This **SPECIAL** Council Meeting was called to order by Council President Anthony D. Biasiotta at 7:47 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 Martin, Ward 3 Councilman Snitzky, Ward 4 Councilman Greenwald, Director of Public Service and Properties Johnson, and Engineer Collins. Absentees were Councilman-at-Large Elliott and Building Commissioner Houpt.

**Motion to Excuse Absence**

**MOTION** by Ms. Stager, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to excuse the absence of Councilman-at-Large Elliott from tonight’s Special Council Meeting.

**Council President Biasiotta** stated that Councilman Elliott had a prior commitment and was unable to be present this evening.

Roll Call: all yeas  **MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to Amend Agenda**

**MOTION** by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Stager, to waive the twenty-four-hour delivery requirement for:

- **Ordinance No. 176-2019** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 4000 TONS OF ROAD SALT THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) CONSORTIUM CONTRACT #018-20; AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $293,120.00 FOR SAID PURCHASE DURING THE PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 1, 2019 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2020; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

and to amend the Agenda by entering Ordinance No. 176-2019 onto the agenda as Item No. D14, as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yeas  **MOTION CARRIED**

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

There were no questions or comments from the audience.
ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance No. 145-2019 – AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE CONSORTIUM BID OF PORTS PETROLEUM TO BE THE BEST CONSORTIUM BID THEREFORE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ULTRA LOW SULFUR #2 DIESEL FUEL AT 2.2437 PER GALLON, TO BE USED BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, AND THE CITY HALL GENERATOR; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $30,000.00 FOR SAID PURCHASE.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to read Ordinance No. 145-2019 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 145-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to pass Ordinance No. 145-2019.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 145-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 146-2019 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH SIGNAL SERVICE COMPANY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND APPROPRIATING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $6,000.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

MOTION by Ms. Stager, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to read Ordinance No. 146-2019 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 146-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Ms. Stager, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to pass Ordinance No. 146-2019.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 146-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 151-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1125.07, CONSTRUCTION FEE SCHEDULE, AS CONTAINED IN TITLE THREE, LOCAL BUILDING PROVISIONS, OF PART ELEVEN, BUILDING CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MODIFYING CHAPTER 1125, PLANS, PERMITS, FEES.
MOTION by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to read Ordinance No. 151-2019 by title only for its third and final reading. Roll Call: all yea. MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 151-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to pass Ordinance No. 151-2019. Roll Call: all yea. MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 151-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

MOTION by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to further amend Amended Ordinance No. 153-2019 as follows:

1. On Page 2, under Section 145.01, add a new Subsection (e), which shall read, “When an expenditure other than for the acquisition of real estate, the discharge of non-contractual claims, personal services, or for the product or services of public utilities, that exceeds $25,000.00, the expenditure shall only be made by written approval by the majority of the Finance Committee or the Mayor”; and

2. By adding the words “and declaring an emergency” to the title and by adding the emergency provision to Section 5, due to timing.

Council President Biasiotta stated, “Let the record state, Ordinance No. 153-2019 has been further amended to add the emergency clause and the language of new Subsection (e).” Roll Call: all yea. MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 153-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 145.01, EXPENDITURES FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS, AND REPEAL SECTION 145.02, ADVERTISING FOR EXPENDITURES EXCEEDING $25,000.00, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 145, METHODS OF PURCHASES, OF TITLE FIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to read Amended Ordinance No. 153-2019 by title only for its third and final reading. Roll Call: all yea. MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 153-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Biasiotta, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 153-2019 as an emergency measure. Roll Call: all yea. MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 153-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.
Amended Ordinance No. 154-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 107.04, REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF COUNCIL, AND AMEND SECTION 107.05, REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 107, PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC MEETINGS, OF TITLE ONE, GENERAL PROVISIONS, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF COUNCIL AND REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND THEREAFTER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to read Amended Ordinance No. 154-2019 by title only for its third and final reading.
Roll Call: all yea MOTION CARRIED
Amended Ordinance No. 154-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Greenwald, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 154-2019 as an emergency measure.
Roll Call: all yea MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 154-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Amended Ordinance No. 155-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 121.09, RULES OF COUNCIL, RULE 1, MEETINGS, (a), REGULAR MEETINGS, AS CONTAINED IN SECTION 121.09, THE RULES OF COUNCIL, OF CHAPTER 121, COUNCIL, OF TITLE THREE, LEGISLATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE MEETING SCHEDULE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Ms. Stager, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to read Amended Ordinance No. 155-2019 by title only for its third and final reading.
Roll Call: all yea MOTION CARRIED
Amended Ordinance No. 155-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Ms. Stager, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 155-2019 as an emergency measure.
Roll Call: all yea MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 155-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.
Amended Ordinance No. 156-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 107.08(b), AUDIENCE/RESIDENTS, OF SECTION 107.08, PUBLIC MEETING DECORUM, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 107, PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC MEETINGS, OF TITLE ONE, GENERAL PROVISIONS, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING AUDIENCE/RESIDENTS PARTICIPATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Mr. Martin, to read Amended Ordinance No. 156-2019 by title only for its third and final reading. Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED Amended Ordinance No. 156-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Mr. Martin, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 156-2019 as an emergency measure.

