

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, January 11, 2021

(Note: This meeting was conducted via Zoom due to the current Covid-19 outbreak.)

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Matt Burke.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Okay everyone, good evening and welcome to the Garfield Heights City Council Meeting for January 11, 2021. It is now 7:00 p.m. Before we begin, I would like to ask just for a moment of silence for Marlene Ziel and also Vincent Liotta, Sr. on their passing. Thank you. At this time, I'd like to have the Clerk take a roll call.

ROLL CALL: **PRESENT:** Council Members Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake, Burke, Vaughn

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record reflect that all seven Council Members are present. First order of business and we'll go in order. There's a lot of meeting minutes that we have to approve tonight. The first one being the Special Council Meeting for Wednesday, November 25, 2020. I would like to make a motion that we accept the Minutes of this meeting, as written. Do I have a second?

CLMN DONAHUE: I'll second.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by myself and seconded by Chuck Donahue to accept the Special Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, November 25, 2020 as written, will the Clerk please take a roll call.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

NAYS: Dudley

Let the record show that the Special Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, November 25, 2020 pass with 6 Yes votes and 1 No vote.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Next one is the Special Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, November 30, 2020. I'd like to make a motion that we accept the Minutes as written. Do I have a second?

CLWN DAVIS: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ms. Davis.

CLWN DAVIS: I'd like to make a motion that we hold off. I sent in an email for corrections and I didn't see a second email come back. I'm wondering maybe now something's going on with Barb's email if Clmn Blake's information didn't get to her nor Mr. Donahue's nor mine.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Okay. On the motion made by Ms. Davis to postpone this one up until we can get copies to everybody, will the Clerk take a roll call vote? We're going to postpone voting. Well, it'll be amended, but we don't know what the amendments are going to be. So let's, I'll tell you what, let's make a motion. Ms. Davis has made a motion to table this or take these particular Meeting Minutes for November 30th off the agenda for tonight and we will place it on the next meeting's agenda.

CLWN DAVIS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Clerk, please take a roll call.

AYES: Davis, Blake, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich

Okay, the Special Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, November 30th will be placed on our next Council Meeting agenda.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the city of Garfield Heights for Monday, December 14, 2020. I would like to make a motion that we accept these Minutes as written, but I understand that some of the Council Members did not receive this email. Does anyone want to make a motion to suspend these as well?

CLWN DAVIS: Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Ms. Davis.

CLWN DAVIS: I'd like to make a motion that we table these Minutes until the next meeting as well.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Motion made by Clwn Davis to table the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, December 14, 2020 and place it on the agenda for the January 25th scheduled Council Meeting. Will the clerk please take a roll call vote.

AYES: Davis, Blake, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich

By a vote of 7 Members, the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council will be suspended and placed on the legislation on the agenda for the Council Meeting on Monday, January 25th. We will vote on them then.

Next, I would like to make a motion to accept the Special Council Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, December 22nd as written. Do I have a second?

CLMN DONAHUE: I'll second that.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by myself and seconded by Clmn Donahue to accept the Special Council Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, December 22, 2020 as written, will the Clerk please take a roll call vote.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

NAYS: Dudley

Okay. Special Council Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, December 22, 2020 stand passed with 6 Yes votes and 1 No vote.

We'll move on now to the Minutes of the City Council Work Session for Tuesday, December 22, 2020. I'd like to make a motion to accept these Minutes as written. Do I have a second?

CLMN BLAKE: Second.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by myself and seconded by Clmn Blake to accept the Minutes of the City Council Work Session for the city of Garfield Heights for Tuesday, December 22, 2020 as written, will the Clerk please take a roll call vote.

CLWN DAVIS: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. I just want to ask. I'm a little confused. I thought we already voted to table the Work Session.

PRESIDENT BURKE: No, we tabled the Meeting Minutes for Monday the 30th and we tabled the Council Meeting Minutes for December 14th. This was a special session.

CLWN DAVIS: Okay, well, then, I spoke out of turn because these are the corrections that I sent that I did not get a response back to.

PRESIDENT BURKE: We are already in the middle of a vote.

CLWN DAVIS: I'm going to vote No.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Donahue, Nenadovich, Blake

NAYS: Dudley, Davis

PRESIDENT BURKE: Okay, so by a vote of 5 Yes and 2 Nays, the Minutes for the City Council Work Session for the city of Garfield Heights for Tuesday, December 22nd pass as written. That concludes all of the Special Meeting Minutes and Minutes of any other Council Meetings in the past two weeks, I believe.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: Do we have any reports coming out of committee?

CLMN BLAKE: Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes.

CLMN BLAKE: I have a report from Millette King in the Garfield Heights City School District. She is on the line. Ms. King, would you like to give the report? Or I can read it.

MS. KING: I can read it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Garfield Heights City School District held its organizational meeting this afternoon, where we elected officers and approved our meeting schedule for the year. Nichelle Daniels will serve as the President and Millette King as Vice President for 2021. Meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. with the exception of January and February due to holidays on Mondays.

