

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

**SPECIAL** COUNCIL MEETING HELD September 4, 2018

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This **SPECIAL** Council Meeting was called to order by Council President Anthony D. Biasiotta at 6:49 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present and accounted for were Mayor Dell'Aquila, Director of Law Pignatiello, Director of Finance Herwick, Councilwoman-at-Large Kelly, Councilwoman-at-Large Stager, Ward 1 Councilman Biasiotta, Ward 2 Councilman Wrobel, Ward 3 Councilman Snitzky, Ward 4 Councilman Greenwald, Director of Public Service and Properties Johnson, Building Commissioner Vittardi, and Engineer Collins. Absentee was Councilman-at-Large Elliott.

## **Motion to Excuse Absence**

**MOTION** by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Stager, to excuse the absence of Councilman-at-Large Elliott from tonight's Council Meeting.  
**Council President Biasiotta** stated that Councilman Elliott was out-of-town and unable to attend the meeting this evening.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Mr. Wrobel, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to accept the Consent Agenda of September 4, 2018, as printed, if there is no division of the question.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

## **OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE ON LEGISLATION ONLY**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Amended Ordinance No. 84-2018** – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, A CERTAIN CHARTER AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE X OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING ARTICLE III, THE COUNCIL, SECTION 1, COMPOSITION AND TERM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD** September 4, 2018

---

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to read Amended Ordinance No. 84-2018 by title only for its third and final reading.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**  
Amended Ordinance No. 84-2018 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 84-2018 as an emergency measure.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 84-2018 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Amended Ordinance No. 116-2018** – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, A CERTAIN CHARTER AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE X OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING ARTICLE III, THE COUNCIL, SECTION 3, QUALIFICATIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**MOTION** by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Wrobel, to read Amended Ordinance No. 116-2018 by title only for its second and final reading.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**  
Amended Ordinance No. 116-2018 was read by full title only for its second and final reading.

**MOTION** by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Wrobel, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 116-2018 as an emergency measure.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 116-2018 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Amended Ordinance No. 117-2018** – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, A CERTAIN CHARTER AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE X OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING ARTICLE IV, THE MAYOR, SECTION 2, QUALIFICATIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**MOTION** by Ms. Stager, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to read Amended Ordinance No. 117-2018 by title only for its second and final reading.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**  
Amended Ordinance No. 117-2018 was read by full title only for its second and final reading.

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD** September 4, 2018

---

**MOTION** by Ms. Stager, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 117-2018 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 117-2018 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Ordinance No. 118-2018** – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, A CERTAIN CHARTER AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE X OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING ARTICLE V, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, SECTION 2, DIRECTOR OF LAW; TERM; VACANCY; REMOVAL; DUTIES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to read Ordinance No. 118-2018 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance No. 118-2018 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to pass Ordinance No. 118-2018 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 118-2018 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

## **OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**MOTION** by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to approve an additional 1.5 hours for our Council Typist for the pay period ending September 1, 2018.

**Council President Biasiotta** stated:

“We have been sending out letters for Zoning and Planning Commission and a number of large projects.....KMart District, Recreation Center Development Area, etc., etc. We have had a heavier work load than normal. So, I ask Council to approve the additional 1.5 hours.”

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

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---

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Mr. Wrobel** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Mr. Snitzky** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Mr. Greenwald** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Ms. Stager** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Ms. Kelly** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Mr. Elliott** was not present.

**Director of Finance Herwick** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Building Commissioner Vittardi** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Engineer Collins** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Director of Public Service and Properties Johnson** had no miscellaneous comments.

## **Mayor Dell'Aquila:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Just very briefly.

I am very pleased to inform Council that we are progressing on the work on the Calvin Park fields baseball diamonds. We have another meeting scheduled for tomorrow with the team who is focused on improving the drainage and the field conditions there. We are actively seeking and being very successful at obtaining some donations of materials, equipment and personnel. I was just informed that today all the drainage pipe that has been donated has been delivered to the City and is now in storage at the Calvin yard. We are hoping that we are going to be seeing some activity there relatively soon. We are progressing, and tomorrow will be a very important meeting. Thank you.

**Law Director Pignatiello** had no miscellaneous comments.

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

*SPECIAL* COUNCIL MEETING HELD September 4, 2018

---

## **Council President Biasiotta:**

I am contemplating.

You see certain events on Social Media -- and I'll be straight -- perpetuated by former Council members, former colleagues of mine that I worked closely with, and I think we got some things accomplished together -- they serve no purpose anymore. None! I'm giving it bluntly. They stoop to new levels talking about personal attacks. Citizens don't want that. Every member up here has been a victim of it -- I most recently. I am going to rise above it and not address it specifically. But the residents don't want that -- they want to see progress.

