



**Council Minutes  
April 24, 2023  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Council of the City of Shaker Heights met in a regular session at 6:04 p.m., Mayor David E. Weiss presiding.

Council Members Present: Mr. Roeder  
Ms. Anne Williams  
Ms. Carmella Williams  
Mr. Earl Williams  
Mr. Claytor  
Mr. Malone  
Mrs. Moore

Council Members Absent: None

\* \* \* \*

Video of this meeting may be found [here](#) through April 24, 2026.

\* \* \* \*

At 6:04 p.m. it was moved by Mr. Claytor, and seconded by Mrs. Moore that Council go into an executive session to discuss personnel matters, including the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of one or more public employees or officials; and imminent or pending litigation.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore

Nays: None

Motion Carried

\* \* \* \*

At 7:05 p.m. Council returned to the regular meeting.

\* \* \* \*

It was moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the minutes of the special meeting of March 7, 2023, be approved as recorded.

**CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS**

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore

Nays: None

Motion Carried

\* \* \* \*

It was moved by Mr. Claytor, and seconded by Ms. Carmella Williams, that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 27, 2023, be approved as recorded.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore

Nays: None

Motion Carried

\* \* \* \*

The Mayor asked the Clerk of Council to read into the record public comments received by email or phone on any of the agenda items.

Clerk of Council Ms. Chaikin stated that no comments were received on agenda items by email or phone.

The Mayor invited members of the audience and those participating via Zoom the opportunity to “raise their hand” to provide public comment.

No comments were offered.

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-28, by Mr. Roeder, proclaiming May 2023 as Bike Month in the City of Shaker Heights to promote the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more people to try bicycling.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this item is for a request to proclaim May as Bike Month. The League of American Bicyclists have sponsored this for the last 67 years. May 15<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> is Bike to Work week, and May 19<sup>th</sup> is Bike to Work day. Shaker Heights does have a longstanding tradition of reinforcing bicycles for good health. We have over a hundred miles of bike lanes and bike paths, including the Farnsleigh/Warrensville off-road paths, the Shaker median path, the Lake to Lakes trail, the Lee Road Action Plan that calls for an off-road path, and a Van Aiken Boulevard path will come to Council next month.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. Committee members were excited to talk about bike month. He was with CAO Ms. Chaikin at Van Aken district earlier today and they talked to a gentleman who said it's great to see this bike path coming. It's very important to our residents and something that we know our Planning Department, City Administration and Council has been focused on.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that several comments were made on Facebook in reference to a post about the Van Aken bikeway open house. There were questions about whether the City could accommodate the volume of traffic on our major thoroughfares, i.e., Lee Road and Van Aken, which would allow us to create a bikeway. We are trying to become a more transit-oriented, sustainable community and reduce our carbon emissions. She asked Director Braverman to explain the war between cars and bicycles and why bikeways are so strategic.

Director Braverman stated that before the City started the bikeway plan, we contracted for a traffic study to make sure that it was feasible, and make sure that our traffic level would allow us to use a lane for a bike lane. What we found on Van Aken is that the average daily traffic is between 9,000 and 12,000 cars a day. The standard to go down to one lane of traffic is under 20,000 cars a day. We did the same thing on Lee Road, which has about 17,000 cars a day. We did not undertake thinking about a bike lane before we knew that we had low enough traffic. After we did that study we decided we could do the bike lane. The bike lane will allow people to have a safe place to ride that's totally buffered. Right now if you're riding on the road or with sharrows you can be in the lane of traffic. That is scary for some people. This is an all ages and all abilities bike lane, which will be the first one in Shaker and one of the few in the City of Cleveland that we're proposing for Van Aken. We looked at turning movements to make sure there wasn't any backup traffic, and that's how we're balancing both bikes and cars.

Council member Mrs. Moore asked whether it will substantially reduce on-street parking on Van Aken.

Director Braverman stated that on Van Aken it will totally eliminate parking between Lee and Lynnfield/Parkland. Between Parkland and the Van Aken district on Farnsleigh there will be the same amount of on-street parking but configured differently. Because of this change the City sent individual letters to all the single-family homes on that stretch where the parking will be removed to make sure that they understood that, and invited residents to meetings last week and the week before. One or two residents did come. The good news is there are a lot of side streets, and cross streets to park. The RTA parking along the tracks also allows cross street parking or a place for landscapers to pull off. We do understand that there will be emergency vehicles that need to pull over, or Ubers, or mail trucks. They'll pull over or be stopped for just a few minutes at a time so that should be fine.

