

County Council Regular Meeting: Jan. 22, 2019
Observer: Mary Graf

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 meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Councilman Brady and ended at 5:45 pm. All were present.

II. Antecedents, Announcements and Public Comment.

Three people made comments. Kimberly Brown, a local activist for improved vigilance by the Division of Family & Children Services (FCS), commented on an agenda item regarding the new board established to advise that body. She criticized County Executive Budish for not appointing any of the many activists to that panel and asked Council therefore to suspend the vote scheduled for today. (See CFS below.). A second person spoke about bail reform and asked the county to support The Bail Project, which he said has been very successful in many urban areas and is scheduled to be initiated in Cleveland. Miss Liu spoke on homeless shelters.

III. Business Transacted.

* All resolutions up for adoption were passed without discussion, including these:

- \$3.5 million were added to the budget in order to hire approximately 60 more corrections officers for the county jail.
- Keith Libman was reappointed to the County Audit Committee.
- Ten persons, as listed, were appointed to the new County FCS Advisory Board.
- \$2.1 million were approved to resurface Ridge Road in Brooklyn and Cleveland.
- \$3.7 million were approved to resurface Brainard Road in Highland Hts and Lyndhurst.

* The Council's proposed ordinance establishing a Cuyahoga County Housing Program received second reading as scheduled, without amendment or discussion and without adding any new sponsors. The 7 sponsors so far are Council members Brady, Miller, Jones, Stephens, Conwell, Simon and Gallagher (which could indicate the measure is likely to pass on 2/26).

* Among other resolutions introduced and referred to committee were the following:

- \$1.2 million in additional funds for Taser body cameras
- \$1.1 million to Advanced Server Management Group, Inc. for print management operations
- \$2.5 million for sale of property in East Cleveland as part of consolidation of County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- \$2 million for support services for Universal Pre-Kindergarten

IV. Notes.

Given all the current issues swirling around county government, it is surprising how quietly and routinely Council is able to hurry through a long agenda with no discussion in little over a half hour.