence.**

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

**Yolanda Broadie** asked about the Return on Investment for **Ordinance 2014-118** and the cost for financing this Ordinance (Suite Spot to market the Village for the Republican National Convention in 2016). **The Mayor** responded that the Return on Investment was limitless. **Council President Holbert** commented that the total cost for implementing this Ordinance had not yet been determined.

**Suzanne Carle** from Suite Spot, LLC made a video presentation to highlight what some other suburban communities are doing to market themselves in preparation for the Convention. Communities are gearing up to highlight their individual amenities. It is projected that the Convention will generate 400 million dollars in revenue for the Greater Cleveland area. Beachwood and Avon have already got promotional videos that have been seen by the public. An article about Woodmere appeared in the Chagrin Valley Times.

The Republican Committee on Arrangements expects 50 people from their committee to arrive in Cleveland on March 1, 2015 to begin making plans for hotels, restaurants, meeting places, etc. Some communities have already begun to offer homes for rent during the Convention. Time is of the essence. As we (Woodmere) lose time, we lose opportunity. We want to make people aware of all that Woodmere has to offer for the Convention, but also want people to come to Woodmere long after the Convention (sustainability). **Mayor Smith** stated that we want to create a “brand” for Woodmere Village. **Councilwoman Miller** asked for some specific plans that Suite Spot has for marketing Woodmere Village. Ms. Carle mentioned the possibility of telephone pole signs, use of social media, billboard signs, and meeting with business owners to determine their financial participation. **Councilwoman Earley** suggested that we collaborate with other groups and communities in our region to best use our marketing dollars. **Councilman Singh** spoke to the fact that when you input our zip code (44122) Beachwood automatically pops up and wondered what could be done so that Woodmere appears as an option. He also stated that most of our establishments close by 9 or 10 PM and that might discourage some people from coming here in the late evening. Ms. Carle stated that a lot of downtown restaurants are already booked for the Convention and people will need somewhere else to go for meals and Woodmere is only minutes away from downtown Cleveland. Resident **Cynthia Samples** asked what does the “big piece of the pie” look like and Ms. Carle responded that Beachwood has been promoting their City for the Convention since July 9, 2014.

**PENDING LEGISLATION:**

**2014-118:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SUITE SPOT, LLC. TO PROMOTE AND MARKET THE VILLAGE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2016 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A **MOTION** was made [Brockwell, Earley] to **TABLE** this Ordinance. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

**At this time, the Confirmation Motions were presented so that those being confirmed could leave if they so desired.**

**A MOTION TO CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS OF PART-TIME FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES was PASSED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC DAVID KOWALSKI  
FIREFIGHTER/EMT CAMERON GREEN  
FIREFIGHTER/EMT KEVIN SWINEY  
FIREFIGHTER/EMT MORGAN WALKER

**A MOTION TO CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS OF PART-TIME POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL OFFICERS SUBJECT TO PASSING A PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAM was PASSED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

JACQUELINE CRUZ  
DSHAWN THOMPSON  
CHRISTOPHER DOTSON  
GARY HARRIS

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**NEW LEGISLATION:**

**2015-08:** AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF WOODMERE DURING

THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO SUBMIT TO THE COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Treasurer Cornhoff made a brief explanation of the Finance Department binders he passed out to Council and Department Heads.**

A **MOTION** was made [Brockwell, Miller] to **PASS THIS ORDINANCE BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules and the Roll Call Vote for Passage, both **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

**2015-09:** AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE WOODMERE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A **MOTION** was made [Brockwell, Earley] to **PASS THIS ORDINANCE BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules and the Roll Call Vote for Passage both **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

**2015-10:** A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONSENT TO THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO COMPLETE THE CHAGRIN BOULEVARD SIGNAL PROJECT.

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Brockwell] to **PASS THIS RESOLUTION BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules and the Roll Call Vote for Passage both **PASSED BY A 7/0** vote.

**2015-11:** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO GRANT VARIOUS RELATED PROPERTY OWNERS A VARIANCE TO THE PARKING STALL SIZE REQUIRED FOR THE CHAGRIN BRAINARD RESTAURANT PROJECT, THE CHAGRIN BRAINARD RETAIL PROJECT AND THE TRADER JOE'S PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A **MOTION** was made [Miller, Adams] to **PASS THIS RESOLUTION BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules as well as the Roll Call Vote for Passage both **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

**2015-12:** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO GRANT VARIOUS RELATED PROPERTY OWNERS A VARIANCE TO THE DRIVE AISLE WIDTH REQUIRED FOR THE CHAGRIN BRAINARD RESTAURANT PROJECT, THE CHAGRIN BRAINARD RETAIL PROJECT AND THE TRADER JOE'S PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A **MOTION** was made [Miller, Earley] to **PASS THIS RESOLUTION BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules and the Roll Call Vote for Passage both **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

**2015-13:** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO GRANT VARIOUS RELATED PROPERTY OWNERS A VARIANCE TO THE REQUIRED LANDSCAPE BUFFER FOR THE CHAGRIN BRAINARD RESTAURANT PROJECT, THE CHAGRIN BRAINARD RETAIL PROJECT AND THE TRADER JOE'S PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Adams] to **PASS THIS RESOLUTION BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules and the Roll Call Vote for Passage both **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

**2015-14:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SOFTWARE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH CITIZEN SYNC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Singh] to **PASS THIS RESOLUTION BY EMERGENCY**. The Roll Call Vote for Suspension of the Rules and the Roll Call Vote for Passage both **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO RENEW CONTRACTUAL SERVICES, IN AN AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 OR LESS **ANNUALLY**, RESPECTIVELY, WITH PAETEC AND DATA CORE CONSULTING FOR THE VILLAGE'S TELEPHONE AND INTERNET SOFTWARE AND DATA BACKUP.