A special Work Session was held immediately following the organizational meeting, where we discussed the return to school hybrid format. Students will begin transitioning back to the buildings in a 2-1-2 hybrid format beginning January 25th. Group A students will be in the classroom which will be about half of the students in a classroom. So it's K through 8 will be in the classroom Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday will be an asynchronous will be a virtual day so the teachers will have time to meet, plan, do deep cleaning of the classrooms and hold special tutoring sessions with students. Then on the Thursdays and Fridays, Group B will come into the school. So when you're not in school, you're working asynchronously at home.

On Thursday, at 6 p.m., there will be a Town Hall hosted by Superintendent Hanke and Members of the Central Office where they will talk in more detail about the return to school hybrid model. That will be at 7:00 p.m. on our YouTube channel.

Our next Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 6 p.m. and you can also view that via the School district's YouTube channel.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. King, and congratulations on the vote of Vice President and please let Ms. Daniels know we congratulate her as well.

MS. KING: I will. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Are there any other committee reports or reports coming out of committee? If there are none, we will move on to the Report of the Mayor. Mayor. Do you have a report this evening?

REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, I do have a report. I would like to start off tonight by talking. I have an email from Senator Sandra Williams on our energy bills. The email says,

"Are your energy bills too high? Do you need help paying your bills? Come get help. And it says Greetings neighbors. Please see the below invitation to my 13th Annual Energy Assistance Forum, which will be held on Saturday, January 16, 2021 from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This year's event will be by appointment only. The location will be provided after appointments are made, in order to comply with COVID-19 safety precautions. Space is limited. To schedule an appointment you can call (614) 466-4857."

This program has been a large help to many residents that are suffering, you know, through this COVID virus and getting behind on their bills. So I highly recommend if you need help to go to this forum.

Next, I want to talk a little bit on a sad note about some residents that we lost this last week. As was said earlier and I appreciate the Chairman asking for a moment of silence for Vince Liotta. Vince Liotta is a former Councilman, a city employee and a very good friend. He ran the Core Community Service Program since I became Mayor. Probably the first five, six or seven years he did it gratis. He did not get paid for it. He did it as a volunteer. Later he came on board and we paid him as a part time employee. Vince did a great job. He's going to be sorely missed and I would ask you to keep him and his family in your prayers.

I also want to mention Marlene Ziel, who was a very active and longtime resident of Garfield Heights. She was the Athletic Director's Assistant and she will really be missed. She was a great gal and she really helped every time the city needed to get information about athletics. She came to our aid and Council's and she's going to be sorely missed.

And lastly, I'd like to mention that Fred Misischia, who is a very active Garfield Heights Ward 7 resident, he also sits on the board at Marymount, lost his grandson the other night--his 19-year-old grandson--in a car accident. It's really been a sad week when you hear things like this happening and you realize that some of your problems aren't as bad as we think. So, I would ask you all to keep these three individuals in your prayers. They certainly deserve them.

Next, I want to move on and say I want to make an announcement that after discussion with my wife and my family, I've decided to retire from the Mayor's position as of February 1, 2021. I want to thank all of the Council Members that have served me in the last 11 years through support for me and their commitment to the city of Garfield Heights. I want to thank my staff and all of my employees for their dedication, hard work and loyalty. But most of all, I want to thank the residents of Garfield Heights for

allowing me to represent them for the last three terms. To dispel some rumors, I am not sick--at least not physically sick. I want everybody to know that my reason for retiring is very simple. I started working when I was 16 years old and am now 73. I just feel it's time for a break. I want to walk away--sort of fade away--off into the sunset. But I want everybody to know that it's been an honor and a privilege to serve as Mayor for my hometown, Garfield Heights, for the last 11 years. I wish you all good fortune and to the city in the future. Thank you very much for everybody's help.

I will now move on to tonight's legislation. Ordinance number 01 allows us to go out for proposals for materials and services for 2021. Ordinance number 02, we are renewing our contract with Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District for storm water prevention and management. Ordinance number 03 is an ordinance to enter into a contract on behalf of the City of Garfield Heights with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District for public education. Number 04, we're adding our Website to the posting places for the city meetings.

Resolution Number 01 is the resolution that I highly support for Vincent Liotta. Resolution Number 02 is a resolution to apply for a Community Development Supplemental Grant for the purpose of developing a trail plan at Wargo Farm. We had many meetings about this. We talked about putting developments in. We've talked about different uses for Wargo Farm in those meetings, and residents said they would like it to remain green. We are working now with Metroparks. I'm working with the Metroparks to try to make this all happen and this grant would truly help us to put some trails in. And with that, Mr. Chairman, I want to wish everybody a Happy and very healthy and prosperous New Year. And with that, you have my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mayor Collova. Does anyone have any questions for the Mayor on his report this evening? There are none.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS ON THE AGENDA:

We will move on now to Communications from Citizens on Tonight's Agenda. Is there any anyone wishing to comment specifically on tonight's ordinances and resolutions that are on the agenda?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Okay, if there are none then we will move on to tonight's Ordinances and Resolutions beginning with Ordinance number 01-2021. Will the Clerk please read the title.

