



CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009

Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, met on the above date at 6:25 p.m.

Edward Kelley, presiding

Council Members present: Caplan, Dietrich, Evans, Kelley, Montlack, Tumeo, Wilcox

Council Members absent: None

Staff present: Carter, Czaga, Downey, Gibbon, Malone, Mannarino,
Niermann O'Neil, R. Wagner, Wong

Topic of discussion included general information pertaining to the City Manager's weekly memo. Power failure interruption at 6:45 p.m. Power restored at 7:15 p.m. and meeting resumes.

Committee of the Whole adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

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Edward Kelley, presiding

Council Members present: Caplan, Dietrich, Evans, Kelley, Montlack, Tumeo, Wilcox

Council Members absent: None

Staff present: Carter, Czaga, Downey, Gibbon, Malone, Mannarino,
Niermann O'Neil, R. Wagner, Wong

Kathleen Crowther stated, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I am the Executive Director of the Cleveland Restoration Society, 3751 Prospect Avenue, in Cleveland. We asked to just briefly say a few things, because we haven't had the opportunity to speak in front of City Council. I know your time is limited so we will not make a formal presentation. We thought it apropos to just say a few words. Before I do - I'd like to introduce Chuck Miller, who is a community advisor of ours, a resident of Cleveland Heights and I believe Chuck is Chair of the Cleveland Heights Landmark Commission and Michael Flennor who is Director of Preservation Programs for the Cleveland Restoration Society and Marjorie Kitchell who is an honorary life trustee of ours, was unable to be here at this time and my son Herbert Crowther is here. He just loves coming to public meetings.

I just wanted to thank you for your partnership with our organization. We have a little report that I hope has been circulated. It seems amazing, really to me that how time flies. In was 2001 that we just started our loan program in Cleveland Heights, through the good offices of Jim Rokakis that

helps us write down the interest rate and being somebody that grew up in University Heights and always longingly looked at the beautiful homes in Cleveland Heights, I knew it was going to be a great program and indeed it has been. I'm just so happy to say that we have booked over this period of time 116 loans, which I think is pretty darn good. You can see what our projects look like. I won't go through these, but many of them are really showstoppers along your city streets. So, we hope to - we know we will continue doing it and I guess I would say at this time in our community, retaining our historic assets and maintaining our housing stock is really critically important. We would encourage you to use our resources even more. We have an excellent staff. We have 12 staff people and I think about eight of them have Masters degrees in historic preservation. We give consultation to all manner of buildings, really as a free service to your community. In the past we have consulted with, I can think of, Beaumont School - their wall, the Carmelite Monastery, I'm sure, many other sacred landmark buildings. So, we have really advanced construction specialists. We were just at Church of the Saviour last week - where they have a very significant challenge with their slate roof. I believe we're going to be saving them tens of thousands - if not possibly, over one hundred thousand dollars on that roof. So, as a nonprofit organization, we're not bidding on a contract - we're simply trying to help people use their funds more wisely.

I would also like to mention something I didn't think of when we put this together and that is that we completed a study recently with Cleveland State University on our projects. We have found out that the people that take out our loans tend to stay in their home for a longer period of time, as compared to other data, as noted at Cleveland State University. The properties within a radius of our properties have a higher appreciation level and then when sales finally are consummated with our properties they also have a higher appreciation value. So, we ought to get all of you a copy of that study. Actually, I didn't even think of bringing it. We really believe in Cleveland Heights. We love working in Cleveland Heights and would be thrilled to answer any questions or come back at a time when you have more time for us to give a whole presentation."

Mayor Kelley commented, "Thank you. I just want to thank you for the Heritage Home Program and you mention Jim Rokakis who's always on the cutting edge with whatever we're working toward. I'm looking forward to continuing this fantastic relationship we have with you. We'll have you back in the Spring to a Committee Meeting where we can spend a little bit more time with us. I know Councilwoman Caplan wants to say to ask something."

Councilwoman Caplan remarked, "We're thrilled to work with you, but is this correct - that in the time we've worked together, that there's been a total reinvestment in Cleveland Heights alone of over nine million dollars? It really is unbelievable."

Ms. Crowther interjected, "Yes, yes, that's Cleveland Heights alone. What we do is, track our technical assistance. We always give more technical assistance than we do book actual loans, so we help people no matter what. Whether they follow through with a loan or not, and often it is a precursor to a loan. So, those are instances of technical assistance and those are conservative valuations of projects, and then the loan number, those are hard loan values."