Council President Biasiotta stated:

"Like I do with most things, significant due diligence, seven communities here in Ohio, I looked at all of them, and 100%, all have the same provisions that we are talking about in Amended Ordinance No. 156-2019 and Amended Ordinance No. 157-2019. Further, these items that I will be entering into the record further document that Seven Hills has the most progressive, liberal policy when it comes to comments. We have miscellaneous comments, we have a rule where comments are allowed at every meeting. Many communities do not allow comments at work sessions or committee meetings -- we do. Most of these cities that I am entering into the record do not allow miscellaneous at Council Meetings or they require twenty-four-hour notice for miscellaneous comment. Seven Hills allows miscellaneous comment. So, no way are we limiting our free speech. We are still at the forefront of having the most liberal public policies for comments. I am going to give these to the Clerk for entering them into the record."

The documents referenced by Council President Biasiotta, consisting of seven pages, have been attached and appended to these minutes in their entirety as an exhibit.

Ms. Kelly stated:

"With this Amended Ordinance No. 156-2019 -- I do not support. And, my comments will be the same for Amended Ordinance No. 157-2019. I understand the timing of it. However, I do believe that......I don’t support limiting our residents’ time to speak with us. I value what they have to say. Some residents takes a little longer to get started than others. It may be that some are a little slow out of the gate, and I value what the residents have to say. Sometimes it is hard to sit here and hear things that may be unpleasant, but that is part of the job. That is what you sign up for."
Ms. Kelly continued:
“Sometimes they are repetitive, redundant -- but it goes with the territory. At the end of the day, our residents are the ones who put us in these seats. So, I am here to hear whatever they have to say. So, unfortunately, I do not support Ordinance No. 156-2019.”

Council President Biasiotta stated:
“I would like to add to my comments. Having a three-minute rule does not limit indefinitely. It has its discretion for Council to extend. So, if a resident is making a good point, it can be extended by rule. That is in the rules that you can have a vote and that person can be extended. Further, a three-minute rule, and this is why virtually every surrounding community has this, ensures equal rights at the meeting. As I campaigned throughout the City, I asked a number of people who used to attend these meetings -- they used to be full. I got two answers, and the large answer, and it was a good one, was they were really comfortable with how things were being run. I will give that as a group compliment. But, the second answer was that they felt the meetings were overtaken by people or an individual whose views did not reflect theirs. So, having a three-minute rule with the provision to extend if a good point is being made, that ensures that all residents are heard equally and fairly, in my opinion, and the opinion of everyone in the surrounding communities.”

Mayor Dell’Aquila stated:
“I would just add, briefly. These are business meetings of the City. These are no: open forums or town hall meetings. We certainly do want to hear from our constituents and share with them the reasons we are conducting ourselves in certain ways and making certain decisions. We value their input; however, because these are business meetings, they are not necessarily subject to the same constitutional parameters that one might have on the street or other public forum. So, for example, Ohio Supreme Court, Federal Courts, and Courts of Appeal in the State of Ohio, on any number of occasions, determine that Council Public Meetings including Council may invite public comment during its meeting but are not necessarily acquired to do so. The only limitation is that once that invitation is made, that the members of the audience who seek to participate are treated equally and fairly with all others. So, this is not a free speech issue -- rather an issue that the Courts have already determined to be a matter of conducting orderly business proceedings on behalf of our residents, which I believe as important as listening to them and what they have to say. I also want to remind everyone that we do invite communications from our residents in written form. I think each of us does maintain an opportunity for our constituents to reach out to us independent doing so exclusively at our business meeting.”
Ms. Kelly stated:

"In response to your comment and the Mayor’s in regard to our residents being able to speak equally and fairly within three minutes, I think it is placing an undue burden on the future Council to sit here and subjectively decide whether or not a resident gets to speak longer than another. I do not agree with that. I think it is a mistake. By doing that, it is not fair -- that is not fair. I am sorry."