ORDINANCE NO. 01-2021

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COMMISSIONER OF PURCHASES AND SUPPLIES, FINANCE DIRECTOR, THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS FOR VARIOUS MATERIALS, SERVICES AND SUPPLIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that Ordinance 01-2021 passes with 7 Yes votes.

I just got a text that Mr. Tagliarini had his hand up, although I did not see his hand up on my screen here. I would like to make a motion to give him some time to speak. Will the Clerk please take a roll call on my motion to give Mr. Tagliarini some time to speak on tonight's agenda.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

PRESIDENT BURKE: Okay, Mr. Tagliarini, if you would, please unmute and you can address Council specifically on tonight's agenda.

Frank Tagliarini. Thank you very much. My concerns are on Resolution number 02-2021. This is about the Wargo Farms property. They will be allowed to connect with the Metroparks to build through a trail system through Wargo Farms. I'm not saying it's a bad idea, but I believe Council should have a third reading on this issue, possibly a Zoom meeting so that all citizens can voice their opinions and thoughts. I know this was a big concern a year ago at the meetings that were held and decisions were really not made. Now Council is going to vote on it. Council needs to be more transparent and talk with the residents. I urge all residents to call in now to your Councilmen and light up their phones and just ask for a third reading and possible Zoom meeting in the future. You'll see that the residents are concerned. Again, I don't believe this is a bad idea. I just think that some of the issues should be discussed to all citizens. Not just all Members. Thank you very much for your time.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you Mr. Tagliarini.

ORDINANCE NO. 02-2021

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RENEW AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS WITH THE CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN THE STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that Ordinance 02-2021 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 03-2021

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS WITH THE CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PUBLIC EDUCATION REGARDING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake
PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that Ordinance 03-2021 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2021

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 113.01(a), POSTING PLACES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that Ordinance 04-2021 passes with 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2021

A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS HONORING THE MEMORY OF VINCENT R. LIOTTA AND EXTENDING SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Let the record show that under suspension of the three reading rule Resolution number 01-2021 had 7 Yes votes.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

PRESIDENT BURKE: And on its adoption, beginning with Clmn Burke. Before I vote, I just want to say thank you to Vince Liotta, Senior, for everything that he's ever done for the city of Garfield Heights. He was a lifelong resident and I got to know the man probably 10 years ago. He was just a vast amount of knowledge for me. He was very helpful to me and I pray for his family and may he rest in peace. And with this, I vote Yes.

CLMN VAUGHN: Vince will truly be missed. My sympathies go out to him and his family. What Vince did for this community--he will be very hard to replace And with that, I vote Yes.

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I vote, I'd like to give my condolences to his family. I want to say I met Vince in 2007 and had the pleasure of actually serving on Council events and I have to say he was a solid guy. He was solid as they come, you know. If he says he was going to do something, he did, he didn't shortchange you, you know, and he worked from the heart. He made a big difference during my first time on Council and I tell you, I felt real comfortable. I came in, and I was the only, like, Member of Council from that time of 2001 to 2019. But he made you feel comfortable, you know. You just got good vibes from working with him and that's what I liked. He cared about the community; he cared about people, regardless of their race, nationality, or anything like that. He was everything that a Councilperson ought to be when it came for representing the people within his Ward or any part of the community. I just want to say, it was a pleasure. I really enjoyed working with him on several events on Garfield Heights City Council. And with that, I vote Yes.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Before I vote, I would like to express my condolences to Kaye and the rest of Vince's family. Vince got me started in this some 16 years ago when he started the Block Watch movement in Garfield Heights along with Nick Liotta. He told me one day, he says (I'm thrilled) he says,

you're the next Councilman. And here I am today 12 years later. He's going to be missed, was a good friend. We had our disagreements, but I always laughed about it. Vince, rest in peace. And I vote yes.

CLWN DAVIS: Before I vote, I'm a little emotional. I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Liotta about four years ago. Though he's 30 years my senior, we actually became very good friends. To the point during the pandemic, he pulled up at my house at eight o'clock in the morning, blew his horn, rang my phone and I was sick and came to the door. I said what? Why are you outside of my house? And I go to the door and they were blowing kisses and waving, interacting with each other.