Councilwoman Caplan commented, "That's fabulous. Thank you."

Ms. Crowther continued, "Thank you. I would love for us to do - have even better sort of publicity from the City. One thing we're really deficit on is marketing outreach. So, anything you can do through your City's systems to get the word out."

Mayor Kelley commented, "We have city systems, but if you have your card here, Lindsay Betz - not to embarrass you any more than you might already be, is our new *Sun Press* reporter, who grew

up right here in South Euclid and is back here now covering us. Maybe give her your card, maybe sometime when she has a slow week, we can finesse a story or an update out of her.”

Ms. Crowther commented, “Yes, we’re much more than a boutique operation. Historic preservation has sort of an image of being a “boutique-ey” thing. Well, you know, almost every house in Cleveland Heights is eligible for our program. So, we are experts in older and historic. People don’t think, oh, I live in a historic house. They think I’ve got a cool, old bungalow or old colonial or whatever it is. That’s a historic house to us, and by bringing out their original, beautiful features of that property, it increases market value in our communities.”

Councilman Tumeo commented, “In the interest of getting information out, let’s say that I, who am a century homeowner, would like to contact you for help. How do I do that?”

Ms. Crowther concluded, “You call our offices and our number is 426-1000 and we have people who are ready to help over the telephone and we make free site visits to any resident in Cleveland Heights, really any building in Cleveland Heights and we also have a special protocol for female heads of households and elderly people. Even if we can’t help them so easily with our loan product, we’ll try and direct them to the right place. We have a very motivated group of people to get out there and meet with people.”

Councilman Tumeo commented, “Thank you for everything that you’ve done for our community, and I also want to thank Chuck who does a great job with our Landmark Commission. They work well with our Planning Commission and Architectural Review Board and I think that’s why the character of Cleveland Heights is so outstanding. Your kind of programs and the work of citizens like Mr. Miller. Thank you.”

Mayor Kelley inquired if Chuck would like to comment.

Mr. Miller stated, “If I could just underline everything that Kathleen has said. They are such a reliable and dependable and honorable organization that people need to take advantage of this resource.”

Mayor Kelley stated, “Again, we are talking tonight about the Cleveland Restoration Society. Their phone number is 216/ 426-1000 and they’re willing, ready and able to help you do some nice and neat things with your house here in Cleveland Heights. Thank you.”

Fran Mentch stated, “1413 Lynn Park Drive. Thank you. I read this recently, this statement recently and I thought it sounded silly at first but it makes a lot of sense, the more I thought about it, the more sense it made, and that is - it’s not that people do not know, but they have not thought about it. What I’m going to talk about tonight, really does fall into that category. What I want to talk about is making Cleveland Heights a child friendly community. My concern really is that we remain competitive with our neighboring suburbs. We are in competition with them for new residents and to keep our community appealing and maintaining our quality of life. This also builds on the idea of civility. That the city has created and worked on previously, so this is sort of a building block on top of that. But, it really is the idea of making our city child friendly. From the point of view of public health, I had mentioned previously that child maltreatment data is available from the Department of Children and Family Services but NEO CANDO at Case Western Reserve University does put it in a database form and my husband and I generated the chart that is being passed around.

I did ask before the meeting started if the cameraman could focus on this closely, but Susanna

said that wasn't capable, she did not want him to do that. I don't know if you can see this or not, but essentially what it is, is a chart of child maltreatment reports, that have been determined to be indicated or substantiated, and it's the rate per 1,000 children. What we put into the chart was a comparison of the following statistics. The top one being - the green one, being the City of Cleveland. The second highest, actually is East Cleveland, although they have maintained a pretty close rate. Probably not statistically significant - the differences between the two cities.

The next line indicates the rate of maltreatment per 1,000 children for Cuyahoga County, and then the line under that is that of the City of Euclid. We see that did a dance with the City of Euclid with the numbers. The line with the numbers is in fact the line for the City of Cleveland Heights, and it does have the numbers attached to it. Underneath that, now my point in telling you this is that the cities, that I'm now going to tell you about, rank lower. They have a lower level of child maltreatment. We chose these because they are our neighboring communities. That would be Euclid, Shaker Heights, South Euclid and University Heights. Also, the balance of the county is also lower. So, what does this mean? I know statistics are statistics, but they really are only meaningful if you're the person - what you experience is only meaningful to you.