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Adams] to **AMEND THIS MOTION** TO INCLUDE THE WORD "ANNUALLY. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Singh] to **PASS THE AMENDED MOTION**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

A **MOTION** was made [ Brockwell, Wade] to APPROVE THE WOODMERE VILLAGE DECEMBER 2014 EXPENDITURES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

A **MOTION** was made [Brockwell, Wade] to APPROVE THE WOODMERE VILLAGE JANUARY, 2015 EXPENDITURES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

#### **REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS** (Submitted in writing)

**Mayor Smith:** His report was submitted in writing. The Mayor has been appointed to the following positions: Vice President of the Chagrin Southeast Hazmat Response Team; reappointed to the Cuyahoga County Sports Commission as a Board Member; a member of the NOACA Policy Board; and the Red Cross Board Committee as a member from the Mayor's Association.

**Law Director Consolo:** Council will need to go into Executive Session to discuss pending legislation.

**Treasurer Cornhoff:** He submitted his written report.

**Police Chief Mason:** Her written report was submitted. Lt. Patterson appeared in a Lifetime Movie Network movie.

**Building Inspector Monaco:** His report was submitted in writing. Trader Joe's will be breaking ground soon. **Council President Holbert** asked if there was a target date for the demolition of the property at 3707 Roselawn. The **Law Director** responded that the Village had to give the tax lien owners of the property notice of the demolition,

**Clerk of Council Blakemore:** She thanked Hannah Lee for all her help while the Clerk was absent due to medical reasons and she thanked everyone for the calls, prayers and well wishes during her illness.

**Architectural Review Board:** Building Inspector Monaco stated that there have been no meetings yet. The meeting that had been scheduled had to be postponed. He expects the Board to meet within the next two weeks.

**Fire Chief Brewington:** He submitted his report in writing. He wanted the community to know that the Fire Department will make welfare checks on residents and install smoke alarms for residents for no charge as part of the Fire Department's Wellness Program. He also stated the connection between the Village Hall Building and the Fire Department has been better secured.

**Director of Public Service Fisher:** His written report was submitted.

**Planning and Zoning Representative Adams:** Things that were discussed at the Planning and Zoning Meeting were reflected in the Agenda.

**REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES:** Reports are submitted in writing.

**Finance/Grants (Brockwell):** A written report was submitted.

**Safety (Miller):** There was no meeting.

**Utilities (Adams):** Ed Hren gave a report detailing the stages of, and the schedule of, the Traffic Signal Project.

**Youth/Education (Mayor Smith):** There will be a Town Hall Meeting tomorrow at 7 PM at the Village Hall to discuss possible locations for the new Service Center. There will be a Senior Citizen Breakfast and Black History Program on February 16, 2015 at 9:30 AM.

**Legislation (Holbert):** The Legislation Committee meeting is reflected in the Agenda.

**UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:** Council President Holbert reminded the audience of the Town Hall Meeting tomorrow, February 12, 2015 at 7 PM in the Village Hall.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** (Five minute time limit)

**Michael McClain** wanted to know who to contact about the damage done to his truck by the mud and stones left in the street on Chagrin Blvd., by the contractors at Eton. **Building Inspector Monaco** said he would speak to the contractors. **Councilman Adams** questioned whether the contractors had a wash station on site to prevent mud being left in the street.

**Mrs. McClain** asked if there was any Ordinance that prevents a resident from suing the Mayor or Members of Council (no). She also asked if the Brainard Road property was still being considered as a site for the new Service Department. **Council President Holbert** invited her to attend the Town Hall Meeting tomorrow evening. She also asked if Seth Young, who lives next to the Brainard Road property was a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission (yes).

**Mrs. McClain** wondered if Mr. Young had been promised that the Service Center would not be built next to him if he served on the Planning and Zoning Commission (no). She also asked if the moderator for tomorrow's Town Hall Meeting was a resident of Woodmere. **Council President Holbert** said that the moderator was not a resident so that he could remain impartial during the Forum. **Mrs. McClain** stated that she felt that Council no longer had the best interests of the residents in mind. The McClains left while **Councilwoman Brockwell** was responding.

**Cynthia Samples** asked what Resolution 2015-14 was about. **Mayor Smith** responded that it referred to an "app" that consumers could download onto their mobile phones that would highlight points of interest in Woodmere, as well as possibly traffic or emergency notifications.

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Adams] to **RECESS TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

A **MOTION** was made [Miller, Wade] to **RECONVENE THE COUNCIL MEETING**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

A **MOTION** was made [Earley, Adams] to **APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT REACHED IN MEDIATION ON FEBRUARY 11, 2015 IN THE ERIN THOMAS LAWSUIT AS EXPLAINED BY THE LAW DIRECTOR**. The Motion **PASSED** by a 7/0 vote.

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A **MOTION** was made [Miller, Earley] to **ADJOURN THE WOODMERE VILLAGE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2015 at 9:15 PM** The Motion **PASSED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

The Woodmere Village Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2015 were approved by:

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Benjamin I. Holbert, President of Council

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Sheryl C. Blakemore, Clerk of Council

Minutes were approved on \_\_\_\_\_