And you know what I got from the moment I decided to run for Council in 2017? Vince supported me, when many other people didn't. He showed up at my house and he fussed and cussed the whole time about everything, but he was truly a friend. We talked often; I spent a lot of time with him. I appreciate Kaye for you know, welcoming me into their family. And I'm just, it was a rough day to hear that he was gone. I appreciated being able to participate in the services last week. I'm praying for the family. He's just truly going to be missed. He was my friend. He still is my friend. That 30-year difference didn't mean a thing, and that man was full of life. He's up in heaven having him a good old time, I'm certain of that and making everybody around him happy. And with that, I vote Yes. Thank you.

CLMN BLAKE: I, too, would like to send my condolences to the Liotta family. You know, listening to some of the things that my colleagues have said it spoke to the person that he was. He was an important person in our community and he'll be missed and may he rest in peace. With that, I vote Yes.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that Resolution number 01-2021 stands adopted with 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2021

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT (CDSG) GRANT FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A TRAIL PLAN AT WARGO FARM

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Let the record show that under Title Consideration Resolution number 02-2021 had 7 Yes votes.

PRESIDENT BURKE: At this time. I'd like to make a motion to suspend the three reading rule. However, I want to caution Council to please vote the way you would normally want to vote on this. I know we've had plenty of meetings in regards to Wargo Farms. But it's my understanding that if residents want to be heard, they should be heard. So at this time, I'd like to make a motion to suspend the three reading rule. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

NAYS: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that under suspension of the three reading rule there were 7 No votes.

At this time, I'd like to make a motion to pass for a second reading. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote beginning with Clmn Burke.

Motion to PASS FOR A SECOND READING:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Let the record show that Resolution number 02-2021 will be read for a second time at our next Council Meeting on January 25, 2021.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: That concludes our Resolutions and Ordinances for this evening. We will move on now to comments by citizens. With the Clerk please read the rules.

CLERK: Comments shall be restricted to any problem a citizen has which has previously been submitted to his/her Councilperson or to the city hall department directly involved. If submission of a problem to a city hall department or a Councilperson 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 BURKE: Is there any resident that would like to address Council this evening that has spoken to their Councilman in the city? I don't see any hands up. So if there are none, we will go to Miscellaneous Business. Will the Clerk please read the rules.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

CLERK: This involves the business of Council in the legislative function; any other problems should be directly dealt with by the department involved. This area of the agenda shall be limited to legislative business, Ward business, lack of attention toward problems, etc.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Tonight, we'll begin with Clmn Dudley, Ward 1 Clmn. I'm glad to see that you are back at it and you look healthier. So you have the floor, Mr. Dudley.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman. This is the Mayor, Clmn Dudley. I don't want to interrupt you, but it's something that I have to bring to everyone's attention at this time. Is it okay if I take the floor, Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Absolutely, Mr. Collova.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Just to let you know on that second reading, tomorrow is the final day for us to turn that grant in. So with that vote, what that means is that if we do the trails will be paying for them out of our kitty and not with a grant. So I don't have a problem with that. But just so you know, at all the meetings that most of us have had, if not all of Council, it was the residents that did not want the buildings to go up. We had developers that wanted to put houses up. They didn't want that. They wanted the grass. You know they wanted to keep it green. And then the Metroparks got a hold of us because the residents reached out to Metroparks and asked Metroparks to contact us and see if there was a better way. So I just wanted to bring that to your attention that because of that vote tonight on that grant, we won't be able to get that grant, but I certainly can live with that. I just want everybody to be aware of what it was. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mayor. You have the floor, Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: Well, you know, Mayor, you know that that information you just offered was not ever shared with me. I didn't have any privilege to the information you just talked about. I didn't know nothing of that. Somehow, I might have missed it. If it was a meeting, I was missing something that was done while I was sick. I wasn't even aware of that. That part wasn't shared with me. Okay.

Well, let me go ahead and get started. And since we're on you, Mayor, I'll get you out of the way. First, you know, I want to tell you something just in case you play hooky for your last meeting. Man, you met me somewhere around 2005. I believe you were running for Council President at the time and I run for City Council. And that's how long we have known each other--for about 15 years. But once you got elected, and I got elected, you came back and you made Mayor. I'll tell you it's been a pleasure working

with you, man. I know we had some little bumps along the road, but the good times far outweigh the bad times. I mean, far away. And I'll tell you by working together I know we got a lot done in my Ward. Like in my Ward 1 was when I came in, I know what it looks like now. It wasn't just the Mayor would like you like a friend, but like on the floor, we kept it professional. But he was a friend and he was a good person, man and I appreciate the support you gave me along the road. I appreciate some of the things that we know that I have reached out for that you helped me get in and that when I needed it, you know when a thing was kind of against the wall you came through for us up here. Those times are going to be remembered. I appreciate you and knowing Jeannie and my family appreciates knowing her. So I'm going to wish you the best in your retirement and thank you for sticking out as long as you did because like I say the people don't realize it is not easy. It definitely is not easy. Like you say you spent your whole life in Garfield Heights and it's time for you to kind of get out and enjoy yourself you know. Invite us out to the ranch. But I will tell you something, man, I want you to enjoy yourself and truthfully I understand. I have no hard feelings. I understand that it's that time and so I'm going to wish you the best and wish Jeannie the best. I thank you for the years that you put in and will remember you up in my Ward because like I said you came through more times than what I expected. Sometimes you bent over late night calls that meant you had Saturday or Sunday conversations to get stuff done. I appreciate it. So with that, Mayor, I want to say thank you and you enjoy your retirement. You and Jeannie both.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Thank you, Mike.