What are the numbers of these child maltreatment reports? Now the data is only available until 2006. But in 2006, there were - the rate was seven per 1,000 children, and based on my calculation of what the population of children in the City of Cleveland Heights was in 2000, that would equal approximately 84 cases. In the year 2005, that would equal 132 cases. I won't belabor the point, but I think that the chart helps and the data behind it helps to substantiate the fact that we as a community should address this as a public health concern, and even not to make it so dark and frowny is that we should become a child friendly place, the quality of life for everyone will improve.

Just as when the ADA rules came in and the curb cuts were put in and the elevators, it made everybody's life easier. People in strollers, people who are older - made everyone's life easier, more pleasant. Again, this is a focus on prevention. This does not have to do with treatment. This is an approach that has to do with prevention. I took to heart this report "*Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect in the United States - Six Experts Views*" it was published by - it's a working paper from the Rand Corporation, but it was prepared with the support of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. They asked six experts, 'If you had five million dollars to spend each year, for the next five years to prevent child abuse and neglect in the United States, how would you spend it?' They came up with really interesting ideas. Again, all having to do with public health approach, a prevention approach, not a treatment approach. I had mentioned this previously at Council, but I come a little more prepared today. I think that we would be able to implement this kind of an idea - I don't know what form it would take or should take, but we could implement this so easily and powerfully in our community because we have all the elements. We have a large number of agencies in our community already that getting funding. There are many agencies in the community that are dedicated to treating and preventing child maltreatment. They are all in place, they may or may not be working in concert, but they are in place and the monies are there.

We also have the second element. We have universities and the expertise available in those universities. We have two schools of social work and many other schools that address education. It's a very much interconnected, interdisciplinary concern. A faculty person from Cleveland State already volunteered. I talked with Mark about this, and was interested - he was going to pass it onto Nancy. We have an expert, Lisa Workman Crenshaw, volunteer, she's the faculty person in the school social work. She volunteered to come and talk to our community. We are primarily able to meet this challenge, as I say addresses this issue we all know about but we just quit thinking about, because of the resources we have in this community. There are a huge number of professionals who live in Cleveland Heights.

They have either served in some kind of capacity having to do with human services. Those that haven't worked directly with Human Services, many of them are on boards or have some kind of emotional connection with the topic. We have huge talents and energies and we have the value system in place in our community, I think to move this forward. I would hope that particularly, maybe they get leaned on too much, but those who have retired, who are human service professionals who spent a lot of their lives, sort of dealing with the treatment. I think many of them would be excited of the idea of actually doing prevention. Most human service professionals I know get very excited about prevention, instead of dealing with the aftermath. I mentioned before that there really is an aftermath, it does have implications for what goes on in schools and what goes on with criminal delinquent behavior.

We also have other resources, we have the Heights Arts community. They could be, I'm sure involved. They may even come forward to do something with public art to raise consciousness that we are a child friendly city. The churches of course, would be a natural connector. In the City of Pittsburgh, no it's mentioned in the Rand Report, they came up with a program called "*One Kind Word*" the family resources agency there in cooperation with Family Communication which is the Mr. Rogers - everybody likes Mr. Rogers right? He used to look at the camera and tell people, "Mother's and children out there struggling and remember, people can love you, exactly the way you are" but that Mr. Rogers Family Communication, they also work with Giant Eagle. They came up with a series of video tapes, it's called "*One Kind Word*" and the video tapes were produced and they were able to take them into Giant Eagle and show them to the employees there to help them intervene in the situation, which we've all seen in the grocery store, right? Kids have a melt down, anybody that has a kid - they'll have a melt down in Toys R Us, which doesn't exist anymore, or the toy section in the grocery store. This is just one idea, that's what they did in Pittsburgh. I thought it was intriguing.

