

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Monday, January 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Gordon C. Short, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Annmarie P. Roff, Thomas M. Clark, and Brian M. Spring. **Also Present:** Council Secretary Marialena Beach. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, and Finance Director Eric Dean.

Also in attendance was Assistant Law Director Dan Kolick.

Council President, James E. Carbone, called the caucus to order at 6:41 p.m.

The following Council Committees met to review legislation on the agenda:

Public Safety & Health Committee:

Chairwoman Roff - I have three items; they are all just housekeeping items. I have Ordinance No. 2025-001; this is to enter into a partnership and will be getting grant money, correct Neal from that?

Mr. Jamison - Yes, this is an annual grant we get from University Hospitals for our OVI Task Force. It's for the amount of \$22,000.00 for the year 2025; and this is something we have done for a long time.

Chairwoman Roff - A suspend and adopt for that; that would be a yes from what I would assume. Then, we have Ordinance No. 2025-002; that is to sell off items that are no longer needed on an approved auction site by the government, so suspend and adopt for that.

Mr. Carbone - It was sad to see the old D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Hummer as part of that.

Mr. Jamison - For your information, the chief related that they actually extended the life of a number of these vehicles just to try and get more usage out of them. These were effectively at the end of their effective life.

Mr. Clark - The one that is most recent, is that just high mileage or is there associative damage?

Ms. Roff - There was an accident I believe.

Mr. Clark - An accident?

Mr. Jamison - Yes.

Mr. Clark - Thank you.

Mr. Jamison - That's also like anything else. I guess if you're an athlete and you have injuries, and if you are a car that has accidents, that shortens it's useful life.

Mr. Clark - Yes, thank you.

Chairwoman Roff - The last item is Resolution No. 2025-003; that is to accept a donation to the safety forces there from Northeast Ohio...for the Safety Council of Northeast Ohio, correct?

Mr. Jamison - Yes, and it is actually for our K-9 units.

Chairwoman Roff - Okay; so suspend and adopt for that. That is all I have - all good things.

Mr. Carbone - Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No questions)

Recreation & Community Services Committee:

Chairman Spring - Thank you we have one. Resolution No. 2025-004; this is a resolution accepting a donation of money from The Strongsville Community Theater in appreciation of the personnel at the recreation and senior center. Also, for the usage of various meeting rooms, this is a pretty standard donation to the recreation center. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt.

Mr. Carbone - Any questions for Mr. Spring?

(No questions)

Planning, Zoning and Engineering Committee:

Chairwoman Kosek - We have one tonight. It's Ordinance 2025-005; this is a request for the approval of a change order #17 related to the Strongsville Town Center project for Gilbane Building Company. It is asking for an increase of \$110,000.00. Neal, based on my review of this, it looks like it's for an addition to staffing and general conditions. Can you give us a little bit more color on what that is?

Mr. Jamison - Yes, so what happened was...because we had extended the time for the project, Gilbane Building Company had to keep their unit out there and their staff out there to follow-up on the job. This is all related to that extra time for Gilbane Building Company to keep their staff in place until the job was completed.

Chairwoman Kosek - Do we...this is inching up to \$9.8 million dollars. Are we done? Is this the last one?

Mr. Jamison - So, engineering thinks that this next one will be the last one and we are pretty much done.

Chairwoman Kosek - Did you say this one? Is there another one?

Mr. Jamison - There's another one probably coming; but she didn't want to make this a final (change order) until she was sure of everything.

Chairwoman Kosek - Okay.

Mr. Jamison - We think we are like 99.9% there. This was just to take care of the Gilbane Building Company because of the extra time. RFC Contracting, LLC who oversaw all this, approved this and said this was legitimate.

Mayor Perciak - Unless it was negotiated down.

Chairwoman Kosek - Okay.

Mayor Perciak - It was substantially higher, and RFC Contracting, LLC - Roger Riachi had a big meeting with them. At the end, that was the final amount. The \$110,000.00 - the final amount at this time.

Chairwoman Kosek - Okay, is everyone satisfied?

(No comments)

Chairwoman Kosek - That is all I have Mr. Carbone.

Committee of the Whole:

Mr. Carbone - We have Ordinance No. 2025-006; this is a collective bargaining agreement between the FOP Lodge 15 (Fraternal Order of Police), and the City of Strongsville dealing with our corrections officers. This is through December 31, 2027.