Council President Biasiotta stated:

"Your opinion is respected and duly entered. In terms of undue burden, there is no burden being asked upon Council that is not asked upon. Every other Council that I had entered into the record. Why would we undo Seven Hills Council and not undo to the Councils of Parma, Independence, and other surrounding neighbors. It does not seem appropriate to me. This is an almost standard rule for all Councils. So, there is no undue burden on the future Council in Seven Hills -- in my opinion."

Mr. Martin stated:

"I fully support the legislation as presented. I think it provides a neat and orderly methodology for our audiences to engage. As the Mayor indicated previously, there are multiple ways of engaging your Councilpersons and Administration in written and oral form. When it is an oral form, in a form of a group setting, the expectation should be orderly, and it should be limited in such a manner from a time standpoint that it does not become repetitive or dominating for any other purpose other than to be aggressive. So, I believe the three-minute rule has been shown and demonstrated in more areas than just here in Northeast Ohio to be an effective tool, and allows the audience to know that there are expectations on them being prepared to speak on the topic which they wish to speak on. Speak clearly, speak passionately, and allow your neighbor to speak again as well. So, I fully support it."

Roll Call: Kelly, nay; Stager, yea; Greenwald, yea; Snitzky, yea; Martin, yea; Biasiotta, yea.

5 yea, 1 nay

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 156-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Amended Ordinance No. 157-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 121.09, RULES OF COUNCIL, RULE 26, DECORUM, (b), AUDIENCE/RESIDENTS, AS CONTAINED IN SECTION 121.09, THE RULES OF COUNCIL, OF CHAPTER 121, COUNCIL, OF TITLE THREE, LEGISLATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING AUDIENCE/RESIDENTS PARTICIPATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
City of Seven Hills
Record of Minutes of

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD December 3, 2019

MOTION by Mr. Greenwald, seconded by Ms. Stager, to read Amended Ordinance No. 157-2019 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 157-2019 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Greenwald, seconded by Ms. Stager, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 157-2019 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: Kelly, nay; Stager, yea; Greenwald, yea; Snitzky, yea; Martin, yea; Biasiotta, yea.

5 yea, 1 nay

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 157-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 171-2019 — AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COVERALL NORTH AMERICA, INC., OF VALLEY VIEW, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION AND FITNESS COMPLEX FROM JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $19,104.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 171-2019 was read by full title only for its second reading.

Ordinance No. 172-2019 — AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CONTINENTAL FIRE & SECURITY INC., OF INDEPENDENCE, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE FOR THE FIRE AND SPRINKLER ALARM SYSTEMS AT THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER FOR ONE YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $2,402.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 172-2019 was read by full title only for its second reading.

Ordinance No. 173-2019 — AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH DALENE M. PRIDE, AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CONSULTANT, TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AUDIT OF CERTAIN OHIO BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES RECORDS FOR, AND ON BEHALF OF, SEVEN HILLS, CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO, FROM JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020.

Ordinance No. 173-2019 was read by full title only for its second reading.
Ordinance No. 174-2019 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH TAC COMPUTER, INC., OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, TO PROVIDE ANNUAL RMS AND HARDWARE SUPPORT, AND MDT SERVICES AND HOUSING, FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $7,500.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 174-2019 was read by full title only for its second reading.

Amended Ordinance No. 175-2019 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 121, COUNCIL, AS CONTAINED IN TITLE THREE, LEGISLATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPEALING RULE NUMBER 7, CAUCUSES, AS CONTAINED IN SECTION 121.09, RULES OF COUNCIL; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Greenwald, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to read Amended Ordinance No. 175-2019 by title only for its second and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Amended Ordinance No. 175-2019 was read by full title only for its second and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Greenwald, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 175-2019 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 175-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

Ordinance No. 176-2019 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 4000 TONS OF ROAD SALT THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) CONSORTIUM CONTRACT #018-20; AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $293,120.00 FOR SAID PURCHASE DURING THE PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 1, 2019 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2020; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Stager, to read Ordinance No. 176-2019 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance No. 176-2019 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Stager, to pass Ordinance No. 176-2019 as an emergency measure.
Council President Biasiotta stated:

“I would like to note for the record that this contract for salt is part of the ODOT Consortium. This is a contract that Council passed back in April-May of this year, 2019. Being part of the Consortium, we get the purchase power of a greater number of cities banning together. This is through the Ohio Department of Transportation. For that, I would like to state for the record that this is just for the purpose of creating a purchase requisition for our Finance Department and that no new bidding or legislation was created with Ordinance No. 176-2019. This is a formality fulfilling the contract that we entered earlier in the year.”