Anyway, I'm hoping that we will move forward on this. I did notice in the City Council meetings, the way it was reported the last time you had a meeting, you wanted citizens to step forth and it was a time for them to take on concerns in the community and I'd be more than happy to help with it if the City can take it on and embrace the idea of becoming child friendly, that's fine. If not, if you want a citizen to do that, I'm more than happy to do that, if people want to contact me at Franmentch@yahoo.com. I do hope that this is something that we will move forward with. I think once we get beyond the - once we work on this, which we've all worked on. I'm not saying we haven't worked on it in the past, or aren't always thinking about our children and our families, but we can also move in the direction of becoming animal friendly too. Just kind of raising the consciousness of people and increasing the quality of life and the civility of our community. My neighborhood is starting a nonprofit called Severance Neighborhood Organization, we're going to embrace those two things, child friendly and an animal friendly neighborhood. I thank you for your time and if anybody wants any of the links or the charts, I'm more than happy to send them."

Mayor Kelley commented, "Thank you Fran, appreciate it. Just so I'm clear, you've not talked to any of the civility folks yet, about this? I didn't mean Nancy, but most of the civility folks - Nancy is one of the components of the civility folks. Have you talked with anybody with the civility group? John Lentz or Ron Register or any of those folks?"

Ms. Mentch concluded, "I haven't, if they would like to contact me that would be wonderful. That would be great."

REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

Mr. Downey stated, "Thank you very much, your Honor. I have no formal report this evening. Just one question. Councilman Tumeo, you were going to handle this through Public Safety and Health?"

Thank you very much your Honor, that is all I have this evening.”

REPORT OF THE FINANCE DIRECTOR/CLERK OF COUNCIL

Mr. Malone stated, “Thank you, your Honor. I need to notify Council that one (1) notice has been received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control advising that application has been made by the following: Mario’s Fish Bowl, LLC - transfer D2, D2X, D3, D3A, D6 permits, premises Mario’s Fish Bowl Bar and Grille, 3962 Mayfield Road, 44121. Your Honor, I need to make this a matter of record.”

Mayor Kelley made it a matter of record and referred it to the Public Safety and Health Committee of Council, the City Manager, and the Director of Law.

Mr. Malone concluded, “I have nothing else to report, your Honor.”

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilman Montlack stated, “Thank you, your Honor. There is no legislation tonight. I wanted to make a brief comment. Really, or several comments, that were spurred by an editorial, the lead editorial - in the Sunday, February 1st *Plain Dealer*. It was amongst other things, it was on the subject of regionalism, which from many peoples mouths have many different meanings and I was impressed by this editorial, in that it had two kinds of points that I thought were worth thinking about. One was urging that we begin a serious discussion of unified government in Cuyahoga County. I know that is something at this point, meets with a lot of resistance and the second point that was made in that editorial was a serious effort being urged to initiate real regional arrangements to share revenues.

I think that in this year, especially when we are starting to meet the pent up demand for real and honest dialogue on subjects that are potentially troubling. This would be a good way to start an honest dialogue about first of all, the real reasons for our vulcanized region and county and the real actions needed for regionalization. Certainly some of the important reasons for not having entered into that serious dialogue before have to do with concerns about class, race, and economic disparities, and in that regard we must recognize that the inclusive communities, disproportionately shoulder the regions responsibilities, while the exclusionary communities, mostly at the outer edges, frankly have been able to evade those responsibilities.

In local government, we can begin to further this honest dialogue and we can do it knowing that every time we open our mouths in this regard, there are political risks. One small example, comes to light or comes to mind I should say. For years, *Cleveland Magazine* has done an annual issue called “*Rating the Suburbs*.” It is among the decisive and dishonest magazine article that come out annually, but most cities do not, have not opposed this, at least in the past, because to do so would risk having your city not well spoken of in general in the magazine, not to mention perhaps being rated even lower than usual, in that particular annual issue. So, in the short term, your interest would say to you, let’s keep quiet, let’s keep our heads down on this. Well, back in 2000, several first suburbs mayors protested, met with the publisher of the magazine, received promises of change in the issue and those promises were never fulfilled. Last year, a number of first suburbs mayors arranged another meeting, had another protest and again, frankly nothing happened. But this time around in the last year, that consensus began to build, that first of all the cities ought not to respond to surveys put out by *Cleveland Magazine* or at least not respond beyond what the law requires, because it was having this ill effect, this - lets you and him fight - effect in our region.