Mr. Jamison - We are good to go on this.

Mr. Carbone - Good to go, yes. The recommendation here is going to be to suspend and adopt. Anything else?

(No comments)

Mr. Carbone - We do have a need for an executive session tonight.

Mr. Short made a motion to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of the Council Office pertaining to the appointment of a public official. It was seconded by Ms. Roff to adjourn from open session into executive session [Article XI, Section 9, City Charter]. All members present voted aye and the motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session at 6:41 p.m. The executive session concluded at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened into open session.

*****Please note – The legislation discussed above on tonight's agenda can be viewed in entirety at: <https://www.strongsville.org/government/city-council/minutes-agendas> by clicking on the January 6, 2025 agenda link. *****

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President James E. Carbone called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:

The Council Secretary certified that the meeting had been posted in accordance with Ordinance No. 2023-182.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: James E. Carbone, Gordon C. Short, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Annmarie P. Roff, Thomas M. Clark, and Brian M. Spring. **Also Present:** Council Secretary Marialena Beach. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, and Finance Director Eric Dean.

Also in attendance was Assistant Law Director Dan Kolick.

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on December 16, 2024 were approved as submitted.

ORGANIZATION:

Election of Council President:

Mr. Carbone nominated Mr. Short for Council President. There were no further nominations and Mr. Carbone then closed nominations for Council President without objection.

A motioned was made by Mr. Carbone and seconded by Ms. Roff to elect Gordon C. Short as Council President. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carries.

Mr. Carbone - The Mayor is now going to swear him in. Really quickly, I just want to thank Council for my three years as Council President. It was a pleasure serving this Council and working alongside the administration for the betterment of our community.

At this time, Mayor Perciak administered the Oath of Office of President of Council to Gordon C. Short.

(Applause)

Election of Council President Pro Tem:

Mr. Short nominated Mr. Carbone for Council President Pro Tem. There were no further nominations and President Short closed nominations for Council President Pro Tem without objection.

A motioned was made by Mr. Short and seconded by Ms. Roff to elect James E. Carbone as Council President Pro Tem. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carries.

At this time, Mayor Perciak administered the Oath of Office of President of Council Pro Tem to James E. Carbone.

(Applause)

Mr. Short - For the appointments to our standing committees, at this time, I'm going to keep those the same. To the members of Council, I ask that you email me any suggestions for changes for those committees. Also, for the Planning Commission representative, the Southwest General Health System representative, the School Board representative, and the Legislative Policy Committee; we will keep those the same tonight as well. Again, any suggestions to those, please email me by January 17th, before our next Council meeting on the 21st - that would be great.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Clark: Thank you, President Short. We have not had an Economic Development Committee meeting since our last Council meeting, as we did not have a December meeting. Our next Strongsville Economic Development Committee meeting is on Monday, January 27, 2025. The meeting will be at two in the afternoon and will not be in Council chambers. We have a scheduled visit to one of our manufacturing businesses in one of our four business parks. Across the country, across the State of Ohio, and right here in the "Crossroads of America," there's been a lot of economic development enthusiasm and energy at the end of last year. That energy is sustaining, and in some cases, ramping up, even, in January. We are very optimistic about what is ahead. Again, our first Strongsville Economic Development Committee meeting of 2025 is on Monday, January 27th. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short - Did you want to announce the company that it's at or do you want to wait?

Mr. Clark - That will be at PPG (Pittsburg Plate and Glass Company) and the details of that will be emailed out to the committee ahead of the event on the normal notice cycle.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

Mr. Clark - Two in the afternoon is the time to be clear.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Clark.

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Ms. Roff:

(No report)

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH – Ms. Roff: I have three items for Public Safety and Health. I have Ordinance No. 2025-001, which is to accept a grant in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County OVI Task Force. It's in conjunction with University Hospitals. The recommendation for that is to suspend and adopt. I have Ordinance No. 2025-002; that is to put up items...and as somebody mentioned, the retirement of a D.A.R.E mobile. Items up for sale to the public that are no longer needed or obsolete. The recommendation for that is to suspend and adopt. Resolution No. 2025-003; that is to accept a donation...a monetary donation going to our K-9 unit for \$1,000.00. The recommendation for that is to suspend and adopt. That's all I have.

