

**VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

October 8, 2025

6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

October 8, 2025

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CONTIPELLI CALLED CAUCUS TO ORDER at 5:01 p.m.

MAYOR BACCI CALLED ROLL CALL: Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa, Contipelli

Mr. Contipelli asked council if anyone had any questions on the agenda.

Mr. Schoeffler asked for clarification on the legislation of the two Marcelline homes regarding change orders and if the prevailing wages were not disclosed before the project started. CFO Meriwether responded that while yes, the prevailing wages were not included in the initial bid, there were also sewer issues and after the final plans review, fire stop walls needed to be installed. Mr. Contipelli asked the mayor to give an update on the Marcelline homes. Mayor Bacci advised that the easterly home will be finished around Thanksgiving, while the westerly home will have drywall up and the homeowner can design how they want it.

Mayor Bacci mentioned that since the pool has closed for the season, Parks & Rec Director Wheaton will be attending the monthly council meetings. However, she is on vacation this week but will be joining us next month. He further noted that Ms. Wheaton not only did an outstanding job during her first season, but was also successful with the exterior and interior structural upgrades at the pool. He also mentioned that this year's corn roast throughout the departments were noticeably less stressful than prior years.

Mayor Bacci noted that Mackenzy Vokac will be replacing Barb Cash once she retires next year. Also, Ms. Vokac will be in attendance tonight at the council meeting. Mayor Bacci stated that Parrish Mines is working out wonderfully in our building department. Asst. Building Commissioner LaBella has been taking Mr. Mines to different job sites and showing him around town and is happy to have the help in the department.

Mayor Bacci spoke about the Capital Project consolidation. The village was approved for the Brownfield Grant for Nicky Boulevard in the amount of \$4.2 million, the MCIP Grant for \$3 million for the courts project, and the unknown delivery date of the firefighters' apparatus which may come sometime in 2026. Grant money is not given to the village until the projects are completed in full.

The Klima Gardens project went out for bid and was published accordingly, and only one bidder applied—possibly due to the size and speed/performance period. The bid came in over several hundred thousand dollars of our estimate. The entire scope of the project would include a new roof, both new front and back parking lots, facility upgrades, technology upgrades, utility upgrades and reconfiguring placement of the playground and bocce ball court areas, as well as aesthetics from the street. Estimated cost to be about \$4 million.

Engineer Sciano confirmed that the East 71st Street hill would be around \$7 million to fix in three years. He further noted that in 2028 we plan to go before council to get a loan for the amount of

this project. The Mayor and CFO would like to borrow that money in 2026 to assist with cash flow while awaiting grant reimbursements, instead of waiting until 2028 to work with lenders for capital improvement projects. It was further noted that when the grants come in, we will keep and utilize them for all future capital improvements including the hill. Simply put, we would like to borrow early to cover our cash flow. CFO Meriwether stated that our current bond is 30 years with Key Bank, with an annual payment of \$590,000. This would result in total debt services not exceeding \$14-\$15 million. CFO Meriwether noted that she has a meeting scheduled to get further details on all financing options and will present those to council over the next several months.

The mayor asked for a motion to go into executive session for discipline of an employee. Mr. Unger made the motion to go into executive session, seconded by Mr. Contipelli. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved. Executive session started at 5:45 p.m.

Caucus ended at 5:55 p.m.

MAYOR BACCI CALLED THE COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR BACCI CALLED ROLL CALL: Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa, Contipelli

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PERMITS: None.

PURCHASES: None.

MINUTES:

September 10, 2025 Council Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes as prepared and place them on file. Mr. Schoeffler made the motion to accept the minutes as prepared, seconded by Mr. Unger. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

RITA Final Report September 2025

Motion to accept the financial reports as prepared and place them on file. Mr. Unger made the motion to accept the financial reports as prepared, seconded by Mr. Volek. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-62 FIRST READING

September Payment of Certain Claims and Transfers

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-63

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER TO THE NICKY BOULEVARD PAVEMENT AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Mr. Volek moved, seconded by Mr. Bloam, that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-64

A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE HARVARD AVENUE SIGNALS PROJECT TO THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER, WAIVING ANY NON-CONFORMITIES OR DEFICIENCIES, AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH PERRAM ELECTRIC, INC. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Bloam moved, seconded by Mr. Centa, that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-65

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT AND RECEIVE THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY'S 2024 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Centa moved, seconded by Mr. Contipelli, that the rules be suspended and the Ordinance be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-66

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER TO THE 7133 MARCELLINE COURT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Mr. Contipelli moved, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler, that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-67

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER TO THE
7137 MARCELLINE COURT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Mr. Schoeffler moved, seconded by Mr. Unger, that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-68

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
GARLAND/DBS, INC. FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE FIRE STATION ROOF,
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Unger moved, seconded by Mr. Volek, that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-69

A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE KLIMA GARDENS PAVILION PROJECT TO THE
LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER, WAIVING ANY NON-CONFORMITIES OR
DEFICIENCIES, AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH
JTL CONSTRUCTION LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Volek moved, seconded by Mr. Bloam that the rules be suspended and the Resolution be placed on third and final reading. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for suspension of the rules, motion carried. Schoeffler, Unger, Volek, Bloam, Centa and Contipelli voting aye for the adoption, motion approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

25-20 A Motion to appoint Mackenzy Vokac to the position of Full Time Administrative Assistant to the Village Hall.

