

County Council Regular Meeting: March 14, 2017

Observer: Patricia Solomon

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.

The regular County Council meeting was called to order at 5pm by Council President Dan Brady. Councilperson Yvonne Conwell was absent. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

II. Antecedents, Announcements and Public Comment.

This observer did not attend the Committee of the Whole at 1 pm, at which the plan for County participation in renovation of Quicken Loans Arena was discussed. The Plain Dealer reported that Council voted 8-2 to move the legislation to sell \$140 million in bonds out of committee, with Schron and Baker dissenting. Schron explained his vote in a PD op ed, urging delay in making long-term agreements until the state budget is published. He noted that voters approved a charter amendment calling for a two-year county budget timed to follow publication of the state's budget, which must be finalized by June 30.

The VP of LiveNation, a Cleveland-based company that books concerts and artists into venues around the country (350 in this market in 2016) spoke in favor of the arena legislation, noting that there is strong competition for high-quality arenas in Pittsburgh, Columbus (2), Detroit and Louisville. Adele Eisman, an elections advocate for many years, questioned the proposed adoption of electronic poll books by the Board of Elections and requested information about related meetings and documents.

County Executive Budish noted that "this is a busy time" and welcomed officials from MetroHealth Systems, which is seeking County participation in the Metro Campus Transformation plan. He also welcomed visitors from Angola and several other South African countries.

At the end of the meeting, several individuals spoke about service provision at the Women's Homeless Shelter.

Business Transacted.

*The following Resolutions were adopted:

- Amendment to a contract for lease of office space located at 9830 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland, to extend the time period and for \$2.4 million in additional funds (automatic 5-year renewal)
- A \$1.75 million agreement with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services for Data Center Co-Location Services
- Various revenue generating agreements with the Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland for lease of County-owned space at two County Board of Developmental Disabilities Centers for operation of Head Start and pre-school programs, at a cost of \$400,000 to \$450,000 for each
- Appointment of Anthony J. DiCicco to the County Planning Commission representing the Hillcrest Region

-- Reappointment of J. David Heller and Victor A. Ruiz to serve on the Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees

*Among Resolutions moved along to March 28 for possible third reading adoption:

-- The issuance and sale of one or more series of County revenue bonds that will generate net proceeds of \$140 million for the Q arena project

-- Awards of \$150,000 or less each from the 2017 Community Development Block Grant Municipal Grant Program; municipalities on the list include

Mayfield Heights for safety/ADA.

North Olmsted for sidewalk repair.

South Euclid for road reconstruction.

Fairview Park for sidewalk repair.

-- Almost \$1 million in awards to 22 municipalities or non-profits for various projects from the 2017 Community Development Supplemental Grant Program (Casino funds); those on the list include

Lakewood Alive Development Corporation for a Streetscaping Project.

Village of Mayfield for the Band Shell Construction Project.

City of Rocky River for the Safety Project.

Village of Chagrin Falls for the Safety Project.

City of Bay Village for the Generator Project.

City of Euclid for the Tree/Flower Planting Project.

City of Fairview Park for the pavilion Construction Project.

City of Richmond Heights for the ADA Accessibility Project.

-- Amendments to 13 agreements and contracts with various providers for neighborhood collaborative services for the Family to Family Neighborhood System of Care, total award amount \$4.5 million including \$320,464 to the City of Lakewood.

*Among Resolutions introduced and referred to appropriate committees were these:

-- The appointment of F. Allen Boseman to the Personnel Review Commission;

-- Adoption of the amended Personnel Review Commission Administrative Rules;

-- Authorizing a \$25.2 million amendment to Contract for the Huntington Park Garage Rehabilitation Project;

-- Endorsing the Memorandum of Understanding among the County, Board of Elections and Ohio Department of Administrative Services in connection with the use of funding for the purchase of electronic pollbooks;

-- Authorizing a total of \$11.7 million in agreements with three providers for 2017 child support services (County Court of Common Pleas/Division of Domestic Relations, County Court of Common Pleas/Division of Juvenile Court, and County Prosecuting Attorney's Office);

-- Amendment to a contract with Starting Point for the Out-of- School Time Program to extend the time period and for \$1.4 million in additional funds;

-- Authorizing the County Executive to obtain and/or pledge one or more letters of credit from a bank or banks related to and in support of The MetroHealth System's Campus Transformation Project.