Council member Mr. Earl Williams stated that there was a detailed discussion presented to the Finance Committee about how the bike lanes will go north, south, east and west across Shaker Heights. We have people from surrounding suburbs and the City of Cleveland who want to use our landscape and will take advantage of it by bike.

Director Braverman stated that there will be a more robust discussion about the Van Aken bike lane at the May meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Roeder, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-28 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore  
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Roeder, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-28 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore  
Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-29, by Mr. Malone, authorizing an amendment to the original 1975 Transfer Agreement between the City and the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority to modify the easement, and authorizing certain encroachment easements, to facilitate improvements at and adjacent to the Warrensville-Van Aken Rapid Transit Station, and declaring an emergency.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that there are two items for approval: an amendment to the RTA transfer agreement; and allowing RTA to have some encroachment easements into our right-of-way. In 1975 the City transferred the Rapid, along with some properties and assets to the transit system, but we retained ownership of most of the property and RTA was granted an easement for their operational purposes. We would like to make some changes for the upcoming public realm project, which is at the end of the RTA Blue Rapid Line. This calls for a public plaza, shade structures, and a better connection to the commercial district. RTA will be making some changes with their new station. The transfer agreement is to take a piece of land that was under an easement with RTA and take it back into our right-of-way. It is a strip of land on Tuttle and a triangle where the busway is. The encroachment easements are to accommodate the RTA comfort station where they're building some of the foundation walls. The roof is overhanging our busway, which is still right-of-way. Some fences and gate openings for the re-closure station will also go into the right-of-way. We're working with them to transfer this land and give them the encroachments. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules in order to meet the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) schedules.

Law Director William Ondrey Gruber stated that Council already approved the dedication of right-of-way along Tuttle Road. That is a portion of the land we are now getting from RTA out of its easement into the right-of-way.

Council member Mr. Malone stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the City Planning Commission. There was minimal discussion. It was understood to be a technical amendment to these agreements.

It was moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-29 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore  
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Malone, and seconded by Mr. Earl Williams, that Ordinance No. 23-29 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams,  
Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams,  
Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore  
Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-30, by Mr. Earl Williams, authorizing the City’s application for and acceptance of a grant from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency’s ("NOACA") Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (“CMAQ”) program for the Lee Road Bikeway project in the amount of \$1 million, as a part of the Lee Road Action Plan, and declaring an emergency.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that staff continues to seek grants to fund the Lee Road project. We did apply for this similar grant in 2021 and did not get it. However, things have changed since then. We have now adopted the Lee Road Action Plan, and we're now coordinating the application with the City of Cleveland who is also applying for companion funds. This grant application gives extra points for regional projects. The two-lane bikeway is off road on the west side of the street beginning at City Hall and ending at our southern border. We have secured about \$16 million in funds. The grant application will be for \$1 million, particularly for the busway. This is an area that we're short on funds. We have enough for the road but we're a little short on the bike lane money. If granted we'll do a 21% match. We get more points if we go over 20%. Our match would be \$265,823 from the General Capital Fund. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules as the grant applications are due on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. The committee likes grants.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-30 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Ordinance No. 23-30 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-31, by Mrs. Moore, accepting the lowest and best bid and authorizing a requirements contract with Advanced Plumbing & Drain in the estimated amount of \$318,731 for the 2023-2025 Catch Basin Cleaning Project, and declaring an emergency.**

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that in order to maintain the City's close to 4,000 catch basins, the City is on a rotation to do 700 to 900 every year. Two years ago the contract was awarded to a company from out of state. In the first year of their multi-year contract they performed just fine. We inspected every catch basin after they said they cleaned them. Last year in the midst of our heavy construction season, they painted the dots on every catch basin they cleaned, only they had not moved the grates. Not only did they not clean the catch basins, but they sent us a bill for the uncleaned catch basins. We had them inspected and notified them that they weren't cleaned. The project manager came back to Shaker Heights, we showed him and a few months later they sent another crew back to clean the catch basins. That was very problematic. When you have a vendor that you can't trust, it makes our job harder. We told them we would not be renewing our third option year with them and we went back out to bid again this winter. They submitted the lowest bid, but not the best bid. It is not our intention to renew with them. The second lowest bidder, which we consider the best bid, is a locally owned company. The owner lives in Shaker Heights. They had done the contract for probably the 12 years prior and had done a great job. We have a good relationship with them so this item requests to enter into a contract with Advanced Plumbing and Drain as the lowest and best bidder.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously supported by the Safety and Public Works Committee. They discussed the City's policy of the lowest and best bids.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. The discussion was laudatory directed at Director Speese for having such a conscientious check and balance on this particular work that it resulted in corrective action.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-31 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-31 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-32, by Mrs. Moore, authorizing the City to apply for and accept a low interest loan from the Ohio Water Development Authority through the Solid Waste Loan Program, in the amount of \$1.3 million, for the Public Works Transfer Station Repair Project, and declaring an emergency.**