Well, as I speak tonight many of the member cities in Mayors and Managers Association have now begun to understand what this kind of decisive reporting can do. Now the full story here is not

written, but my point is - that in this one small example, when you don't give up on honest dialogue, no matter how hard it is, sometimes things can happen. In a larger picture, we're gonna have more of a chance to engage in honest dialogue as the details come out for reforming state education funding. Something we've been talking about for years and years. Something that our Mayor Kelley, actually convened a valiant effort at a regional conference and did his part. In the meantime, soon we'll be getting the details, in fact I thought they were to come out today, but in terms of the budget, but I haven't had a chance to look at it. But, in the end one thing has to be certain. There are going to be taxes or fees that need to be raised in the State, in order to shift the balance between over reliance on local property taxes and local funding versus States efforts which will give a greater impetus for quality, sharing of burden and when that comes we know we're going to hear about it. But, here again will be a chance for honest dialogue. I just want to again thank *The Plain Dealer* for raising that issue in a fairly straightforward way. Thank you, that concludes this report."

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Caplan stated, "Thank you. I have one piece of legislation. It's Resolution 10-2009(MS) authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with CT Consultants, Inc. for engineering and support services relative to the planning and implementation of the City's year 2009 street resurfacing program; providing compensation therefor; and declaring an emergency.

The City is committed to an annual program of street resurfacing, and the City has made a preliminary identification of those streets which are in need of resurfacing during 2009 and I must say that we all hope that our streets are on it, our personal streets, but most of the time they're not, but they will come along. We try and do a program where we identify the streets that are in the worst condition and try to address those first. CT Consultants, Inc. has presented to the City an estimate of cost and a description of the engineering and support services to be performed for this project and is well qualified to perform all the work contemplated.

The City Manager has recommended the employment of CT Consultants, Inc. for its professional services on this project. Therefore be it resolved by this Council that the City Manager be authorized to enter into an agreement with CT Consultants, the services to be provided are such things as development of project mapping and subsequent construction plans utilizing procedures supplement by field surveys, development of traffic maintenance plans, coordination of utilities, preparation of detailed drawings, preparation of technical data and all of those kinds of things. The fees to be paid shall be a sum equal to 9.2% of the first Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) of actual construction costs, plus 6.4% of the next Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) of construction costs, plus 5.5% of construction costs over One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). The agreement shall also provide for compensation for additional services, and reimbursable expenses to an additional amount not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00). All documents shall be in a form approved by the Director of Law. Notice of passage shall be given and this Resolution shall be declared an emergency for passage tonight. I offer Resolution No. 10-2009(MS) for passage.

Mayor Kelley accepted Resolution No. 10-2009(MS).

Roll Call: Ayes: Caplan, Dietrich, Evans, Kelley, Montlack, Tumeo, Wilcox

Nays: None

Resolution passed

Councilwoman Caplan continued, "Thank you. I have a big announcement, but I need to comment about Cleveland Heights being a child friendly City. I like to think that we are. You know

that we are a block grant city and a large proportion of the funds that we get are entitlement dollars from the government, do go to all kinds of programs that are quite supportive of children in a whole variety of ways. We have lots of programs for children, quite supportive of aftercare programs and supportive of all kinds of programs for families, who are having difficulties in looking at keeping the family structure together. Being one of those old mental health social work professionals, I'm also a Mr. Rogers aficionado. I must say that Mr. Rogers did not talk about that someone can love you. That implies that you have to do something to be loved. Mr. Rogers talked about, "you are special, just because you're you" and that is a very different message. I do believe that every child is special just because they are, who they are and we can always of course be better, but we need to be careful about pointing fingers and using some data that has not been in fact substantiated.

Now, I have another - this is quite important, you need to pay attention, especially if your garbage is generally picked up on Fridays. Because we're having the City budget adjustments, we've been talking about money for more than a year. New refuse and recycling collection procedures have been put into place. Frequently, if there is a holiday, like one is coming up - Presidents' Day on February 16, that's going to be on a Monday and so in general, Monday's collection would be on Tuesday, Tuesdays on Wednesday and then the people who have garbage on Friday, that's usually picked up on Saturday. That is not going to happen this year. All holidays, when the garbage collection is a day off, the Saturday people, we'll only talk about February, because it starts getting complicated actually. So, Presidents' Day happens to be February 16th this year. If you're a Friday collection person, you will put out your garbage on Friday and we will do a double collection of the Thursday people, will be picked up on Friday and the Friday people will be collected on Friday and there will be no Saturday pick up. It will be the regular kind of pick up, you'll have your recycling, because I know that you all do that, but we're going to do this - no Saturdays, we don't want to pay overtime anymore and it will really save the City a great deal of money. If you really want to project this out for the future, there are holidays that fall out onto other days, so for example, this is complicated and I don't know if I want to get into it. We'll deal with this as the holidays come up, but February is going to be the one that's most complicated. So, February 16th if you're a Friday person, your garbage will be collected on Friday. Thursdays garbage will be on Friday and Fridays garbage will be on Friday, no Saturday. And then we'll start dealing with some of those other dates as we go further along. I hope you've got that and your garbage will be picked up and I know you're really paying attention to recycling, because you've made a new year's resolution and you're following through on that and that's all I have."

