

# City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

COUNCIL MEETING HELD November 23, 2015

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This Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Council President Michele K. Ernst at 8:15 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present and accounted for were Mayor Dell'Aquila, Director of Law Pignatiello, Director of Finance Johnson, Councilman-at-Large Barth, Councilwoman-at-Large Lecznar, Councilman-at-Large Trafis, Ward 2 Councilman Fraundorf, Ward 3 Councilman Snitzky, and Ward 4 Councilwoman Ernst. Absentees were Ward 1 Councilman Leech, Director of Public Service and Properties Moga, and Building Commissioner Moro.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Barth, to excuse the absence of Councilman Leech from tonight's meeting.  
**Council President Ernst** stated that Councilman Leech was still in the hospital.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

## **READING AND DISPOSAL OF JOURNAL**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to accept the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held November 9, 2015, as printed.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Mr. Fraundorf, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to amend the Consent Agenda of November 23, 2015, by **removing** Motion No. 7:  
"7. **MOTION** to authorize an expenditure, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, payable to Grainger, for the purchase of Year 2016 Recreation Complex Supplies and Materials for Maintenance and Repairs, for the Community Recreation Complex Operations, for the period covering January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. Payment to be made from 101.340.54002."  
in its entirety.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Mr. Fraundorf, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to accept the Amended Consent Agenda of November 23, 2015, as revised, if there is no division of the question.  
Roll Call: all yea **MOTION CARRIED**

## **RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION**

There were no Resolutions of Commendation.

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## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development**

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee Chairman Snitzky stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 16, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Snitzky stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 21, 2015.

### **Public Works**

Public Works Committee Chairman Leech was not present.

Council President Ernst reported that the Public Works Committee last met on Monday evening, November 2, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mrs. Ernst stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 7, 2015.

### **Community Services**

Community Services Committee Chairman Fraundorf stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 2, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Fraundorf stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 7, 2015.

### **Police and Fire**

Police and Fire Committee Chairman Trafis stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 16, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Trafis stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 21, 2015.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Parks and Recreation Committee Chairperson Lecznar stated that the Committee last met in Special Session on Monday evening, November 2, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mrs. Lecznar stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 21, 2015.

### **Rules, Ordinances, and Ethics**

Rules, Ordinances, and Ethics Committee Chairperson Ernst stated that the Committee last met in Special Session on Monday evening, November 16, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mrs. Ernst stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 7, 2015.

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## **Finance, Civil Service, and Personnel**

Finance, Civil Service, and Personnel Committee Chairman Barth stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 16, 2015, and the minutes from that meeting are forthcoming. Mr. Barth stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 7, 2015.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS**

There were no appointments or confirmations.

## **COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND CLAIMS**

There were no communications, petitions, or claims.

## **COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE ON LEGISLATION ONLY**

**Leslie Stager, 5816 Kuenzer Drive**, made the following comments:

“I’m just concerned about the deer legislation. I’m concerned about any kind of shooting, be it bow or gun. I’m very, very, very much against that for safety reasons. Also it’s not a fast and easy way to die. I definitely advocate for sterilization and birth control.”

**Council President Ernst** thanked Ms. Stager for her comments.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Amended Ordinance No. 73-2015** – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 931.12, NOTICE; PUBLIC NOTICE, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 931, DEFINITIONS, OF TITLE FIVE, ZONING ADMINISTRATION, AS CONTAINED IN PART NINE, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING NOTICE AND NOTICE TIME REQUIREMENTS AND POSTING LOCATIONS FOR HEARINGS BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEETINGS BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION INVOLVING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ZONING PLAN.

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to read Amended Ordinance No. 73-2015 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Amended Ordinance No. 73-2015 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

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**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 73-2015.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 73-2015 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Ordinance No. 108-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH TAC COMPUTER OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, TO PROVIDE ONE (1) SERVER, FIREWALL, AND NETWORK SWITCH, INCLUDING INSTALLATION AND APPURTENANCES, FOR THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED ELEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$11,397.00) FOR SAID PURCHASE.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to read Ordinance No. 108-2015 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance No. 108-2015 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to pass Ordinance No. 108-2015.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 108-2015 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Ordinance No. 109-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES TO THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO.

**MOTION** by Mr. Barth, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to read Ordinance No. 109-2015 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance No. 109-2015 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mr. Barth, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to pass Ordinance No. 109-2015.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 109-2015 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

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**Ordinance No. 110-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH BRILLIANT ELECTRIC SIGN CO., LTD, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING THE MARQUEE SIGN AT CIVIC DRIVE AND BROADVIEW ROAD WITH ONE (1) DOUBLE-FACE LED ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER WITH A FABRICATED FRAME, AND APPROPRIATING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$19,825.00, WHICH WILL INCLUDE INSTALLATION FEES AND APPURTENANCES FOR SAID REPLACEMENT.

