WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County (“County”) has been engaged in negotiations with the Ohio Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association for a collective bargaining agreement that would cover approximately 3 employees in the classification of Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant at the Sheriff’s Department; and

WHEREAS, O.R.C. 4117.14(C)(3) of the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Act (“CBA”) expressly authorizes parties who are engaged in collective bargaining negotiations to request fact-finding, an impasse resolution procedure, and the appointment of a fact-finding panel to assist the parties to resolve an impasse in contract negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the parties reached impasse in contract negotiations and submitted their unresolved issues to fact-finding pursuant to the CBA and O.R.C. 4117.14 (C), and a fact-finding hearing was conducted before Thomas J. Nowel; and

WHEREAS, O.R.C. 4117.14(C)(6)(a) requires that not later than seven days after the findings and recommendations are sent, the legislative body, by a three-fifths vote of its membership, may reject the recommendations, and if the recommendations are not rejected, the recommendations shall be deemed agreed upon as the final resolution of the issues submitted and a collective bargaining agreement shall be executed between the parties, including the fact-finding panel’s recommendations, except as otherwise modified by the parties by mutual agreement; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the CBA and O.R.C. 4117.14(D), if the fact-finding report is rejected by either party, the next step for this bargaining unit of Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant will be to advance all open issues to binding conciliation, a final offer settlement procedure, pursuant to a board order that is required to be issued forthwith to the parties by the State Employment Relations Board; and
WHEREAS, Fact-finder Thomas J. Nowel sent his findings and recommendations on January 8, 2016, and the County Executive and Sheriff are recommending that the Fact-finding report be accepted; and

WHEREAS, It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue, and to continue the usual and daily operation of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. The findings and recommendations of Fact-finder Thomas J. Nowel regarding open issues in the collective bargaining negotiations between Cuyahoga County and Ohio Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association representing approximately 3 employees in the classification of Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant at the Sheriff’s Department are hereby accepted.

SECTION 2. Funds necessary to implement the new collective bargaining agreement shall be budgeted and appropriated.

SECTION 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue, and to continue the usual and daily operation of the County. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members of Council, this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon the signature of the County Executive.

On a motion by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Miller, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas: Schron, Conwell, Jones, Brown, Hairston, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Germana, Gallagher and Brady

Nays: None

County Council President ___________ Date ___________