Mayor Kelley commented, "Thank you. Just to substantiate, so if you're usually a Monday, you'll still be a Tuesday, and a Tuesday will be a Wednesday, but when it comes to Friday, which is the Forest Hill section of town, and most of north of Mayfield, I'm sorry - north of Monticello, you will be picked up on Friday, as well as, the Thursday on Friday. So, the people that are the Friday pick up are the ones that have to pay a lot of attention on this first go round, and we'll have more information to you as the holidays approach."

REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councilman Wilcox stated, "So that means, there'll be no Saturday pick up?"

Mayor Kelley interjected, "That's the goal. That is the goal."

Councilman Wilcox continued, "I have Resolution No. 11-2009(PD) and we are going to defer that until our next meeting. Next I have Resolution No. 12-2009(PD) authorizing an amendment to an agreement with the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium for funding through the Consortium's HOME Program for the City's No-Interest and Deferred Loan Programs to extend the contract period; and

declaring an emergency. Council has previously authorized entering into an agreement for this program and because we have about Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) worth of contracts in this program pending, our contract expires on March 31st, this legislation would extend that agreement through December 31, 2009. Section 1 of the Resolution authorizes the City Manager to sign an amendment to this agreement through December 31, 2009. I offer Resolution No. 12-2009(PD) for passage tonight.”

Mayor Kelley accepted Resolution No. 12-2009(PD).

Roll Call: Ayes: Dietrich, Evans, Kelley, Montlack, Tumeo, Wilcox, Caplan

Nays: None

Resolution passed

Councilman Wilcox concluded, “Thank you. I just wanted to make one comment as we go through these tough economic times, it’s important that we continue to work with the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium on programs like the HOME Program, the Heritage Home Program we talked about tonight and other programs where we work with other levels of government, whether it be the state or the county or regional alliances and I just wanted to point out that one of those is coming into fruition with the Cedar Lee parking garage. If you’ve driven by there, you’ve seen the solar panels are now installed on that garage and hopefully before our next meeting they will be in operation and generating power for the lighting in that garage. I wanted to point out, if you’re wondering what the cost is to the City, we took no funds out of our operating budget for that, or our general fund. That is being paid for through the bond issue that was issued for the parking garage, so that is one of the elements, the bond issue for the capital improvement by the parking garage and also thanks to the State of Ohio for a grant which paid for part of the installation and acquisition of those solar panels. Hopefully, that will generate operating savings to the City without an expenditure of money from our general fund. That concludes my report.”

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councilman Tumeo stated, “Thank you, your Honor. I have no legislation but I have two issues. First, last Thursday we had our informational meeting, for our Community Emergency Response Team. For those of you who couldn’t make it, we had about 50 people here. It was a wonderful, wonderful turnout on a dark and stormy night as the literary folks would say. I wanted to thank Susanna for putting that together and for the Captain of fire who came and the individual from the County who came. If you’re interested in this it’s not to late, this was just an informational meeting. That actual meeting will be broadcast on the television station, so I urge you to take a look at that. The times for the eight required training to be a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) member will be forthcoming and you can join that way. If you have any questions, you can get a hold of Community Relations and they can fill you in on the details. This is very important, it’s a way that the community can come together in times of a big emergency. We almost had one tonight when the lights went out for a few hours over much of the City. But, in case of a big thing, an ice storm, or like the power outage we had some years ago. The government can only do so much, it’s your neighbors and your friends that have to come together to make these things work and that’s what this is all about. That’s something I would encourage for everyone to take a look at and see if you might want to help out in that way.