**MOTION** by Mr. Fraundorf, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to table Ordinance No. 110-2015.

**Mr. Trafis** stated:

“We had a lengthy discussion about this in our Caucus meeting. I definitely think that at some point we should be replacing that sign, but we’re going to explore other options on what the TIF money could be used for in that area. And I’m certainly encouraging the Mayor to have his Administration actually look into seeing if we can obtain any donations from area businesses to help contribute to the cost of this sign.”

**Mr. Snitzky** stated:

“And I agree we should look for donations from the businesses to improve their frontage – the brick work and the trees in front of their property. But we discussed this sign for months, maybe a half year. And I think we need to advertise our City and events down there. I think we should do the sign and I think we should do the sign as planned.”

**Mr. Barth** stated:

“I’m agreeing to table it because I heard Councilman Trafis say that he felt the sign was needed, but that we should look for additional funds. Hopefully, the new Council will feel the same as Councilman Trafis and I.”

Roll Call: Barth, yea; Ernst, yea; Fraundorf, yea; Lecznar, yea;  
Snitzky, nay; Trafis, yea.

5 yea, 1 nay

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Ordinance No. 110-2015 was tabled.**

**Amended Ordinance No. 112-2015** – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 121, COUNCIL, AS CONTAINED IN TITLE THREE, LEGISLATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING SECTION 121.011, COMPENSATION OF COUNCILPERSONS.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Barth, to read Amended Ordinance No. 112-2015 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Amended Ordinance No. 112-2015 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Barth, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 112-2015.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 112-2015 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Ordinance No. 116-2015** – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$28,270.64 FOR A CHANGE ORDER TO AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 94-2014, PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS ON MAY 27, 2014, WHICH AUTHORIZED THE INITIAL AMOUNT OF \$870,520.20 FOR THE FURNISHING OF ALL LABOR AND PERFORMING ALL WORK FOR THE 2014 ROAD PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, AND ACCEPTED THE BID OF CHAGRIN VALLEY PAVING OF CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO.

**Ordinance No. 116-2015 was read by full title only for its second reading.**

**Ordinance No. 117-2015** – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00 FOR A CHANGE ORDER TO ORDINANCE NO. 47-2015, PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS ON MAY 11, 2015, WHICH AUTHORIZED THE INITIAL AMOUNT OF \$20,000.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ASPHALT BY REQUIREMENT CONTRACT THROUGH ALLIED CORPORATION, INC., OF TWINSBURG, OHIO, FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND PROPERTIES.

**Ordinance No. 117-2015 was read by full title only for its second reading.**

**Ordinance No. 118-2015** – AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE CONSORTIUM BID OF PORTS PETROLEUM TO BE THE BEST CONSORTIUM BID THEREFORE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ULTRA LOW SULFUR DIESEL PREMIUM FUEL FOR THE PERIOD COVERING DECEMBER 9, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 8, 2016, TO BE USED BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, AND THE CITY HALL GENERATOR; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$65,000.00 FOR SAID PURCHASE.

**Ordinance No. 118-2015 was read by full title only for its second reading.**

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**Amended Ordinance No. 119-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH OHM ADVISORS OF BRECKSVILLE, OHIO, TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES AS REQUESTED BY THE CITY.

**Amended Ordinance No. 119-2015 was read by full title only for its second reading.**

**Ordinance No. 120-2015** – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 107-2015, PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS ON OCTOBER 26, 2015, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING ‘EXHIBIT A’ OF THE COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION SERVICES BILLING FROM .0017 PER CREDIT TO .017 PER CREDIT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to read Ordinance No. 120-2015 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance No. 120-2015 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to pass Ordinance No. 120-2015 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ORDINANCE NO. 120-2015 IS DECLARED PASSED.**

**Ordinance No. 121-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ADDENDUM TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH THE SEVEN HILLS FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE TESTING FOR ALL NEW HIRES FOR THE DURATION OF THE 2014-2016 CONTRACT.

**Ordinance No. 121-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 122-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ‘CUYAHOGA COUNTY BUSINESS RETENTION AND ATTRACTION PROTOCOL’ WITH VARIOUS COMMUNITIES OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGIONAL COLLABORATION TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT CUYAHOGA COUNTY.