CLMN DUDLEY: I'd like to congratulate Ms. Daniels for becoming Garfield High School Board President and Ms. King on becoming Garfield High School Board Vice President. I believe both of them are my two hard working individuals and they only want to serve in the best interest of Garfield Heights City Schools, and keep it moving forward and making it better. We appreciate that.

Also, I wanted to once again, give my condolences not just to Vince Liotta, but for everybody who lost family members. You know, we know it's been some rough roads and it's been a lot of passing and I never saw this many people, you know, pass in my life. I mean, I'm just losing track even up in my own Ward and we just see it. We have lost a lot of good people without any homecomings. So my condolences to all of their families.

I wanted to mention, too, before I forget, this coming Thursday (and I'm also going to post it) I will be on the Kimberly Brown Show. It's going to be on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. on 95.9 FM. I will be definitely on the show and everything.

Also I want to mention that we are going to (we haven't set the date) but this year we are going to do a Stop the Violence. You know we're going to have a gathering. Everything is not a protest, but it's a gathering because I don't know what people don't realize, but you have never saw as much killing. You have never saw as many people being killed. It's not just about Black or White. I mean people being killed--period. You know, we can't look at Cleveland. You can't look at Garfield. Can't look at me. Like it's everywhere. And so there's going to be a nice peaceful gathering and stuff. And we're just going to call attention to it. We will get the information posted within the next couple of days. We're looking for people to come out and just basically give your prayers. What we're going to do differently at this is we are going to actually call off the names of all the people in Garfield Heights that lost their lives through senseless violence. That's what we plan to do on this one here.

Also on Thursday, while I'm on the Kimberly Brown Show, I get to celebrate my birthday. On the 16th, I'll be celebrating our 42nd wedding anniversary. So let's keep going and pray and hope me and my wife get many more years together and everything. Once again, Mayor, you enjoy that trip. You enjoy yourself. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Everybody be safe.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Dudley. Mr. Donahue?

CLMN DONAHUE: Just a few things. Mayor, nowhere in this resolution does it say that we had this time limit on that. Our vote may have been different if we'd have known about the deadline when it had to be turned in. So I'm blaming the paperwork that came out of the law office. It's on them.

But besides that, I appreciate all you've done for the city since you've been Mayor. You've reduced our debt immensely. Whoever is taking over next, I hope they just continue that. Thank you very much for what you did.

I'd like to congratulate Ms. Daniels and Ms. King on their promotions with the School Board. Appreciate that. I'm sure you will both do very well.

And Vince Liotta's family--I can only give you my condolences. There's way too many people that have passed away around the holidays. With that, that's all I have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Mr. Donahue.

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, before Mr. Nenadovich, I would like to make a motion for us to reconsider that resolution tonight. Are we allowed to do that and can we get that passed tonight?

PRESIDENT BURKE: You know, I've never had this situation before. So you're making a motion to take Resolution number 02-2021 and place it back in tonight's agenda at this time?

CLMN VAUGHN: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Vaughn to place Resolution number 02-2021 back on the agenda at this time. Do I have a second?

CLMN DONAHUE: I'll second it.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Seconded by Clmn Chuck Donohue. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote beginning with Clmn Vaughn.

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake, Burke

Resolution 02-2021 has been placed back on the agenda at this point in time. At this time, I'd like to make a motion to waive or to suspend the three reading rule. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote beginning with Clmn Burke.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Before I vote, Mr. Chairman. Can we put it back on the floor like that? You have to go through the consider by title and all the other actions involved in passing legislation. Is there anybody from the Law Department that can answer that for us?

PRESIDENT BURKE: I believe, Mr. Nenadovich, we've already voted Yes to consider by title. What we're doing now is we're suspending the three reading rule again, as we would have had to do at our next reading.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Let the record show that under suspension of the three reading rule for the second time this evening, there were 7 Yes votes.

At this time, I'd like to make a motion to waive rule 24. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote beginning with Clmn Burke.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Let the record show that under waiver of rule 24 for Resolution number 02-2021 there were 7 Yes votes.

And on its adoption, beginning with Clmn Burke.

Before I vote, I just want to make a comment for the record. I have been to about four meetings in regards to Wargo Farms within the last year and a half, even before COVID. The majority of the residents that have spoken at those meetings were not in favor of the Wargo Farms being developed. This particular resolution in this particular grant would only have happened if the Wargo Farms were to get sold to the Metroparks. All of the residents that I have spoken to in Ward 7 have indicated that they would rather have something if it's going to be sold. They would rather have it sold to somebody like the Metroparks where they feel they can still use the property. And that was its true intent. With that, I vote Yes.