Second, is the information that was brought to us by Fran Mentch tonight. She has been in contact with me and sent me stuff and I am very interested in. I think that it is something that is important for us to think about. I think she’s correct, that sometimes we don’t think about things that we know are out there. I also agree with Councilwoman Caplan, we do an awful lot in this City to make us child friendly. We have youth programs, we have a lot of family support programs, the

HUD money that we have goes to the youth clubs and the center for parents and families and several other organizations that are all working to some extent together, perhaps not as well coordinated as they could be, but working together individually within the City and across the County to address some of these things. I think there a couple of things that we call to mind. First and foremost, when our economic conditions decline, the stresses on our families go up, and often we take that out on the people closest to us, our partners, our spouses and our children. Even if we don't think we are, our children are sensitive to those kinds of things. I think the first thing that we can all do is recognize that when we're upset, when things are tough, when you're angry, you're hurt, you're scared - your job as a parent, as a mentor to children is to recognize that they're even more afraid, because they have no control over this. Be aware of that and be cautious and thoughtful about how you portray what you're doing and how you're doing it, because that makes a difference.

The second thing is that we can always work on these kind of things and what I'm working on, I already spoke with Nancy on the possibility of tying it to the Civility Program, although that program seems to be somewhat petered out at the present time, the people have moved on. I'm going to attempt to work with the Center for Parents and Children to have a small one-day workshop or half-day workshop. We do have a volunteer speaker from Cleveland State University who is very knowledgeable, it might be something if we can put it together, we could videotape and put it on the television. Not so much as an overall program of what to do, but to help us all as individuals, as parents, as family members, think about how we approach these issues and just be aware. I think, it's always a good thing about our kids and for that reason I am working on that within the Committee. It's not going to be something we can put a lot of money in, as we're cutting garbage collection, we're cutting lots of things, budget's an issue. But, awareness is something that is always appropriate and I'm always in favor of, and so I will be working on that. I will work with Fran to help you put that together, because these kind of things work best, not when they are driven by government, but when they are driven by citizens who are concerned. I thank Fran for stepping up to this and being willing to help. That's my report, thank you."

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Dietrich stated, "Thank you. Just as a way of beginning, there is no legislation, but as far as the Civility Project, I am sorry to say that Councilman Tumeo is right, that it really did kind of run its course. I think we did some good with it, but it's not a functioning group anymore. That being said, what I did want to add to tonight's conversation is a few thoughts on finances, which I don't often do, but it's such an ongoing conversation for us and such a concern. We know that residents have really begun to notice and feel the cuts that we've made in the past year to our City services. I just thought, anybody out there, if you understood our thinking and how we approached our cuts it might help you feel less bothered by the inconvenience that you're experiencing.

Our way of budget cutting in the City is probably a lot like what you do at home. We look at every - we do this of course with the help of our senior staff, and the department heads, but we look at every expense and we say, do we really need this? Just like you do at home, we end up deciding that there are some things that we would really like to really need but we don't really need it and then those are the things that we can do without. You find enough of those little things that you can do without, they add up to give you the amount of money that you need to save as far as your expenditures go. As you know, we've been doing this since last winter. When we first started doing it, it was seeming like our cuts were going relatively unnoticed. If you were not a person who liked to exercise between 9 and 10 at night, well then you didn't notice that the Community Center had it's hours cut by an hour a day. If your child did not go to the Heights Art Camp program, you didn't know that we consolidated our summer camp program. Then of course came leaf pick up, and that was when everybody took

notice, that things aren't the way they used to be, and little by little, we now are seeing that these cuts are making themselves felt. I think the natural tendency for people who are experiencing them is often to say, "Why is the City cutting that? You know, surely that little change won't save so much money. It's not worth the inconvenience. Surely, the City will change their mind on that one, if we just point it out." So, then of course we're all the grinch up here, and we say, "No, we can't restore that hour at the Community Center or we can't do summer arts camp, or we can't do refreshments, just for the Martin Luther King Program or we can't do Saturday trash pick up for instance. Because, we need every single one of those savings to add up to give us a balanced budget. For instance, the cutting Saturday trash, we think will save us \$90,000.00 a year.

Of course, as you know some of us have waffled, more or less our resolve on some of these different things as people have complained about them and we've actually argued among ourselves about it, which is sort of a surprise, because we don't usually argue to much about it among ourselves. But, in the end we really have acknowledged, that we as a group have to be very strict in our resolve around implementing all these cost saving measures that we have decided upon. I'm saying this in hopes, that you'll understand, that our situation is serious and that even when a savings seems small to you and not worth the inconvenience that it causes, together they do add up, so that we can give you a balanced budget and then we can keep bringing you the services that we absolutely need to bring you. I just think that the more that we explain, the better you will understand that we really do, do this pretty much the way you do it at home and that maybe some of the inconveniences would be easier for you to take. That concludes my report."