**Ordinance No. 122-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

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**Ordinance No. 123-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 1501 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, EFFECTIVE FOR TAX YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2016, IN ORDER TO REFLECT CHANGES TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE THAT GOVERN MUNICIPAL INCOME TAXATION AND TO CLARIFY, SIMPLIFY, AND HARMONIZE EXISTING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAXATION PROVISIONS OF THOSE CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

**Ordinance No. 123-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 124-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH JAMES G. ZUPKA, CPA, INC., 5240 EAST 98<sup>TH</sup> STREET, GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO 44125, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERFORMING PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING SERVICES WHICH INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, PROVIDING FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GASB STATEMENT 34 OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015, DECEMBER 31, 2016, AND DECEMBER 31, 2017; AND APPROPRIATING A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$46,916.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 124-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 125-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH PRIMEPAY OF WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE 1095/1094 MANDATED REPORTING AS A RESULT OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,452.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 125-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 126-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH APEX PEST CONTROL SERVICE, INC., OF OAKWOOD VILLAGE, OHIO, TO PROVIDE PEST CONTROL SERVICES FROM JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2018 FOR CITY HALL AND THE POLICE ANNEX, THE FIRE STATION, THE SERVICE GARAGE BUILDINGS, AND THE RECREATION COMPLEX; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,260.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 126-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

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**Ordinance No. 127-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH SIGNAL SERVICE COMPANY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016, AND APPROPRIATING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 127-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 128-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH PHILIP TOMBERLAIN II FOR THE PURPOSE OF DIRECTING THE ROOKIE ATHLETIC YOUTH PROGRAMS AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION COMPLEX FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016.

**Ordinance No. 128-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 129-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SEASONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH RONALD ROSE, FLAG FOOTBALL COMMISSIONER, ASSOCIATED WITH THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION COMPLEX ADULT FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE FOR SPRING AND FALL OF 2016.

**Ordinance No. 129-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 130-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COVERALL HEALTH-BASED CLEANING SYSTEM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION AND FITNESS COMPLEX FROM JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$19,104.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 130-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 131-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CONTINENTAL FIRE & SECURITY, INC., OF INDEPENDENCE, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE FOR THE FIRE AND SPRINKLER ALARM SYSTEMS AT THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER FOR ONE YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016, AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,345.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

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**Ordinance No. 131-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 132-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WESTLAND HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING OF WESTLAKE, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THE HVAC EQUIPMENT FOR ONE YEAR AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION COMPLEX FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,406.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 132-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**Ordinance No. 133-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH AIR FORCE ONE, INC., OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE SERESCO DEHUMIDIFIER FOR THE POOL AT THE RECREATION COMPLEX, INCLUDING BELTS AND FILTERS, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$1,460.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

**Ordinance No. 133-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

**MOTION** by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to amend Ordinance No. 134-2015 by removing the emergency clause in the title and in the body of the Ordinance, and reverting the Ordinance to its first reading.

**Mr. Trafis** stated:

“The purpose for removing the emergency clause is to allow our broker to come back to us for the purpose of getting us new numbers and also giving our Administration the time to make sure that this potential change that we’re looking to do, or at least considering to do, will also comply with our Union contracts.”

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Amended Ordinance No. 134-2015** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS TO ENTER INTO A TWENTY-TWO MONTH AGREEMENT COMMENCING DECEMBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING OCTOBER 1, 2017 FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,120,773.50 WITH MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO FOR THE FURNISHING OF MEDICAL INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR QUALIFIED FULL-TIME CITY EMPLOYEES; AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AND GIVE FORCE AND EFFECT TO SAID MEDICAL COVERAGES.

**Amended Ordinance No. 134-2015 was read by full title only for its first reading.**

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**Resolution No. 19-2015** – A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LOT SPLIT AND CONSOLIDATION PURSUANT TO SEVEN HILLS ORDINANCE NO. 911.002 (Permanent Parcel No. 552-20-018 and Permanent Parcel No. 552-20-013) FRONTING ON LUDWIN DRIVE.

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to read Resolution No. 19-2015 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution No. 19-2015 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

**MOTION** by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to adopt Resolution No. 19-2015.

**Council President Ernst** stated:

“I would like to say that I’m going to recuse myself from this vote. I am friends with some of the people involved in this.”

Roll Call: Barth, yea; Ernst (recused); Fraundorf, yea; Lecznar, yea; Snitzky, yea; Trafis, yea.