Mr. Short - Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No questions)

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Mr. Spring: Thank you, President Short. The first thing I have tonight is Resolution No. 2025-004. This is a resolution accepting a donation of money from the Strongsville Community Theater for the appreciation of the personnel at the recreation and senior center and for the usage of various meeting rooms. The recommendation on that is to suspend and adopt; and to definitely thank the community theater. Does anybody have any questions on that?

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Spring: There was a meeting since our last meeting on December 18, 2025. Nothing to report - it was a more of a procedural meeting. Nothing to report now in the school board meeting, but they will be back having meetings here in January. I will look forward to reporting back then; thank you.

Mr. Short - Any questions for Mr. Spring?

(No questions)

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Spring.

FINANCE – Mr. Short:

(No report)

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short:

(No report)

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Kaminski:

(No report)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Ms. Kosek: I have one for Planning, Zoning and Engineering tonight; it is Ordinance No. 2025-005. It is a request to approve change order #17 related to the Strongsville Town Center project. This is a change order of \$110,000.00 for the Gilbane Building Company as we discussed during caucus. This was a request related to the extension of the project that required additional workers to be very specific. It was negotiated by our representative, so we discussed that this will probably be the second-to-last change order that we will see on this. I know that people were enjoying the playgrounds when we had some nice weather. Although today is not very nice - it's cold, as I have my gloves on. It has gotten some use even this winter. I'd ask that we suspend, adopt and approve this request for a change order. That's all I have for Planning, Zoning and Engineering. I have nothing on the other committee, so I will send it back to you, President Short.

Mr. Short - Thank you Ms. Kosek, any questions?

(No questions)

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Ms. Kosek:

(No report)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Mr. Carbone: We have Ordinance No. 2025-006; this is a collective bargaining agreement between the Fraternal Order of Police Parma Lodge #15 and our corrections officers here in the City of Strongsville through December 31, 2027. The recommendation here is going to be to suspend and adopt - that's it.

Mr. Short - Any questions for Mr. Carbone.

(No questions)

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS
AND OTHER OFFICERS:**

MAYOR PERCIAK: Congratulations Mr. President, Mr. President Pro Tem, and to everybody - welcome to 2025. As I welcome you tonight, the snow welcomed us over the weekend. I just want to give a shout-out to our service department working around the clock and doing their very best to...we had every truck out. Everybody we could get to work, worked. I just want to say thank you. Our streets are cleaned from curb to curb. As you can see, they are wet to almost dry. I want to thank them for all of the hours; and they did work around the clock so that everybody....so if you see them, say thank you - it's not easy. That ends my report.

Mr. Short - Also Mr. Mayor, I think I can speak for the Council, extend our gratitude as well to Mr. Walker and his crew.

Mayor Perciak - Yes.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean: Thank you Council President, I hereby certify that funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda requiring certification of funding. Thank you.

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Jamison: All ordinances and resolutions are in proper legal form. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short - Thank you, Mr. Law Director.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

(None)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2025-001 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR'S ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF CLEVELAND IN CONNECTION WITH A CUYAHOGA COUNTY OVI TASK FORCE GRANT AWARD RECEIVED FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2025-001 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2025-002 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE AND SURPLUS POLICE VEHICLES NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-002 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2025-003 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A MONETARY DONATION FROM THE CONSTRUCTION SAFETY COUNCIL OF NORTHEAST OHIO TO THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2025-003 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2025-004 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM THE STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE IN APPRECIATION OF THE PERSONNEL AT THE WALTER F. EHRLFELT RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER AND FOR USAGE OF THE VARIOUS MEETING ROOMS.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2025-004 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-005 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ISSUE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 17 FOR AN INCREASE IN THE CONTRACT PRICE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE AND GILBANE BUILDING COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-005 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2025-006 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, PARMA LODGE #15 (CORRECTIONS OFFICERS) AND THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Carbone to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-006 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

(None)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

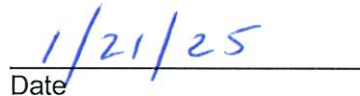
(None)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Short adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.



Marialena Beach
Council Secretary


Date