Roll Call: all yea  
MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 176-2019 IS DECLARED PASSED.

COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE

Bob Wrobel, 975 Winchester Oval made the following comments:

“Now that the three-minute requirement has become a law, I think it behooves us to consider publicizing this, giving instruction to people. You can do that in the newsletter, we can do that on the website. These are just my suggestions. You might want to have a preamble explaining the rationale for it. And, encouraging people to remember that it is a business meeting and we really should be concentrating on things that are business of Council, because not everything is. Thank you. That is all I have to say.”

Council President Biasiotta stated:

“Thank you for your input. All good ideas. Before I hand over the gavel, I am going to update, and it will be in the rules that are on display at every meeting. I hope the future Council President will continue that because not everyone is a regular. They will have the rule available at the door. I will state on the Agenda that it is three minutes as well as publicizing in the newsletter and stuff like that. If people come to a meeting, when they walk in the door, it will be really clear. We do not want to surprise anyone, to your point.”

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Snitzky had no miscellaneous comments.
Mr. Greenwald:

This is my official, actual last meeting. I would just like to thank all of the people of Seven Hills for allowing me to serve. That is all. Thank you.

Ms. Stager:

Once again, I echo Councilman Greenwald. Thank you very much people of Seven Hills for allowing me to serve. I thoroughly enjoyed it. I have learned a lot. Glad that I am handing it over to new people, because I firmly believe that governance needs to have new blood as well. So, congratulations.

Ms. Kelly had no miscellaneous comments.

Mr. Elliott was not present.

Mr. Martin had no miscellaneous comments.

Council President Biasiotta

I will wrap it up tonight. There is no ‘such other business’ with the final comments of this evening, December 3, 2019. For all intents and purposes this is my last meeting as Council President. I will be calling the December 10, 2019 meeting. I will approve the agenda, and I will call it to order. At that time, I will be handing over the gavel. I will miss it. I am only going down the dais a little. The first of many times I want to thank the public for putting their trust in me. It has always been humbling and gratifying at the same time. So, thank you to the public.

On a personal note, a little over or almost two and one-half years now, we were at a very, very critical time in this City. At a time when not many people wanted to serve, I will tell you that straight up. It was not an easy time to be an elected official, and I am not saying it is easy now. It certainly, in my opinion, was more difficult two and one-half years ago. We could not have made the progress in the City that we did over the last two years, with significant economic development, finishing up Hemlock, an aggressive street program, and more than I can count this evening. The most significant period of progress. I have been in this City for over fifteen years, I cannot speak past that. As long as I have been a resident in Seven Hills, an incredible number of things were accomplished in the last two years -- four of the largest projects ever are in various stages.
Council President Biasiotta continued:

We could not have done that if two people did not step up and help bring a majority to this Council. These two people are Councilwoman Stager and Councilman Greenwald. You have done a tremendous service to your City by stepping up and putting your name in the public and facing personal ridicule at times. You both stood your ground on various items and you were ostracized for that. Tonight, we had to work out an issue, and no one was ostracized. People said their mind and we moved on. That is the way a good government should work. I know the sacrifices you personally made and how hard it is to be attacked in the way you both were during the campaign, and probably even more wrongly as Elected Officials for speaking your mind and standing your ground, which every other person here is entitled to do.

So, on a personal note, I thank you for those sacrifices because it made the difference in having us have the right temperament and the right body of people to collectively succeed. There are seven Council people, a Mayor, and a Law Director -- and you are a very important part of that whole puzzle, both of you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Councilwoman Stager and Councilman Greenwald thanked Council President Biasiotta for the kind words.

There was no further business brought before Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Biasiotta, seconded by Ms. Stager, to adjourn the meeting.
Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

The December 3, 2019 Special Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

_________________________________________________________
Anthony D. Biasiotta, President of Council

Attest: ________________________________
Carol L. Sekerak, Clerk of Council

Date: ________________________________

Transcribed 12/27/19
Lisa Plisko, Council Assistant
(Editied C. Sekerak)
Public Participation at Board Meetings

The Board of Education recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

The presiding officer of each Board meeting at which public participation is permitted shall administer the rules of the Board for its conduct.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

A. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business.

B. Anyone having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Board may participate during the public portion of a meeting.