When they see progress, people can't let it be and say '*Hey, let's explore this idea and maybe it will be good*'. You know, one thing I talk about on my first Council term, I'd say, '*Hey, we tried it one way, let's try it another*'. If some of the things weren't popular, but if there was a shred that things could be better, a shred that things could be better for Seven Hills, I gave it a shot. You don't see that at all. And, it's very, very difficult. My philosophy all along has been to try to do good things for the City. Work hard. Hopefully that is evident. Let the chips fall where they may -- and not use the dais to campaign or even self-promote. I don't do that.

On occasion I have responded to a few things and have said, '*Here are some of the things we are working on.....here are some of the ideas we have with roads and some of the partnerships we have had with other Cities*'. And, even that was ridiculed. And all that was, was updating the people of things going on. Even demeanor -- beside the personal attacks, we have now seen attacks on our business partners.

There were several quotes today attributed to our business partners from Councilman Kukral. I have first-hand knowledge that virtually every one of those quotes is false. But, the only thing in his most recent quotes that are accurate is that there are more approvals needed for Rockside Road. It is about the only thing that is factual in his latest statement. Yes, there has to be a preliminary approval and there will be a final approval. There will be Public Hearings which ask for resident input. That's true.....there are more approvals needed. It is a huge project and a lot of things can change and a lot of things can go wrong and a lot of things can go right. That is why I am in daily contact with the Developers and other Partners to try and ensure that things go right and we end up with a really good thing.

It will be substantially different than what had been talked about. So, right there is the first thing that's incorrect. And, how we got to where we are today. Every comment is false. This is one of the biggest projects, maybe the biggest in the history of Seven Hills, and there is no room for false statements, rumors and innuendo.

So, if you want to talk about facts about Rockside Road, we can.

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

*SPECIAL* COUNCIL MEETING HELD September 4, 2018

---

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**Council President Biasiotta (continued):**

The fact is, we have a new Developer that has a great record of great accomplishments following through on their projects with state-of-the-art architecture. I will leave it at that. Other than that, you are going to see changes. One of the changes that I and the previous Council had on the Preliminary Development Plan, for the 50-Acre Parcel, the big Parcel, was actually.....and still the one that was in play right now.....was Senior Living to go on the most valuable land.

At the time our partners were saying that, that was the only thing that could be profitable there. At the time, all the members of the former Council voted 'yes' on this 50-acre parcel, the most prominent land in all of Seven Hills. It's okay to put Senior Living -- and the same people that I voted with, that said yes, we had to do this because it was financially the right thing to do, have been nothing but negative.....*Oh, how can you have more Senior living?*

The hypocrisy is appalling. Well, I will tell you what. Right off the bat, this is going to be one of the things that is different. On this property there will not be Senior Living! You know, I went along because this is what our Partners said at the time. We have now done research and found a partner that reports Senior Living on a 50-acre parcel is absolutely unacceptable, it's completely prime property and we could do so much more with it. That is one of the changes that I can almost guarantee. And, there are many, many more that are going to play out in time.

I, for one, am very excited to be working with Fairmont Properties. I have contacted the representatives from Kent, Ohio, and Orange Village, and they could not say enough about how these developments turned out. Aspects of these buildings, structures and architectures will eventually find themselves, if all the approvals go through in Seven Hills. There is not one negative thing that the Mayor of Orange Village said about their Development at Pinecrest and about the partnership and collaboration. She said it didn't always go easy, but there never was a surprise, and there was always collaboration, and the Fairmont Properties always listen to the people and work closely with their leaders.

I am going to leave it at that. I am a bit emotional today knowing the amount of work that I and others on Council and the Mayor have put in the last eight months to bring something we can truly be proud of on Rockside. We have a way to go, that's true. We have a lot of approvals and a lot of things can happen. But, I will not have the work degraded by absolute false rumors and innuendo.

To the residents, I urge you to speak up and ask questions of the Council and the Mayor when you read these things. And, I ask you to shun when there are personal attacks. If a former Councilman wants to go online and talk about my appearance, it's his right. I can't do anything about it.

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

*SPECIAL* COUNCIL MEETING HELD September 4, 2018

---

**Council President Biasiotta (continued):**

You can't slander a Public Official, and I'll take it because -- you know what -- I believe in it that much -- what I am doing here with the rest of Council and the Mayor and the Administration and the City of Seven Hills.

So, if you want to attack me personally, you want to tell me what I look like, thanks.....I already know it! It won't make a heck of a difference, because I am going to continue to work hard, and possibly even harder, to bring greatness to Seven Hills. So, I ask the residents of Seven Hills to repudiate this boorish behavior and put an end to it once and for all! Thank you.

There was no further business brought before Council.

**MOTION** by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Stager, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**The September 4, 2018 Special Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.**

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Anthony D. Biasiotta, President of Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol L. Sekerak, Clerk of Council

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Transcribed 9/08/18  
Lisa Plisko, Council Assistant  
(Edited C. Sekerak)