Mr. Bloam made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Centa. All in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

MAYOR BACCI: First off, congratulations Mackenzy.

Thank you to everyone who assisted us with the corn roast. What a beautiful day, the weather was perfect and we had a ton of people, and the addition of the corn eating contest was great! Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 3, 2026 for our next corn roast.

Happy Anniversary to Councilman Renato Contipelli and his lovely bride, Michelle. They are celebrating their 33rd wedding anniversary tomorrow. Congratulations!

Tomorrow morning the PTO will be holding their annual Goodies with Grands (*formerly Grandparents Day*) at the elementary school. You will see increased traffic in the area between 7:30-9:00 a.m.

There will be no school this Friday—NEOEA Day. However, our Parks and Rec Director, along with the Village of Valley View have a combined youth trip for the kids to the Red Wagon Farm in Columbia Station that day.

Our Halloween Drive-Thru will take place Friday, October 31 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Bacci Park. Village residents and grandparents must register their children. Council, if available, please help us out that evening by arriving at 4:15 p.m. Afterwards, Trick-or-Treat will take place in town from 6:00-8:00 p.m. If you wish to pass out candy, please leave an outside light on so children know they are welcome.

Don't forget Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. The polls will be open from 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. in the lower level of the Village Hall.

September birthday wishes to employees: (2) Law Director Ben Chojnacki; (4) Councilman David Volek; (5) Carter Murray; (11) Steve Harris; (15) Nick Frye; (23) Tyler Selig, Alyssa Braehler; (24) Mindy Armbrust; (28) Mike Dentkos; and (29) Vera Nall

MR. SCHOEFFLER: Thank you Chief Sturgill for keeping the gate locked to the Metroparks on East 49th Street in the morning. There is a considerable difference in traffic now.

MR. UNGER: Welcome Mackenzy and congratulations on your new job.

MR. VOLEK: Welcome Mackenzy and thank you to Service Director Sammons and the entire village community for the corn roast. While I was campaigning, I had residents approach me and asked how I could live next door to 4668 East 71st Street. Several residents have said to me that it looks like a disaster, and I have forwarded the information to the building department. Unfortunately, I will not be at the Halloween Drive-Thru as I will be working.

MR. BLOAM: Congratulations to Mackenzy, so very proud of you!

MR. CENTA: Welcome Mackenzy. On behalf of all the senior citizens, thank you to everyone who contributed to our corn roast raffle. The most fun is watching the kids enjoy themselves at the event and thank you to everyone who planned and worked the corn roast.

MR. CONTIPELLI: Wishing all the current people running for office good luck and hopefully everyone follows all the election rules.

POLICE CHIEF STURGILL: Nothing to report.

SERVICE DIRECTOR SAMMONS: Nothing to report.

FIRE CHIEF SUHY: Thank you to Silverlode for assisting the fire department with receiving the grant for the Department of Homeland Security Grant for Firefighters Assistance.

LAW DIRECTOR CHOJNACKI: Nothing to report.

CFO MERIWETHER: Welcome Mackenzy, she already seems to be a great addition to the team. Great job everybody with the corn roast, it was another very successful year! Head count was about 1,100.

ASST. BUILDING COMMISSIONER MINES: I would like to pass around a packet that I put together pertaining to the building department. Please take a look at it and if anyone would like to discuss it further, please contact the building department.


ASST. BUILDING COMMISSIONER LABELLA: Nothing to report.

VILLAGE ENGINEER SCIANO: Nothing to report.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

KEN BOZIKIS: I look forward to working with everyone in the future and the corn roast was great, including the fireworks, the kids loved it!

WHEREFORE, there is no further business before this council, Mr. Centa moved, seconded by Mr. Schoeffler that the council meeting be adjourned at 6:24 p.m. All voting aye, none opposed, motion approved.


Approved 

Mayor


Renato Contipelli (Nov 13, 2025 09:18:02 EST)

Mayor and or President of Council

On October 8, 2025



Chief Fiscal Officer and Clerk of Council











October 8, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes (04051103).DOCX

Final Audit Report

2025-11-13

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