

County Council Regular Meeting: Oct. 24, 2017

Observer: Lesley Hahn

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.

All members were present for the meeting which began at 5:03pm and ended at 5:31.

II. Antecedents, Announcements and Public Comment.

County Executive Armond Budish announced that the Global Center is now under new management and expressed pleasure that it has acquired new activity involving Jump Start and Cleveland Clinic. Activist Rev. Pikney-Butts argued against the 10-cent-per-bag fee being considered by Council, saying that poor people couldn't afford food, let alone a bag fee.

III. Business Transacted.

* Supported: the application of Icebreaker Windpower, Inc. to the Ohio Power Siting Board for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (so it appears the wind farm is moving forward)

* Adopted: Amendments to the upcoming biennial budget, adding \$750,000 for a new East Side Market and \$2 million for a pedestrian bridge to the lakefront from the Mall area.

* Adopted: the 2017 Sustainability Plan, sponsored by Council members Simon, Miller and Conwell and the Department of Sustainability. Ms. Simon said she would send this observer a copy of the plan.

* An ordinance levying a county motor vehicle tax was read twice and passed along to the November meeting for final action.

* Resolutions introduced and referred to appropriate committees included the following:

-- a joint statement to address the noise impact of the Cuyahoga County Airport

-- a revenue generating agreement with the City of Broadview Heights for sewer and water line maintenance

-- a \$15 million bond issue in connection with the University School Project, to refinance the Series 2012 bonds and to issue Series 2017 bonds

-- a \$55 million issuance of Series 2017 bonds that had previously been issued by the County for the Eliza Jennings Senior Care Network Project

-- a cooperative agreement with Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority to share an interest rate subsidy to be paid by the federal government on revenue bonds issued by the Port Authority as qualified energy conservation bonds

-- an amendment to a contract with Microgenics Corporation for a three-year extension for onsite drug detection services

-- a three-year extension of an award to various providers for real estate appraisal services in connection with Sheriffs' sales.

IV. Notes.

- * The Environment Committee will hold a hearing on the bag fee tomorrow, 10/25.
- * A representative of AFL/CIO spoke in support the bag fee ordinance
- * The Budget Committee will hold a final hearing at 1:00 p.m October 30th. where other committees can lobby for additional funds or changes to the proposed '18-'19 budget.