CLMN VAUGHN: This has been a big issue in Ward 7 for the past 11 years that I've been sitting on Council. As Matt stated, the residents did not want a housing track in there, they did not want any development of that type. Going in partnership with the Metroparks allows it to still be used for what it was intended to be, when purchased, for recreation, for trails, and that type of thing. With that, I vote Yes, definitely.

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I vote, like I say, we can read and see that it says about developing a trail plan, an action plan. I remember Clmn Vaughn and attending the meeting where people were adamant about not having no type of housing development up there and everything. Clmn Vaughn talks to the people that lives in this Ward. I do not live in the Ward. I'll be up that way. But he actually lives and he communicates with the people. I take his word on this here, that they will be comfortable with something like this here where the property is not being used for the development but something that they can utilize as a family. With that, I vote Yes.

CLMN DONAHUE: Before I vote, I'd just like to say honestly, I went against my better judgment in voting with everyone else, which I should not have originally, because it's my understanding that this is to apply for grant funds. This is not for the sale of the land, like we were discussing last year. So I take full responsibility for not doing what I properly felt I needed to do at that time. This is just an attempt to apply for the grant. The deadline is tomorrow. But I will say if, in fact, our Economic Development Department knew about this grant funding prior to today, it should have been submitted a while ago, I think. That's the bigger issue. Because we're now waiting to the last minute trying to you know, vote one way and then turn around and amend and vote another way. I do understand, though, that sometimes grants come through at the final hour and you just have to do what you have to do. Try to get the money. With that, I vote Yes.

CLMN NENADOVICH: I would like to say that I have attended some of the meetings that Clmn Vaughn and Clmn Burke attended. I agree with their comments that many of the residents would like the property used for recreational purposes and things like that. With that, I vote yes.
AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let the record show that Resolution number 02-2021 stands adopted with 7 Yes votes.

At this time, I would like to make a motion to reconvene Miscellaneous Business. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote?

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake

Okay. We had left off with Clmn Nenadovich. It's your turn. You have the floor, Sir.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Thank you. I would like to congratulate Ms. Daniels and Ms. King on their new endeavors, as President and Vice President of the School Board.

And, again, my condolences to Vince, and all the people that we had lost in this past few weeks. They'll be sadly missed. I can't say enough about Vince, I will stop right there.

Vic, I've said it before and I'll say it again and say it all day. You had a plan. You saw the plan through and you accomplished everything that you said you would. Plus, I respect you for that. I consider you a very good friend and a good mentor. We may not have agreed all the time, but that cat got the canary grin that you had on your face all the time told me shut up, Mike, you're going in the wrong direction. So he's got that same damn grin right now, but that's our Vic. Good luck, you and Jeannie. I know you'll be around. You're not leaving the country or anything like that. I look forward to seeing you guys a lot more. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Nenadovich. We will go to Ms. Davis.

CLWN DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, I would like to take the time to thank our Chief of Police, Mark Kaye, and Officer Mark Lee, who assisted me on Christmas Eve delivering 75 dinners to Seniors throughout the city. That was the night of the storm. And also the Jeep Group. I don't know if you guys are aware, they drive these Jeep Wranglers. So there were about 15 of them. They had Christmas lights on. People were dressed up in Santa suits and tree costumes. So we delivered the dinners. It took us to about 9:30-10:00 at night because it got really bad out there. By the time we ended, it was myself, Officer Lee and one Jeep member. We started off with 15 jeeps, one officer and me and we ended up with just the three of us, but all the Seniors got their meals. I'm very happy for the Chief's support in that.

I would also like to give wonderful congratulations to President Nichelle Daniels for the Garfield High School Board and Vice President Millette King. Congratulations, ladies. Take 2021 by storm. Do good for the kids.

I'd also like to say to our Mayor, I remember the first time I got personally acquainted with you. I walked up to introduce myself. (I told this story when I got elected.) He was sitting there looking the way he's looking now. I said, you know, I'm Shayla Davis, I just want to introduce myself. I think I announced that I was going to run for City Council. He said I only support incumbents. I said, Okay, well, you'll be supporting me next time. And then you know, he kind of chuckled and tapped me on my shoulder. He walked away and I walked off. I lost that election. And so in 2019 when I was elected to sit on the City Council, I looked down the long table. We were in City Council chambers and I said Mayor, do I now have your endorsement? I'm currently on City Council. I'm an incumbent. And he said, yes you do.