C. Attendees must register their intention to participate in the public portion of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting.

D. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation, if and when appropriate.

E. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration, unless extended by the presiding officer and must pertain to the items on the meeting agenda.

F. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless permission is granted by the presiding officer.

G. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members, or officers of the Board, individually. Once this protocol has been breached, the participant will forfeit their remaining allotted time to speak.
ARTICLE III. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Rule 11. The following shall be the Order of Business for the conduct of regular and special meetings.

1. Roll Call.

2. Public Prayer.
   A. The Mayor’s Office shall be responsible for the invitation to a person or persons to conduct a non-denominational public prayer at the start of a Regular Council Meeting.
   B. The person or persons invited to conduct a non-denominational public prayer at the start of a Regular Council Meeting shall submit the proposed prayer at least seven (7) days prior to the Regular Council Meeting.
   C. The Mayor’s Office shall establish guidelines for reviewing the proposed prayer to ensure that the proposed prayer complies with Marsh v. Chambers (1983) 463 U.S. 763, and does not advance or disparage any particular faith.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Participation.
   A. All persons wishing to address an issue shall place their name and topic on a sign-up sheet prior to the start of the meeting.
   B. A limit of three (3) minutes per individual, which may be extended at the discretion of the Mayor. Prior to meeting and public comment, individual shall state their name and address.
   C. The number of persons addressing any issue shall be limited to ten (10), which number may be changed by a majority of Council.

5. Reading and Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting (Journal).

6. Directors’ and Department Heads’ Reports.

7. Standing Committee Reports.


9. Special Committee Reports.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH

(j) Addressing Council

Regarding matters pending before Council, any person may address Council during Committee meetings for up to three (3) minutes. At Council meetings, members of the public may address Council for up to three (3) minutes; however, only with the consent of Council to the person’s request.

Regarding matters not pending before Council, any person wishing to address Council must notify the President of Council at least twelve (12) hours prior to the Council meeting at which the citizen wishes to speak, specifying the topic or topics to be discussed. The President shall consider each request and shall either (a) refer the citizen to a ward Council member or appropriate Committee or (b) instruct the Clerk of Council to notify the citizen of the appointed time at which the citizen may address Council. No presentation shall exceed five (5) minutes.
City of Canton

RULE #15. PUBLIC SPEAKS

A. The "Public Speaks" portion of the Agenda shall be dedicated to allowing the public at large to speak on issues pertaining to City business at each regular Council meeting.

B. Citizens shall be permitted to speak only one time during "Public Speaks" per week.

C. Citizens desiring to speak at "Public Speaks" shall sign up with the Clerk of Council by 6:45 p.m. on the evening of any regular Council Meeting on a first-come first-serve basis; except that persons who have spoken during any of the preceding four meetings will speak last after all other speakers. The individual shall print his/her name, home address (no business or Post Office Boxes) and specific subject matter on which he or she intends to speak. This list shall be available at all times in the Council Office. If not completed as required, the Presiding Officer will not recognize that particular speaker.

D. During "Public Speaks," each speaker shall identify him or herself by name, home address and shall state the subject matter on which he or she intends to speak. Each speaker shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes to present his or her comments. Each speaker shall direct his or her comments to the Presiding Officer.

E. A speaker shall observe all rules of decorum as prescribed in Roberts Rules of Order. No debate, disrespect or obscenities shall be tolerated. The Presiding Officer shall rule any such individual out of order.

F. The Presiding Officer shall refer all matters raised by a speaker.

G. Council Members, other elected officials and administration representatives shall not debate public speakers and shall only answer questions as directed by the Presiding Officer.

H. The total length of time that any speaker may appear before Council during any "Public Speaks" session shall be a total of 3 minutes, which shall include all of the participation by Council Members, elected officials and administration representatives.
Cincinnati, OH

2.7 Public Comments at Committee Meetings.

The Presiding Officer may grant the privilege of the floor to one or more persons for ceremonial purposes.

Members of the public are encouraged to discuss and debate relevant issues during meetings of the various Committees. Each Committee meeting will begin with a greeting by the Presiding Officer and a brief summary of the Rules of Council related to courtesy and decorum and speaking before Council. During Committee meetings, persons may be granted the privilege of the floor as follows:

(a) Persons who wish to speak on any item on a Committee agenda may be granted the privilege of the floor for three minutes, unless in the discretion of the Presiding Officer, circumstances dictate a longer or shorter period for all speakers on a particular item. The length of speaking periods for public comment must be uniform for a particular item.