5 yea, 0 nay (Ernst recused)

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-2015 IS DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**Resolution No. 20-2015** – A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, THE QUESTION OF COUNCIL AMENDING SECTION 505.11, HUNTING PROHIBITED, AS FOUND IN CHAPTER 505, ANIMALS AND FOWL, AS CONTAINED IN PART FIVE, GENERAL OFFENSES CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, TO AUTHORIZE A NUISANCE ABATEMENT INITIATIVE FOR BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF THE WHITE-TAILED DEER POPULATION, IN COORDINATION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONTIGUOUS, ADJOINING, POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS THAT OPT TO ADOPT A SIMILAR PLAN FOR NUISANCE ABATEMENT, AND ESTABLISHING AN ELECTION DATE THEREFOR.

**Resolution No. 20-2015 was read by full title only for its second reading.**

**COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

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## **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR-SAFETY DIRECTOR**

**Mayor Dell'Aquila** made the following comments:

Thank you Madam President. It has been an honor to have served with you and all the other outgoing members of Council and those who will be remaining into the next term. The election is now over, and a new Council is about to be seated. Congratulations to the new Council. I look forward to working with you to make a positive impact on our City that we can all be proud of.

The next few months of work will be challenging, but together we can take the necessary steps to make this City what we all desire it to be. In so doing we will be confronted by a difficult reality. That reality is that Seven Hills is facing significant financial challenges as we all know. The cuts from Columbus left about a \$700,000.00 hole in our City finances in 2015. But that's just the beginning. This evening we had a first example of the challenges we're facing in Ordinance No. 134-2015 representing a proposed increase in our health insurance premiums, and this is an example of why that hole will be even larger in 2016.

We already knew that our union contracts will require about \$50,000.00 more payroll expense in 2016 and that our fire levy is now also due for renewal in 2016, just as the cost of everything else is increasing. This very simply all means that additional revenue is required.

To meet this challenge as soon as possible I have tasked my Administration to begin the outlines of a budget proposal to be submitted to the new Council in early December. It will not be complete since the City does not close its books until year-end, but it will provide a good beginning point before Council decides on the appropriations. That budget must be passed by Council and submitted to the County Auditor by the end of March.

Fortunately the City made many adjustments in the past few years to lower costs and save money. We tripled our savings and cut our budget by about 15% and brought the Recreation Center to almost-break-even. However, those were one-time and short-term fixes and new revenue is required to continue repairing the City's finances. That's what the failed police levy was all about last year.

To remain successful we must now soberly consider the need for additional revenue and the most effective approach to achieve positive results. That also requires that the City retain key staff members who understand City operations, who have sacrificed to help turn the City around, and who have taken on additional responsibilities. There will be decisions over the next few months that will test the very fabric of our City. There will be disagreements and there will be disputes. But all that is overshadowed by the need for selflessness and service.

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**Mayor Dell'Aquila** (continued):

Seven Hills is just not another City – it's our City. We must show the residents that we understand by decisively making the obvious and difficult revenue enhancing decisions we know are required despite the political consequences. The challenge is significant, but we can overcome it by working together.

Thank you, Madam President.

**REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICIALS**

**Director of Finance Johnson** had no formal report.

**Director of Law Pignatiello** had no formal report.

**Director of Public Service and Properties Moga** was not present.

**Building Commissioner Moro** was not present.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Mr. Snitzky** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Mr. Fraundorf** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Mr. Trafis** had no miscellaneous comments.

**Mrs. Lecznar:**

Thank you. Tonight marks a momentous event in my life, my last meeting as a Councilperson for the City of Seven Hills. Throughout my tenure I have had the pleasure of personally meeting many of our residents and those in our business community. I am pleased to say that I now consider many of these same people not only constituents, but friends. This provided me with an opportunity for which I am eternally grateful.

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**Mrs. Lecznar** (continued):

History is told, and often misrepresented, by the victors. Often the legacy of those vanquished go unseen or besmirched by some who's depiction of leadership is to demean and diminish the accomplishments of others to make themselves and their true lack of leadership seem greater. I hope that as the residents of our community reflect on my service they will look fondly upon me personally. Know that your interest, our collective interest, was always first and foremost in my decision-making process.

I never sought recognition to advance my, or my family's, personal agenda. Fortunately, I can take solace in the words of my dear, departed father who always stated that *'you have to look at yourself in the mirror, always like and be proud of what is looking back'*. I like what is looking back. I am confident that I acted with dedication, commitment, and love for our community.

Though life looks easier through the proverbial rear view mirror and we often have regrets, I can state with confidence that my only true regret throughout my tenure was that the legislation regarding the overpopulation of deer within our community could not have been enacted in a more timely fashion. This matter was and is near and dear to me personally and passionately. I ask the incoming Administration to follow through with this legislation. Allow the residents to have a final say on what happens in their City on this very important issue.

