



Mayor Bradley Sellers

# City of Warrensville Heights

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL  
4301 WARRENSVILLE CENTER ROAD  
WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44128  
Phone: (216) 587-8516 • Fax: (216) 587-1042



Andrea Mitchell  
Council President

*"You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas."  
Shirley Chisholm - submitted by Councilwoman Andrea Mitchell*

## Regular Meeting of City Council — February 5, 2019 7:00p.m. Minutes

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bradley D. Sellers

**Attendance:** Councilwoman Hagwood, Councilwoman Edwards, Councilwoman White, Councilman Stewart, Councilman Howard, Councilman Anderson and Council President Mitchell  
**Roll Call: 7 Present**

**Prayer:** Councilman Walter Stewart

**Minutes:** January 15, 2019 Regular Meeting  
**Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards**  
**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs**

**Departmental Reports:** Mayor Sellers stated that Council has the Departmental Reports from each Director in their possession. He stated if they have questions, they can seek out that individual Director. He stated if Council has additional questions, they can contact his office as well.

### Directors & Administrative Staff

Kelli Wilson, Chief Of Staff		Allison Moore, Executive Assistant To Mayor	
Ted Sims	Director, Service Department	Ben Brown	Building Commissioner
Raymon Turner	Community Development Manager	Dan Gerson, GPD Group	City Engineer
Jennifer Lestary	Director, Civic Senior Center	June Scharf	Director, Communications Activities
Barbara Walker	Senior Advocacy/Liaison Director	Alexa Gulle	Asst. Director, Communications
Chief Wesley Haynes	Police Department	Teresa Mitchell-Bosley	Law Director
Chief Herb Waugh	Fire Department	Keisha Hughes	Assistant Law Director
Karen Howe	Finance Director	Marlene Ridenour	Prosecutor
Loris Reid	Assistant Finance Director	Jerome Duval	Economic Development Director
Nicole Johnson	Personnel Director	Carletta Fellows	Director, Strategic Initiatives

### Residents' Requests and Comments:

**Francine Wahome**, 19606 Harvard Avenue. She stated she walked out of her home one morning and noticed that her neighbor had backed his car out of his driveway and onto her lawn. She observed that there were truck tire tracks "all the way out to the middle of the lawn." She reported that her neighbor has a lot of cars in his driveway. She stated she did not call the police. She stated she went to Home Depot and bought tall posts and nailed them in the ground so he will not be able to back out onto her lawn again.

**Ed Chambers**. He stated that last month he attended the Democratic Club and the Secretary asked him to come back on February 12<sup>th</sup> to connect the dots on what happened in Warrensville Heights politically in the late 60s and early 70s and he agreed to do it. He stated he is at the meeting this evening to invite the Council to his speech. He remarked that the late 60s was a difficult time politically and he thought about Charles Dickens's A Tale of Two Cities and the infamous quote "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." He said if he could take that phrase and turn it around 180 degrees and superimpose it on 1969 and early 70s, politically it was the worst of times and now it is the best of times. He said it was the worst of times when we had a young lawyer who

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was a Rhodes Scholar that was hung in his backyard on a Sunday night. He said it was the worst of times when people were not welcome in this community and it was being said what we cannot do. He stated they were saying the garbage will not be collected, the pot holes will not be filled and the Fire and Police Department will not obey the Mayor. He remarked that he found people who said that to be totally wrong because today we have some of the children of the parents that worked during that time sitting on this Council and doing a very good job. He added that we have a Mayor whose mother and father were in this city and we just might have the best Mayor in Cuyahoga County.....a hardworking Mayor!

<<Applause>>

He shared that he is doing the speech at the Democratic Club meeting for those Council members who have asked him to elaborate on certain subject matter and encouraged everyone to come next week. He joked that he was taking longer than 10 minutes because he is old and speaks slowly. He announced that he will be turning 89 years old in three weeks!

<<Applause>>

Mr. Chambers stated "come and be with me." He thanked the Mayor.

