



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR

3:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council Vice-President Jones called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Vice-President Jones asked Clerk Schmotzer to call the roll. Councilmembers Germana, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Jones, Brown, Hairston and Greenspan were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Councilmember Simon entered the meeting shortly after the roll call was taken. Council President Brady and Councilmember Miller were absent from the meeting.

A motion was then made by Ms. Conwell, seconded by Mr. Germana and approved by unanimous vote to excuse Council President Brady and Mr. Miller from the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO AGENDA

The following citizens addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2015-0076, a Resolution determining to submit to the electors the question of renewing the excise tax on the sale of cigarettes for the purpose of funding arts and cultural facilities and programs in the County:

- a) Mr. Steven Minter, Vice-President of Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Board of Trustees**
- b) Mr. Michael Mulhall, Vice-President of Partnerships for Destination Cleveland**
- c) Ms. LaJean Ray, Director of Fatima Family Center**
- d) Ms. Frances Caldwell, Director of the African American Museum of Cleveland**

- e) Ms. Jan Ridgeway, Director of Garden Valley Neighborhood House
- f) Mr. Satindur Puri
- g) Mr. Michael Nelson, Lil Africa Village
- h) Ms. Brenda Miller, Garden Valley Neighborhood House

4. ITEM REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2015-0076: A Resolution determining to submit to the electors the question of renewing the excise tax on the sale of cigarettes for the purpose of funding arts and cultural facilities and programs in the County, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Tom Schorgl, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Community Partnership for Arts & Culture; Ms. Karen Gahl-Mills, Executive Director of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture; Mr. Steven Minter; Mr. Joseph Boatwright, Assistant Law Director; Mr. Trevor McAleer, Legislative Budget Advisor; and Mr. Julian Rogers, Community Partnership for Arts & Culture Board Member, addressed the Council regarding Resolution No. R2015-0076. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Schorgl, Ms. Gahl-Mills, Mr. Minter, Mr. Boatwright, Mr. McAleer and Mr. Rogers pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

A motion was then made by Mr. Greenspan, seconded by Ms. Conwell and approved by unanimous vote to amend Section 2 of Resolution No. R2015-0076 as follows:

**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF EXCISE TAX ON CIGARETTES ~~TAX~~ FOR
CUYAHOGA ARTS AND CULTURE
County of Cuyahoga**

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage-

For the purposes of making grants to support operating or capital expenses of arts or cultural organizations in Cuyahoga County, to defray the costs of acquiring, constructing, equipping, furnishing, improving, enlarging, renovating, remodeling, or maintaining ~~any~~ an artistic or cultural facility, and to meet the operating expenses of ~~Cuyahoga Arts and Culture~~ the District, shall ~~an~~ the existing excise tax continue to be levied throughout Cuyahoga County for the benefit of Cuyahoga Arts and Culture on the sale of cigarettes at wholesale at the rate of 15 mills per cigarette ~~(amounting to 1 1/4 cents, or \$0.015, per cigarette)~~ which amounts to 1.5 cents per cigarette, for 10 years?

	<i>For the Tax Levy</i>
	<i>Against the Tax Levy</i>

On a motion by Mr. Schron with a second by Mr. Greenspan, Resolution No. R2015-0076 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading, as amended.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Collective bargaining matters, including:
 - i) a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Cuyahoga County and Teamsters Local 436, affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, representing approximately 26 employees in various classifications in the Department of Public Works/Division of Maintenance for the period 1/1/2015 - 12/31/2017.

A motion was made by Mr. Germana, seconded by Ms. Conwell and approved by unanimous roll-call vote to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining matters and for no other purpose whatsoever. Executive Session was then called to order by Council Vice-President Jones at 4:29 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Germana, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Jones, Brown, Hairston, Simon and Greenspan. The following additional attendees were present: Assistant Law Director Egdilio Morales and Special Counsel Michael King. At 4:47 p.m., Executive Session was adjourned without objection, and Council Vice-President Jones then reconvened the meeting.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT UNRELATED TO AGENDA

No public comments were given unrelated to the agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Council Vice-President Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m., without objection.