

County Council Regular Meeting: February 11, 2020

Observers: Tessa Xuan and Debbie Andersen

This report contains member observations and selected highlights of a meeting of the Cuyahoga County Council and is not an official statement by any League of Women Voters in the county. For the official disposition of all agenda items, consult the Cuyahoga County Council website at council.cuyahogacounty.us

I. Introduction.

The meeting of the County Council was called to order by Council President Dan Brady at 5:00pm with all members of Council present. The meeting ended at 5:47pm.

II. Antecedents, Announcements and Public Comment.

During Public Comment, Warrensville Heights Mayor Bradley Sellers spoke about his city's significant loss of jobs and tax revenue that would result from Sherwin-Williams moving to new facilities in 2023. Two representatives from SEIU Local 1 spoke in opposition to the firing of janitors, mostly women and people of color, resulting from Sherwin-Williams' decision to switch to a non-union contractor for janitorial services. Miss Lu spoke about the inconsistent quality of meals, as well as drug and alcohol abuse by employees at the homeless shelter. Before the meeting adjourned, Council President Dan Brady extended an invitation to attend an Issue 33 yard sign assembly party on February 15th from 8:00am-12:00pm at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

III. Business Transacted.

* The following ordinances were adopted:

-- Clarification that any interest generated by the Opioid Mitigation Fund must go back into that Fund monthly.

-- An increase in annual funding for the Community Development Supplemental Grant Programs from \$1 million to \$1.5 million.

-- An Electronic Equipment and Communications Policy for all County employees.

-- Modifications to the Human Resources Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual for all County employees.

* Resolutions also adopted included the following

-- Confirmation of newly appointed Michael Chambers as County Fiscal Officer.

-- \$4.1 million for replacement of Mastick Road Bridge in Fairview Park.

-- The following amounts for several components of the Invest in Children Program:

\$0.8 million for expansion of the MomsFirst Program;

\$0.7 million for administration, coordination, prenatal and inter-conceptional care services to high risk families in connection with expansion of the MomsFirst Program;

\$2 million for the Bright Beginnings and Parents as Teachers Programs;

\$1.2 million for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program;

\$1.6 million for the Teacher Education & Compensation Help Program, Early Care and Education Professional Development System, and Early Care and Education Center Capacity Expansion System;

\$1 million for the Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids Program;

\$1.3 million for the Early Childhood Mental Health Program;

\$1 million for the Newborn Home Visits Program;

\$4 million for the Special Needs Child Care Program;

\$1.4 million for the Family Child Care Home Professional Development System.

* Resolutions introduced and referred to committees included the following:

-- \$1.8 million for rehabilitation of Lee Boulevard in East Cleveland.

-- Additional appropriations from the Opioid Mitigation Fund.

-- A \$14 million Special Large-Scale Leverage Incentive Grant to Sherwin-Williams Co. for the Headquarters in Cleveland and the R&D Facility in Brecksville.

-- \$1.7 million to extend contract for services at the Juvenile Court Detention Center.

-- \$1.1 million for medical services to families in the Children and Family Services Division.

* A resolution for \$3.1 million to rehab Tinkers Creek Road in Walton Hills and Maple Heights was read for the second time and will be voted on at the 2/25 meeting.