<<Applause>>

**Traci Mitchell**, 19118 Shakerwood Road. She stated she is present on behalf of the School Board to give a brief update on the situation with the flooding in the high school. She reported for the most part the school is operable; offices have been relocated to different areas of the building because the flood damage was pretty intense. She shared that the gym is still impacted and after speaking with Superintendent Jolly this afternoon, the gym floor will need to be replaced. She reported that the adjusters were in the building today and the insurance on the buildings will cover replacing the gym floor as well as the work that needs to be done in the offices. Ms. Mitchell reported that asbestos was found in the tile due to the age of the building. She reported that the asbestos was not a danger to the students in the building but they had to move offices to another location. She explained that everything will be covered with the renovations. She reported that Coach Swift is doing a phenomenal job moving the locations for the girls' and boys' basketball and wrestling teams. She stated they have had wonderful partnerships with the local community schools. Also, she shared that the parent-teacher conferences are this week, the regular School Board meeting is February 20<sup>th</sup> and if anyone is interested in seeing our Work Session in progress that will be next Wednesday February 13<sup>th</sup>. She stated that School Board meetings are now the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:30p.m. in Room 154 of the high school. She thanked everyone.

**The Order of the Day:**

**The Council Requested To Suspend The Rules By Unanimous Consent.**

**The Motion: The members of City Council requested to Suspend the Rules by Unanimous Consent which were read by Attorney Metcalf-Beasley.**

**Motioned By Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded By Councilwoman White, Passage Councilwoman Edwards**

**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried.**

1.	Ord. 2019-006	Councilman Stanley Anderson (As Planning Chair)	Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the application of Paul Gallagher of Fastsigns, representing Michael Cipriani of Cipriani Property Company, LTD., for the installation of two (2) wall signs and replacement of two (2) panels on an existing pole sign for Smart Tax located at 23018 Emery Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio, 44128, PPN 763-15-024.
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2.	Ord. 2019-007	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	Amending Ordinance Number 2017-055 in order to include compensation for certain members of the local Board of Tax Review of the City of Warrensville Heights, and declaring an emergency.
3.	Ord. 2019-008	Councilman Stanley Anderson (As Planning Chair)	Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the application of Olivia Pridemore of Advanced Installation & Sign Service, representing JLP-Harvard Park, LLC, for the removal and replacement of a wall sign for Robeks Juice located at 4025 Richmond Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio, 44122, PPN 763-33-002.
4.	Ord. 2019-009	Councilman Stanley Anderson (As Planning Chair)	Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the application of Aldo Dure of Be Next Awning & Graphics, inc., representing Overlook Court Limited, for the installation of two (2) sets of channel letter signs for Choukouya Resto Bar located at 4620 Richmond Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio, 44128, PPN 763-27-013.
5.	Ord. 2019-010	Councilman Stanley Anderson (As Planning Chair)	Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the application of Jennie Robinson of B-Trice Home Health Agency, LLC, representing Overlook Court Limited, for a Special Use Permit to operate an Adult Day Care Facility located at 4630 Richmond Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128, PPN 763-27-013.
6.	Ord. 2019-011	Councilman Stanley Anderson (As Planning Chair)	Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the application of Timothy Thompson of Goldmine Barbershop, representing Latoya Johnson, for the installation of a sign for Goldmine Barbershop located at 20009 Harvard Avenue, Warrensville Heights, Ohio, 44128, PPN 761-09-010.
7.	Ord. 2019-012	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	Authorizing the Administration of the City of Warrensville Heights to enter into a Personal Services Agreement with Project Management Consultants (PMC) to provide pre-construction services for the conversion of the building located at 4743 Richmond Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128.
8.	Ord. 2019-013	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District to implement a Conservation Education, Stewardship and Public Involvement Program, and declaring an emergency.