Further, it is the discretion of the Presiding Officer whether persons speaking on agenda items speak before or after Committee members have had the opportunity to discuss the item. After the business portion of Committee meetings has concluded, persons who wish to speak on any issue may be granted the privilege of the floor for three minutes.

(b) At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, public comments may be limited to three persons in support and three persons in opposition of any issue. All speakers are limited to one appearance per Committee meeting.

(c) All persons who wish to speak before a Committee must complete a speaker card and file it with the Clerk of Council. Speaker cards must be completed with the speaker’s name, organization (if applicable) and subject, and submitted along with any material or information to be distributed. On the face of each completed speaker card, the Clerk of Council shall indicate the time of receipt and the order in which speaker cards are received.

2.8 Regular Meetings.

The purpose of regular Council meetings is to allow the Mayor, Members, and city officials to conduct the city's business. Persons other than the Mayor, Members, city officials, and those invited by the Presiding Officer to provide factual information strictly related to the item under consideration by the Council shall not be recognized by the Presiding Officer to speak to Council during the meeting of Council. When called to provide such information, the person(s) called shall limit his or her remarks to the provision of the information requested and shall not attempt to offer remarks that are irrelevant to the item under consideration by Council.
Rules for Speaking at Columbus City Council

Unless otherwise noted on the schedule, Columbus City Council meets each Monday beginning at 5:00 p.m. Zoning meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. Hard copies of the agendas are available in the Office of the City Clerk generally by 3:00 pm and on the City Council website generally by 4:00 pm on the Thursday prior to a Monday City Council meeting.

The following rules shall apply to the general public when they wish to speak before Council at a scheduled Council meeting:

1. Speakers slips must be filled out completely including name, address, organization represented, the ordinance number of the item to be addressed, if the individual will be speaking for or against the item, the subject if non-agenda and with any material or information to be distributed and filed with the city clerk prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day the speaker wishes to speak before the council. The council encourages individuals to submit written testimony and/or contact the appropriate committee chairperson to discuss their concerns. The council will not entertain incomplete speaker slips. Speakers slips addressing rezoning or variance requests must be submitted prior to 6:30 p.m. on the day the speaker wishes to speak before the council.

2. For regular business meetings, individuals are permitted to submit a total of two (2) speakers slips. Of the two (2) slips, one may be used to address a non-agenda matter.

   a) For agenda items, speakers must only speak to the ordinance indicated on the speaker slip submitted to the clerk. Council will entertain three (3) speakers for and three (3) speakers against any ordinance, recognizing speakers in the order the slips are received by the clerk. Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to speak.

   b) For non-agenda items there will be a limit of six (6) speakers taken in order of receipt of speaker slips with no more than three (3) speakers on any subject. Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to speak. If the subject does not concern the legislative or administrative responsibilities of city government, the president of council may refer the speaker to another public forum and/or deny the request.

3. For zoning meetings, speakers will be limited to three (3) three-minute speakers by the proponents, and three (3) three-minute speakers for the opponents for each ordinance.

4. Speakers’ subject matter will not contain obscenity, defamation or slander nor shall speakers conduct themselves in violation of the disorderly conduct or disturbing a lawful meeting provisions of Chapter 2317 of the Columbus City Codes, 1959. If the council president determines that these rules are not being followed one warning will be given. Speaker’s conduct shall be subject to the right of the council president to preserve the order and decorum of the forum. If the rules continue to be violated after one warning, the council president may revoke the individual’s speaking privileges.

5. Speaker slips shall be presented to the president of council by the city clerk in the order received.

6. Any variance or waiver of these rules shall be by a majority vote of council.
Rule 2. Meetings - Public. All Meetings of the Council or Committees thereof shall be public. Any Citizen may appear and be heard by Council during the following Legislative comment (discussion concerning any action the Council has on the agenda to vote on), Suspension of the Rules Comment (prior to taking a vote on any legislation being acted upon under Suspension of the Rules, the public who have not commented prior may do so now) and Public Comment. Any person desiring to address the Council shall first secure the permission of the Presiding officer to do so. Priority in speaking shall be given to those presenting to the Clerk of Council a written request to address the Council.

Each person addressing the Council shall rise, give their name and address in an audible tone of voice for the record and, unless further time is granted by the Council, shall limit their address to three minutes. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and not to any member thereof. No person, other than the Council and the person having the floor, shall be permitted to enter into any discussion, either directly or through a member of the Council, without the permission of the Presiding Officer. No questions shall be asked of a Councilperson except through the Presiding Officer.
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