

# Documenters

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## City Council

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Agency: [Cleveland City Council](#)

Date: Sept. 9, 2024

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## Summary

- Some public commenters expressed safety concerns.
- Public commenters voiced support for New Era Cleveland and Chairman Fahiem.
- Commenters also shared concerns about a re-zoning plan that would result in a new Ward 11 gas station.

## Follow-Up Questions

- Is the number of child homicides continuing to rise? If so, what is the plan to mitigate that?
- What is being done to improve the communication between the mayor's office and council members?

## Notes

I watched the meeting on TV20 and it started at 7:01 p.m. I noticed that missing from the [agenda](#) was the message from Council President Blaine Griffin (Ward 6) regarding meeting disruptions prior to the dispensing of the journal (which means approving past meeting minutes).

Approval of meeting minutes brought forward by Council Member Kerry McCormack and seconded by Council Member Deborah Gray.

As public comment was back after [council's summer hiatus](#), emphasis was given to rules for speaking within three minutes. Scheduled to speak:

- ☐ Former Ohio Congressional representative Dennis Kucinich from Washington, D.C, regarding the zoning at Madison Avenue and West Boulevard, not representing nor being paid by anyone - no show
- ☐ Kamm's Corners resident Dallas Eckman regarding crime and punishment in

Cleveland, not representing nor being paid by anyone - noticeable applause from the attendees. Eckman spoke on his perception of “fraudulent allegations and charges” by Cleveland police against New Era Cleveland leader Antoine Tolbert, who also goes by Chairman Fahiem. Described his observation of police retaliation while working with New Era at a Juneteenth event, saying police ticketed participants of a demonstration for playing music and passing out food and toys to children. Eckman said police that passed out the citations did not attend any of the hearings, further demonstrating, he said, their intent was to intimidate. He said Chief of Police Dorothy Todd told the Job Corps, who he said joined New Era at that event, to avoid associating with New Era.

- ☐ Activist and Ward 9 resident Brenda Bickerstaff spoke regarding groundhogs. Bickerstaff was not representing, nor being paid by anyone. Said she’s spent thousands of dollars but is worried that the foundation of her son’s house is being affected.
- ☐ Community Member Darryl Houston spoke about the misrepresentation of funds, not representing nor being paid by anyone. Houston expressed concern about the pole maintenance for utilities.
- ☐ Asia George-Huff from the Buckeye area and a youth member of New Era, spoke on crime, safety. George-Huff cried while expressing concerns about safety and disappointment in the treatment of Chairman Fahiem. Said she wished the world would love.
- ☐ Diab Dar-Issa, from Ward 11, not representing nor being paid by anyone, spoke about the proposed zoning change that would convert a former CVS site to a gas station. Suggested re-imagining the area to benefit all residents within that neighborhood.
- ☐ Andrew Carpenter from Buckeye Road and a youth member of New Era, expressed how the summer camp makes him feel good. He spoke against the [charges against Chairman Fahiem](#).
- ☐ Maryam Assar from Gordon Square, not representing nor being paid by anyone, attorney to Chairman Fahiem. Said there has been an increase of teen homicides in the last decade and commended the work of New Era.
- ☐ Kameron Damaska from Kamm’s Corners spoke in support of Chairman Fahiem and was not representing nor paid by anyone.
- ☐ Faouzi Baddour of Ward 11, not representing nor being paid by anyone. Spoke on Cleveland Metropolitan School District students walking near the proposed re-zoning location said a gas station would be harmful to children.

*[Editor’s note: Find more details about the information that follows -- including links to*

*legislation pages on Legistar -- by [downloading the agenda.](#)]*

#### Received Reports and Communications

912-2024 Oath of Office for James Hartley of the Department of Finance

913-2024 Emergency contract due to the Aug. 6 storm

914-2024 Notice of Board of Control's agreement with the [establishment of the Department of Parks and Recreation](#)

915-2024 Acceptance of \$7,500 grant for the Municipal Court's Mental Health Court Program through Cuyahoga County's Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) board

916-2024 Oath of office for Glenn Parker III, member of Civilian Police Review Board

925-2024 Designating council's Deputy Clerk Allan Dreyer to serve as Clerk of Council Pro Tempore for all matters requiring the Clerk's signature on Aug. 23 and Aug. 26