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9.	Res. 2019-008	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	Authorizing the Administration to engage in a public bidding process to advertise for and solicit competitive bids for grass cutting and clean up services on vacant or occupied and neglected properties that are in violation of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Warrensville Heights, and declaring an emergency.
10.	Res. 2019-009	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	Authorizing the Administration to engage in a public bidding process to advertise for and solicit competitive bids for the purchase, installation, support and warranty of audio system equipment for two (2) fire stations in the City of Warrensville Heights, and declaring an emergency.
11.	Res. 2019-010	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	To adopt the Solid Waste Management Plan for the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management District.
12.	Ord. 2019-014	Mayor Bradley D. Sellers	Authorizing the Mayor to renew an agreement with Bailey Communications, Inc. for \$70,414.00 to provide Information Technology Consulting and Maintenance Services for the network of the City of Warrensville Heights for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, and declaring an emergency.
13.	Ord. 2019-015	Personnel Committee	Amending Ordinance Number 2019-001 in order to revise salary ranges for various positions of the City of Warrensville Heights, and declaring an emergency.

**Announcements from the Directors and Council:**

**Fire Chief Waugh** reported that the niece of one of our Crossing Guards Mr. Flower was involved in an accident last week with two of her children. He reported that she lost one child and the other is in a coma. He stated that Mr. Flower is a long-time resident of Warrensville. He asked that those who know Mr. Flower keep him in their prayers.

**Jerome DuVal** stated he has listened to Mr. Chambers's podcast and in addition to the history of the city, one thing he has learned is that there are no obstacles or problems, only challenges. He thanked Mr. Chambers for that knowledge.

**Nicole Johnson** thanked Mr. Chambers for coming this evening. She stated that her parents moved on to Wickfield in 1969 and stated it was a pleasure to meet him.

**Kelli Wilson** had nothing additional to report.

**Police Chief Haynes** reported on an incident that happened a week ago involving one of his officers. He stated that it "hit the media" and at this point and time, the officer is no longer with the Police Department based on his misconduct. He stated he and the Mayor who is also the Safety Director decided this is an individual that they did not want a part of the Police Department and the community. He reported the decision was then made to terminate the individual. He stated the media reported that they were not allowed in the building and that is not true. He remarked that our safety force is held to a high standard and if you cannot abide by that then this is not the place for you.

**June Scharf** announced that the new website launched this week. She acknowledged that she was unable to be present during Caucus when Mr. DuVal showed those in attendance the new website. She reported the website is found using the same address and it forms much better to the present trends and standards. She remarked that she is sure everyone will find it visually appealing and user friendly. She stated if there are any issues to let her know. Lastly, she gave a "special shout out" to Alexa Gullie, Assistant Director of Communications for her outstanding work on the website. She stated Alexa really committed to getting all the content up and working through the challenges they faced. She stated that she hopes everyone enjoys the website!

**Ben Brown** directed everyone's attention to his handout indicating the impact numbers from 2018 for the Building Department. He provided the following snapshot: 589 permits that resulted in over 10 million dollars in permit evaluations; 1,439 property

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maintenance inspections conducted; 32 projects that required a plan review for alterations, additions and new construction; 134 point of sale inspections conducted; and 908 rental inspections for apartments, condos etc.

**Ted Sims** had nothing to report.

**Jennifer Lastery** announced that AARP is preparing taxes, starting Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> for free so if you know anyone that needs to get their taxes done, they can give the Senior Center a call and make a reservation. She stated there is a Lunch n Learn on February 19<sup>th</sup>, presented by Cleveland Clinic and they will be discussing the heart. She added that Ahuja will be doing a presentation on the heart as well on February 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-6p.m; refreshments will be served at both events. Lastly, she announced the Black History Program celebrating Gospel Music will be on February 20<sup>th</sup> and it is an event you do not want to miss! She stated there will be refreshments at 6:00p.m. then the program will start promptly at 7:00p.m.

**Carnetta Fellows** had nothing to report.

**Karen Howe** had nothing to report.

**Councilman Howard** thanked everyone for coming out especially his Ward 5 residents who were about half of those in attendance naming Mr. White, Ms. Underwood, Ms. Jefferson, Mimi Gaitor, Eddie Gilford, Barbara Walker, Phyllis Tullos and Carol Perry. He thanked them for being so involved and holding him accountable for what he does.

