County Council Regular (Remote) Meeting, May 26, 2020
Observer: Rebecca Parkes

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

This meeting was held by teleconference. Council president Dan Brady called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.; it ended at 3:20 p.m. Council went into a private Executive Session at 2:25 to discuss pending or imminent litigation, and returned at 3:15. All members were present, although Mr. Jones was late, arriving at 2:15 p.m.

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 submitted, by Ms. Lu, and the comment was distributed to Council, but was not read aloud during the meeting. Mr. Budish announced that the county has responded to 1,000 requests from the community for PPE (Personnel Protection Equipment) and has distributed 1,000,000 items including: 460,000 gloves; 76,000 N95 Masks; 220,000 surgical masks and 62,000 face shields.

III. Business Transacted

* The following items were passed under suspension of the rules:

-- A Resolution adopting various changes to the Cuyahoga County Non-Bargaining Classification Plan.

-- A Resolution amending the 2020/21 Biennial Operating Budget for 2020 by providing for additional fiscal appropriations from the General Fund and other funding sources.

-- The Appointment of David Merriman as Director of the Department of Health and Human Services

-- The Appointment of Jesse S. Drucker as Director of Human Resources.

-- A Resolution awarding $1.4 million to Duct Fabricators for various services and equipment related to fire and smoke dampers.

-- A Resolution awarding $5.9 million to Independence Excavating for replacement of the Memphis Road Bridge.

* Various items were introduced and referred to committees, including the following:

-- A Resolution for $23 million for the resurfacing of various roads
-- A Resolution awarding Trinity Services Group $9 million to provide jail food services thru June 2023

-- A Resolution awarding $1.6 million to CATTS Construction for the resurfacing of E. 131st st.

IV. Notes

The meeting ended with council members discussing the times their committees will meet remotely. Mr. Brady noted that the Public Works meeting on June 3rd will be of extra importance as they will be discussing $30 million in Covid-19 moneys, and he encouraged attendance to those members not on the committee.