926-2024 Oath of Office for Stephanie Wernet, Chief Innovation and Technology Officer

927-2024 Oath of Office for Jason R Shachner, assistant director, Department of Public Safety

928-2024 Oath of Office for Christopher P. Viland, assistant director, Department of Public Safety

932-2024 Notice of intent of [Beacon Communities](#) apply to Ohio Housing Finance Agency for funding for Empire Senior Housing at 9113 Parmalee Avenue (Ward 9)

#### Communications from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control

917-2024 New License application from Infinite8 Enterprises, 230 W. Huron Rd. (Ward 3)

918-2024 New License application from Great Individuals Neighborhoods Communities Corp., 10109 St. Claire Ave. (Ward 9)

919-2024 New License Application from Emir Properties LLC, 10412-16 Lorain Ave. (Ward 11)

920-2024 Transfer of Ownership application Ridge & Brookside, Inc., 4171 Ridge Rd. (Ward 13)

921-2024 Transfer of Ownership application Frozen Daiquiri Bar and Restaurant, 721 Bolivar Rd. (Ward 3)

922-2024 Transfer of Ownership application Getgo Operating LLC, 4951 Ridge Rd. (Ward 13)

923-2024 Transfer of Ownership application Getgo Operating LLC, 3038 West 117th St. (Ward 16)

924-2024 Transfer of Ownership application Cleshoni LLC, 2054 Fulton Rd. (Ward 3)

929-2024 Transfer of Ownership application Larks Forest City LLC, 4506 Lorain Ave.

(Ward 3)

930-2024 Economic Development Transfer Application, Tripi LLC, 3928 Lorain Ave.

(Ward 3)

933-2024 Transfer of Location Application, Shreeji One LLC, 4475 Lee Rd. (Ward 1)

The clerk read special resolutions of condolences, congratulations and recognition.

#### First reading legislation

There were 20 [emergency ordinances](#). Council referred 13 to administrative and committee review (934-2024, 935-2024, 936-2024, 937-2024, 937-2024, 938-2024, 939-2024, 940-2024, 941-2024, 942-2024, 943-2024, 944-2024, 945-2024 and 956-2024).

The other seven were approved (946-2024, 947-2024, 980-2024, 981-2024, 982-2024, 983-2024, 984-2024).

Of the 20 emergency ordinances the one that stood out the most to me was [935-2024](#), which would authorize the Director of Public Safety to enter into one or more mutual aid agreements with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, D.C., for additional law enforcement services for aid and assistance and accept reimbursement for such services in connection with the 2025 Presidential Inauguration being held in Washington, D.C. from Jan. 17-21, 2025, along with associated events and activities on days before and after the date of the event, or in the alternative, to accept reimbursement for services and related expenses from the State of Ohio.

[Ordinance](#) 957-2024 amending sections of Chapter 523, relating to rules and rates for electricity charges for the Division of Cleveland Public Power, was read and referred to administrative and committee review

Nine emergency [resolutions](#) were read in total. Four were read and referred to administrative review (948-2024, 949-2024, 950-2024, 958-2024). Most notable to me was 948-2024, which would strongly encourage County Executive Chris Ronayne to implement the InsideOut Dad program in the county jail.

Five emergency resolutions were adopted (951-2024, 952-2024, 953-2024, 954-2024, 955-2024). They deal with objections -- and one withdrawn objection -- to new liquor

permits and requests to transfer permits to new locations.

#### Second reading legislation

Nine emergency ordinances were approved (633-2024, 718-2024, 811-2024, 821-2024, 823-2024, 825-2024, 832-2024, 834-2024, 857-2024). These include [financing for construction at Ohio City Farm](#), a grant for tree maintenance and planting, and extending a lease at 3631 Perkins Ave. for Community Police Commission office space.

#### Miscellaneous comments

Council Member Mike Polensek spoke regarding the police work in finding the alleged perpetrator of a hit and run.

Council Member Kevin Conwell [questioned how the speed tables were placed in his ward](#). He called out Mayor Justin Bibb's administration as being responsible for poor communication between the Mayor's office and council members.

Council Member Stephanie Howse-Jones' absence was excused.

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If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at [cleDOCUMENTERS@gmail.com](mailto:cleDOCUMENTERS@gmail.com) with "Correction Request" in the subject line.