Mayor Kelley commented, "We do have a little more money than you do at home, but we are cutting significant dollars. Thank you."

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Vice Mayor Evans stated, "Thank you, Mayor. I'd like to present Resolution No. 13-2009(CRR) proclaiming February, 2009 as American Heart Month and February 6, 2009 as "Go Red Day" in Cleveland Heights; and declaring an emergency. Whereas, diseases of the heart are the nation's leading cause of death and stroke is the third leading cause of death, each year 53% of all cardiovascular deaths, and 61% of stroke deaths, occur in females, more women die of heart disease, stroke and all other cardiovascular diseases than the next five leading causes of death combined, including all cancers, only 21% of women consider cardiovascular disease their greatest health risk, the American Heart Association and numerous governmental entities are celebrating February, 2009 as American Heart Month and encouraging citizens to learn the warning signs of heart attack and stroke.

This Council, the Cedar-Lee Special Improvement District and the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Library are joining together to proclaim February 6, 2009 as "Go Red Day" to encourage residents to wear red clothing to promote heart disease education and awareness for women as well as men. I'd like to submit Resolution No. 13-2009(CRR) for passage this evening.

Mayor Kelley accepted Resolution No. 13-2009(CRR).

Roll Call: Ayes: Evans, Kelley, Montlack, Tumeo, Wilcox, Caplan, Dietrich

Nays: None

Resolution passed

Vice Mayor Evans continued, "Resolution No. 14-2009(CRR) recognizing February, 2009 as National African-American History Month; and declaring an emergency. The City of Cleveland Heights is rich in its diversity of cultures and races, and the citizens of Cleveland Heights take great pride in

the harmonious relationships that exist among and within the City's many diverse communities, the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights recognizes the importance of explaining and sharing the rich cultural and spiritual heritage of each of the City's various ethnic groups in order to foster and encourage harmony and understanding among these groups.

The month of February is recognized as "National African-American History Month" by communities throughout the United States in order to honor and review the accomplishments and contributions of African-Americans to the United States. In addition, the City hereby reaffirms its commitment to maintain Cleveland Heights as a truly integrated community and to continue the tradition of appreciation and respect of our cultural diversity. I'd like submit Resolution No. 14-2009(CRR) for passage."

Mayor Kelley accepted Resolution No. 14-2009(CRR).

Roll Call: Ayes: Kelley, Montlack, Tumeo, Wilcox, Caplan, Dietrich, Evans

Nays: None

Resolution passed

Vice Mayor Evans commented, "I would like to mention throughout the month of February there are many activities and programs countywide and I've seen them listed in *The Plain Dealer* two times now, so those of you who want to partake in these activities, could probably check that schedule. That concludes my report."

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Kelley stated, "There is no Mayor's Report tonight. This meeting is adjourned at 8:41 p.m. Our next meeting will be, due to Presidents' Day, Tuesday, February 17, 2009. Thank everyone for coming. Stay warm and drive safely."

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Kelley, Mayor
President of Council

Thomas K. Malone
Clerk of Council

/jh

ACTIONS TAKEN BY COUNCIL
February 2, 2009

MATTER OF RECORD:

Mario's Fish Bowl Bar & Grille, transfer D2, D2X, D3, D3A, D6 permits, premises 3962 Mayfield Road, 44121.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-2009(MS), PASSED: authorizing the City Manger to enter into an agreement with CT Consultants, Inc. for engineering and support services relative to the planning and implementation of the City's year 2009 street resurfacing program; providing compensation therefor; and declaring an emergency.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2009(PD), PASSED: authorizing an amendment to an agreement with the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium for funding through the Consortium's HOME Program for the City's No-Interest and Deferred Loan Programs to extend the contract period; and declaring an emergency.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2009(CRR), PASSED: proclaiming February, 2009 as American Heart Month and February 6, 2009 as "Go Red Day" in Cleveland Heights; and declaring an emergency.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2009(CRR), PASSED: recognizing February, 2009 as National African-American History Month; and declaring an emergency.