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that in 2019, \$200,000 was appropriated to begin the engineering and to shore up the transfer station facility. There was significant deterioration. It is the facility to the left when you pull into the service center. It is where both refuse, and all of our brush, leaf and grass trucks dump so that they don't have to go to a facility far away every time the truck is full. During the capital budget season staff mentioned this would be coming back to Council at the beginning of the year once they went out to bid and had the dollar amount. They projected \$1.4 million, but the bid came in at \$1.3 million. There were several conversations with the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) and they walked us through the application process. This would be for a low interest loan. Finance Director John Potts has spoken to the City's financial advisor who recommended taking the loan if we get it. This loan will allow us to do much needed repairs. It will not have an impact on the residents, but more so on the daily operations of Public Works with how they phrase it.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. One of the questions was if there would be any disruption in service.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. The only question that was asked was about the interest rates rising and whether that would impact the timing of the loan.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-32 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-32 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

**Ordinance No. 23-33, by Mrs. Moore, amending Ordinance 22-126 making appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Shaker Heights, Ohio for the year ending December 31, 2023, as amended by Ordinance No. 23-22 to amend appropriations in Fund No. 101, the General Fund, by appropriating an additional \$15,000 to the Continuing Professional Training (CPT) personal services account and \$15,500 to the CPT Training account, both within the Police Department operating budget, and \$425,000 in Fund 201 (Street Maintenance & Repair) for Large Area Repair (LAR), and declaring an emergency.**

Police Commander John Cole stated that early in 2023 staff learned that our 2022 budget surplus from the Ohio Attorney General's Office would not be taken back. They would allocate us \$30,500, instead of it coming from our operating budget for continuing professional training. They would like to split those funds with \$15,002 on the overtime budget and on \$15,500 on the training budget, which will give officers the opportunity to train in-house or using webinars to seek out the best training possible.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee.



Council member Mrs. Moore stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.

Public Works Director Patricia Speese stated that if you have driven on Lee Road recently you know it's a little bumpy. The Lee Road project will not begin construction of the roadway until 2027. We understand that the road won't survive for four more years. Due to a fund balance in our street maintenance fund because of under staffing in the last couple years, we have over \$500,000 in a cash balance. We had great bids for our street resurfacing program which is also a requirements contract for large area repairs so we can increase or decrease the quantity. This item requests \$425,000 from the fund balance to do extensive large area repairs on Lee Road to get us through the next four years.

Council member Mr. Roeder stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that this item was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. The only question was focused on whether we could resurface the whole road now instead of waiting until 2027, but the answer is no.

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 23-33 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Mr. Claytor, that Ordinance No. 23-33 be enacted as read.

Roll Call:	Ayes:	Mr. Roeder, Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams, Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore
	Nays:	None

Ordinance Enacted

\* \* \* \*

<b>Motion for Liquor Permit</b>	harbor Shaker Heights Management LLC dba Harborchase of Shaker Heights 17000 Van Aken Blvd.
---------------------------------	---

No objections were voiced by Council.

\* \* \* \*

**Motion for Liquor Permit**

Verona Enterprises Inc.  
dba Shaker Wines and Spirits  
20100 Van Aken Blvd.

No objections were voiced by Council.

\* \* \* \*

The Mayor asked the Clerk of Council to read into the record public comments received by email or phone on other items.

Clerk of Council Ms. Chaikin stated that no comments were received on other items by email or phone.

The Mayor invited members of the audience and those participating via Zoom the opportunity to “raise their hand” to provide public comment.

No comments were offered.

\* \* \* \*

There being no further business before Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

---

DAVID E. WEISS, Mayor

---

JERI E. CHAIKIN, Clerk of Council