

## County Council Regular Meeting, September 15, 2020

Observer: Debbie Anderson

*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](http://council.cuyahogacounty.us).*

### **I. Introduction.**

This meeting was held by teleconference. Council President Dan Brady called it to order at 2:04 pm; it ended at 2:31 pm. All members were present, although Ms. Baker and Mr. Brady arrived a few minutes late.

### **II. Antecedents, Announcements and Public Comment.**

Members of the public can email comments to Jeanne Schmotzer, Council Clerk, before the meeting, and she will enter them into the record. There was one public comment today, which was emailed to Council members but not read aloud during the meeting.

County Executive Budish thanked Council for passing emergency legislation last month to help with the pandemic and accompanying economic crisis. He indicated that a significant portion of the county's CARES allotment has been spent. He is hoping to receive more help from Congress for lost revenues, but so far no help has been forthcoming. He would like to see 3 considerations met: 1) more money, 2) flexible use of funds for revenue replacement, and 3) more time beyond the end of this year to use the funds. Conflicting guidance has been coming from Congress, creating confusion about the use of CARES dollars.

### **III. Business Transacted:**

\* All items of significance were just introduced and referred to appropriate committees. Among the 39 resolutions introduced were the following:

- Submissions to the Clean Ohio Fund, Green Space Conservation Program, of six applications for funding of various environmental projects. The projects involved are in Middleburg Hts. Parma, Brooklyn, Cleveland, and Seven Hills.
- \$1.5 million for the Sewer Rehabilitation Project in various sewer districts around the County.
- \$16.3 million, \$2.4 million, and several more lesser bond issues were refunded at a lower interest rate for a portion of the County's outstanding capital improvement works.
- \$5.5 million to extend contracts for one year of the Propel Cuyahoga, Workforce Services Program.
- \$3.2 million to expand and extend a contract for Universal Pre-Kindergarten in the County, taking place in 36 districts, individual schools, or other learning centers. Among recipients are 3 schools in the CH-UH district, 5 in the Cleveland district, and the Lakewood City Schools.

- \$1.9 million to extend support services for the Universal Pre-K Program for one year.
- \$3.6 million in additional funding for services for single adults at the Men's Emergency Shelter.
- A \$2.2 million revenue agreement for legal services for indigent people, to be provided by the County's Public Defender.
- \$1.3 million in additional funding for a 2-year extension of the Adult Probation Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Program.

#### **IV. Notes.**

[Ed. Note: Councilman Miller informed LWV that Council meetings this month will continue remotely from home, but that they will decide from month to month whether to return to in-person sessions in the Council Chambers.]