My advice to the newly elected Councilmembers would be to stay the course – you have a big job ahead of you. Listen to your constituents, lead with your heart and with your head, and always place the interest of the City and our residents at the top of the list. I encourage you to not 'drink the Kool-Aid' of those 'seasoned' members of Council. I can assure you that those that lead through innuendo and intimidation are not your friend nor do they have the best interest of our community at heart.

In closing, I would like to invoke the words of French philosopher Alexis de Tocqueville, who stated *"In democracy we get the government we deserve"*. I believe that our community deserves better.

Please consider your vote precious – we owe it to our collective future to scrutinize those we elect and choose our leaders wisely, not merely based on their baseless accusations, innuendo and intimidation.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you and our community. May the grace and love of God always bless the United States and the City of Seven Hills.

Lastly, I would like to quote my Lord and Savior – Forgive them Father for they know not what they have done.

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## **Mr. Barth:**

Thank you Madam President. I enjoyed working with this Council, and I very much look forward to working with the new Council. And I will have more to say about each outgoing Councilperson when they are individually recognized. But no matter what side of the fence you are on, public service is a sacrifice and quite a bit of hard work. And I doubt that anyone up here did it for the money. I thank those outgoing Council people for their dedication and their contributions to Seven Hills. Thank you.

## **Council President Ernst:**

This is my last voting meeting as a member of City Council. It has been an interesting two years.

In 2013 a couple of good friends – and I use that term loosely -- asked me to consider running for Council in Ward 4. While I have never been involved in politics, I had watched the political climate in Seven Hills devolve in the six years that we'd been living in the City and I hoped that as an outsider I could provide a fresh viewpoint, and possibly a voice of reason. What I found after winning my seat was that there are residents in the City and people on Council who are not interested in reason or new ideas; they are interested in the status quo and making anyone who doesn't agree with their agenda look bad. I think this was shown by the Council that was elected in November. There are only two names on Council that have not been involved in Seven Hills politics for years. I did not run this term because I found the status quo to be very frustrating.

Seven Hills has some very serious problems. When it was created the residents wanted to be a nice 'quiet bedroom community'. That sounds great, but there is a cost burden to that type of community. Since there isn't a large commercial base to help fund the cost of running the City, the burden of supporting the City falls on the residents. I haven't talked to many residents who are willing to pay more in taxes to support the ideal of a 'bedroom community'.

In fact, the 'Contract for Seven Hills' which the residents supported overwhelmingly in November is basing its increased revenue on an income tax "restructuring" which will place the burden of supporting our City on our business partners and their employees. Once again, I will ask the question, what incentive will this give any business to come to Seven Hills instead of Independence? What will keep businesses from leaving Seven Hills or asking for a tax abatement, which negates the increase in taxes being collected due to the "restructuring"? This is the first time that I've ever lived in a small city with very little business development. I can tell you from experience it's much nicer to have the income tax base that comes with commercial development. Doing anything that inhibits business development in the City, in my opinion, is short-sighted at best.

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**Council President Ernst** (continued):

My husband and I bought our home in Seven Hills because we had a very specific list of requirements that we needed to meet. Our home fit all of those requirements. While I didn't know anything about Seven Hills when we bought here, I am glad that since we ended up in Seven Hills our house happened to be in Ward 4. It has a diversity of income levels, which is shown by the houses in the Ward. The houses in Ward 4 range from what I would call starter homes priced at about \$100,000.00 on lots about 5,000 square feet, to houses priced above the \$300,000.00 mark. There are businesses along most of Broadview Road in Ward 4. We have senior cluster homes and we have what is apparently a dirty word – 'apartments'. Based on where I have lived in the past, this kind of diversity is what I think makes a City work. Apparently I am in the minority in Seven Hills, which is why I don't think that I should be a representative on Council.

Since I am a resident and am still paying a mortgage in Seven Hills, I hope that the "Contract for Seven Hills" works. I will say that if I had been an average citizen, I might have voted for it. The literature was very well done and it sounds great. What's not to like about a plan that is going to do more work on our infrastructure, support our schools, take care of our seniors, and not cost very many of the residents any more money. After having spent the last two years actively involved in City business, I don't see how it's sustainable, but two of our Council members have been sure that they know more about running the City than anybody else in the Administration or on Council, so I can only hope that they are correct.

In closing I would like to thank all the residents in Ward 4 who supported me during the last two years. It was my honor to serve as your representative on Council. I hope that I provided the representation that you were looking for from your Council member. Thank you.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: all yea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**The November 23, 2015 Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.**

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Michele K. Ernst, President of Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol L. Sekerak, Clerk of Council

Date: \_\_\_\_\_