So I didn't have much time with you, but with the little that I did, I do appreciate you for the level of respect and dignity that you showed me. You and I have had some very personal conversations one on one. We've had not really screaming matches, but we kind of got out what we thought and felt a few times, but walked away respecting one another. So I do appreciate that. And anytime I've called you for any issue, you have been responsive. That's valuable to me. I remember calling you on a Saturday about a very horrible house in my Ward and I honestly did not think that you were going to show up over there. And you said, I'm heading over there. And at 10 o'clock in the morning, you were outside the house. The problem was, I gave you the wrong address. So you were outside of the wrong house, but you showed up. To me that speaks volumes about you know, character and your care for the city. So I do appreciate that. I wish you well in your retirement, and enjoy the good life.

I'd also like to, you know, reiterate that I'm truly going to miss my friend Vince Liotta. I am praying for Kaye and just hope it all goes well. I'm praying for everyone. This New Year has not started off as great as I would have liked and probably many others. But you know, we're going to be optimistic. We're only about 11 days in and I've heard of multiple deaths. So I'm just asking everyone to be as kind as you can to yourself and others, and just stay prayerful. People are dying, not just COVID, but a lot of other

things. And I don't know, I don't know how far we have to go in this year, but do your best to be kind to yourself and to others.

Oh, and to my son who is back at school, thank God, I was praying for him to come home, but these three weeks have been something else. He left today--him and his dog--and I'm very happy. This is his last semester in college. I can't wait for him to graduate and hopefully we'll be moving him to his own residence--he and his dog. So everyone have a wonderful night. I thank the residents for showing up and speaking. That's all I have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Davis. Mr. Blake.

CLMN BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to let everybody know that this Wednesday via Zoom, there's going to be a Community Awareness Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Our speaker will be Dave Krock with OHM Advisors. All residents are invited to call or log in. Please contact myself or Clmn Burke for information on how to access the meeting.

I would also like to congratulate Ms. Daniels and Ms. King on their becoming President and Vice President of the School Board. I know you guys will do a great job.

Mayor Collova, I've mentioned this before. We've had a lot of conversations and I have a lot of respect for you. I think, from what you've done from a fiscal standpoint in working down the amount of debt that you inherited, I can't even imagine the level of hard work that went into that. I can't imagine the stress that you and Ms. Biro felt. So with that, I know we're in a lot better place currently.

I also thank you for all the time you took to meet with me, because there were a lot of times due to my work schedule I called you at the last minute, or called Jennifer at the last minute and said hey, can I get 15 minutes with the Mayor and it turned into 45. I knew you wanted to get out of there, but you were very graceful and you always gave me the time. You were always very cordial. You helped me out probably more than you know and I truly appreciate that.

Monday, the 18th, is the holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. If you are able to do so, please take a moment to reflect on the day in his memory. I know if you take the time and look at some of the quotes and some of the things and some of the history you'll definitely get something out of it. I do my best to fall back and look at history when I get the chance. You know, just please take a moment if you can. That's all I have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Blake. I, too would like to congratulate Nichelle Daniels and Millette King, President and Vice President of the School Board. I know from personal experience what it's like to have to run meetings and be the president of the whole organization. I can tell you that it has its moments where it's very rewarding. But it also has its moments where it's very frustrating and has its moments where you have your aha moments. So I congratulate you both and I wish you the best of luck on that. I know you'll do a fine job. Certainly both of you. I've talked to both of you. You are just quality individuals. I can tell you, I consider Nichelle Daniels a friend. I've actually hired her children to help me at work at my job, and I could not find better well-behaved children. They were just awesome. The only words I can put is that they're awesome. And so congratulations.

I also would like to reiterate my condolences for the family of Marlene Ziel. You know, I remember Marlene when my son played football, actually, I remember her. I was kind of shocked when I heard that she passed. So I offer my condolences to her family.

Mr. Liotta, I think you can honestly say that when God made Vince Liotta, Senior, he broke the mold after that, because I don't think you will ever find a person of his character again. He was fun to be around. He was. He did have his comments, but you know, he had a lot of times where he was serious and you

just knew where you stood with Vince. And I, you know, I went to school with his son, and I think his daughter, and I see where they get it from, you know, I see where they where they get it from.

I also wanted to make an announcement that in this week's Neighborhood News, you'll see where we put an announcement out in regards to Chapter 136, the formation of the Public Relations Committee that we've been debating on for the last few months in the past. Currently, in speaking with the Mayor, there are three applicants. We felt that, you know, that was kind of positive, considering we really hadn't made an announcement for people to apply. So the announcement goes out this Wednesday that if anyone who is wishing to volunteer and apply to be on the Public Relations Committee, as outlined in Chapter 136 of our Charter, they need to submit their resume along with their letter of intent no later than February 28, 2021 because I would like to start the interview process in the month of March. So with that, I wanted to make sure that I put that out there because I feel sometimes, you know, we have so many things on our agendas that we don't get them all down. I don't want to leave that behind.