**Councilman Anderson** had nothing to report.

**Councilwoman White** thanked everyone for coming out and welcomed one of our newest businesses to the community, the Adult Day Care Center for clients ages 18-40. She stated she thinks the idea is really good and will really work for this community.

**Councilwoman Hagwood** stated that for those who have been trying to figure her out on her political journey, she learned everything she knows from Ed Chambers.

**Councilman Stewart** thanked everyone for coming tonight. He thanked Ed Chambers for his presentation. He recalled when he first met Mr. Chambers and realized he had so much knowledge; he called him a walking history book. He stated he told Mr. Chambers that one day he wants to sit at his feet, learn and write that story. He stated he will be at the meeting next week. Councilman Stewart added that some of the statements Mr. Chambers made today made him think about the quote "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it." so he thanked Mr. Chambers again.

**Councilwoman Edwards** had nothing to report.

**Assistant Law Director Hughes** had nothing to report.

**Council President Mitchell** thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked the residents for speaking and said she learns something new everytime someone says something. She called Ms. Wahome's idea "genius" because now there will be no more tire tracks. She thanked Mr. Chambers and stated it was a pleasure as always. She thanked School Board President Mitchell for the update with the high school. She stated that it is sad to know the gym floor was damaged but good to know that it will be replaced as well as the offices and that the students are safe. Council President stated she would be remiss if she did not mention that on January 27<sup>th</sup>, one of our favorite residents turned 21 years old again, Ms. Rudolph, Happy Belated Birthday!

**<<Laughter and Applause>>**

She acknowledged the Ward 2 residents that were in attendance and thanked them for coming out. She announced that today Representative Janine Boyd introduced Aisha's Law and stated none of the Republicans have signed on to it yet but hopefully it will get some traction. She explained that it was discussed in December 2018 and introduced today for Aisha Fraser. She reported it is a new Domestic Violence Bill to reform our laws in the state; it is a three step process that every jurisdiction will follow if it passes. She remarked it is as positive as it is necessary and it is past due!

#### **Mayor's Comments:**

Mayor Sellers thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He acknowledged the members of Planning Commission in attendance, Renee Strong and Janice Rox and the members of Civil Service Commission, Ms. Rudolph, Mr. White and Ms. Tullos. He stated he was glad to have School Board members, Traci Mitchell and Mimi Gaitor in attendance. He remarked that if you have not been by Randallwood and the old library, it has been leveled and demolished. He reported that construction will commence in March as soon as the weather breaks. He reported that the school can house up to 1,300 or 1,400 children that will be Pre-K to Grade 5. He stated there will be a new school and a new energy on an old site so be aware when the project comes before Planning Commission for review and then Council.

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He thanked Mr. Chambers for his kind words and inquired with School Board President Mitchell if there will be a naming contest for the new school. School Board President Mitchell stated they are in discussion about the matter and there is a process they must follow and review per their legal counsel. Mayor Sellers stated that he would be remiss if he did not say that the community should name that school. He stated that you have a man like Ed Chambers who has lived in this community for a lifetime fighting for children in this community. He added that he feels it is important to name the building after someone that people actually know. He remarked that he is going to stay on the issue because he knows the school does not have to be named Eastwood, Westwood or Randallwood; we do not have to do that again. He commented that it is the people in the community that are putting up the money for the school so they should have some say in what the design is and that folks are recognized because we do not have to revisit the past.

He acknowledged former Councilwoman Deborah Hill in attendance at the Council Meeting as well.

**Motion for an Executive Session based on ORC.121.22(G)(2) for a Personnel matter and a Public Safety concern.**

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Council President Mitchell**

**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs - Motion Carried**

**Adjournment to Executive Session at 7:34p.m.**

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**Motion to End Executive Session and return to Regular Meeting Agenda.**

**Motioned by Councilman President Mitchell, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood.**

**Roll Call: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs - Motion Carried**

**Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 9:06p.m.**

**Adjournment at 9:07p.m.**

*2-19-2019*

Approved



Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

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