Mayor Collova, there are so many times that I remember having conversations with you. I can honestly say I remember the very first time or you know, when you ran for office, the first time you ran, I had no idea who you were. I had never met you and subsequently I had not voted for you because I didn't know who you were. But then when I ran for office the first time, I remember you given me some strong words of encouragement because I stood up in front of Council and it took a lot for me to stand up in front of Council. And I stood up for something that I believed was good for the community. And I soon learned that a lot of the people that were my neighbors did not support the sign that I thought was a good idea. And it was one of those moments where you say wow, I hope I didn't just step on my feet here. And Mayor Collova pulls me to the side and he says, you know, I admire you because you took a stand on something even though you knew it wasn't the popular thing to do. You knew it wasn't something that was popular, but you knew that it was good for the city of Garfield Heights and you took a stand on it. That's commendable. I've always kept those words in the back of my mind.

And I have to say that, you know, just getting to know you over the last 10 years that I've been active in the city has been great. It's been great to know you. You're a great man. I certainly commend you for your lifelong dedication to the city of Garfield Heights. Because I know it hasn't just been all about these last three terms as Mayor. You have always been involved in the city, and you were President of Council. In the past, you were involved in the Garfield Heights Baseball League. I know how much of a headache that was because I also headed that baseball league. So I would just like to say thank you, to you, thank you for building a solid future for our foundation for a solid future for our city. I wish you and Jeannie the best, and I wish your family the best. I hope you enjoy your retirement. I hope you get to Italy and Sicily like you talked about when we spoke. So I really do wish you the best. I thank you for everything that you've done for the city of Garfield Heights.

As Council President, it is my duty and my responsibility, as outlined by the City Charter, that I move in to that office as Interim Mayor. I've accepted this great responsibility and I'm committed to working hard. I'm committed to the hard work to make our community safe, to make it strong and to make it equitable. As Mayor, I'm calling on all of our public servants. I don't care if you're a City Council person, a Judge, Council President, School Board Member, School Board President--we need to work together to make our city strong. This city is only going to be as strong as its leadership will allow. There's a lot of responsibility and I assure you that we need to work. I assure you that my commitment to my hometown will not wither. We all need to work together to do what's best for our residents. And we need to put aside some of the petty differences that we have and work for what's better for the city of Garfield Heights, the residents. Again, Mayor Collova, I thank you for everything that you've done for this city. I pray that as we move forward, that we will be prosperous and utilize the tools that you've built for us. That's all I have. Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Mayor, how much time do I have? Are you already tuned into the game? There is a Buckeyes game on. I know, I know I am just playing with him. Mayor

Collova, you have been a true friend. You have helped me in these past 11 years as a Councilman. As a fellow human being. You have been outright helpful to my family in times of need. You've done many great things for the residents of Garfield Heights, and you have always put the community forward. You are truly going to be missed. Still look forward to our breakfasts up at L.A. Pete's every Wednesday, I hope you'll still come and bring your credit card, please and sit down and talk. All we want is for your friendship to continue as you have mentored many of us these past 11 years.

The School Board, I'd like to wish Ms. Daniels and Ms. King, good luck. It's not easy running a School Board, not in today's society. If there's anything we can do to help you, please reach out.

To the Liotta family, the Ziel family, to Fred's family, and we lost a great resident last week in Ward 7. Tom Dowd will be laid to rest tomorrow. We've lost so many. My prayers and my thoughts are with all of you. May they all rest in peace.

As many of you know, we've had many shootings going on in Ward 7 the past few weeks. I have talked with the Police Chief, the Mayor and I've mentioned this to you as well. I'm going to be looking for some money to get some surveillance cameras up there. It's a very busy intersection. I think it'd be very important, I realized there might be some issues with Wi Fi, but I think there's some other types of cameras we can be looking at. In the next few months, I'm going to be needing some help on this and I encourage all of Council to go along with this.

I am going to be also planning a Day of Prayer in the early spring. This country right now is in turmoil. Our city has had its issues, our State, the pandemic, our country. I think the best thing we can do is come together in prayer for all. So in the next few months, I'll be reaching out to Members of Council, members of the community to plan a day of prayer, where we can really lift our voices so that they can be heard.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everybody in the city, on Council, Mayor, Jeannie, everybody, for your support these past few months. As many of you know, my wife was sick. She's on the mend. She's getting stronger each day and that's all we can ask. Your support shows what a great community Garfield Heights is and I hope this continues for days to come. Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: I understand there's a football game on and I'm going to.

PRESIDENT BURKE: That was last night.

CLMN VAUGHN: Well, there's one tonight, too. With that, Go Buckeyes and I make a motion that we adjourn.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Vaughn to adjourn tonight's meeting and seconded by myself. Will the Clerk please take a roll call vote.

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Davis, Blake, Burke

Let the record show that at 8:24 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2021 that the Council Meeting for the city of Garfield Heights is now adjourned. Go Buckeyes. Good night, everyone.

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Matt Burke, President of Council

Barbara Molin, Clerk of Council