

**CITY OF SOUTHGATE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 19, 2022
122 Electric Ave.
City building**

Call to Order: Mayor Hamberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The following answered roll call: Council Members Anderson, Melville, Messmer, Okura, and Robisch were present. Councilman Wegener was absent. Also present: City Clerk Barton, Finance Director/Treasurer Franklin, Police Chief Christmann, Public Works Foreman Bowman, Fire Chief Beatsch, and Assistant City Attorney Rhoades.

Public Comments: Police Chief Christmann gave a presentation on Mayfield, KY and Graves County tornado damage and cleanup being done. He and other police departments helped patrol the area.

Campbell County Judge Executive Pendery talked about the broadband/internet connectivity in the county. The three northern KY counties have been working together on this. Cincinnati Bell was awarded the contract to install fiber optics in the area. Residents can upgrade to a faster speed for the same price that they currently pay.

Approval of regular meeting amended minutes 12/15/21. Motion/Second: Melville/Anderson. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.

Approval of regular meeting minutes 1/5/22. Motion/Second: Robisch/Anderson. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.

Public Works: Councilman Melville said one of the Public Works trucks slipped on the icy road on Joyce Ave. The truck had minor damage to the grill. There was minor damage to a retaining wall. A drilling rig was in the community center park doing boring samples for SD1 project. Public Works Foreman Bowman said this is an instance when the gravel path in the park was helpful so that heavy equipment could drive on it without damaging the grass.

Public Safety: Councilman Anderson had no report. Police Chief Christmann said the department received eight bullet proof vests through a grant. Chief Christmann reminded the public to move their vehicles from the street if a snow emergency is called. Chief Beatsch said four SVFD fire fighters received a scholarship to help pay their tuition and pay them while they work at the fire department. The new ambulance will not be delivered until February. The current vehicle will be used as a back-up if needed.

Code Enforcement: Councilman Messmer had no report.

Community Relations & Recreation: New Council Member Okura said that Park & Tree Board Arbor Day will be April 29. Tree seedlings were ordered.

Public Buildings: Councilman Robisch reported that Public Works has done some work at the firehouse. Mr. Robisch talked about a newspaper article that stated the average cost of homes in the area cities. He spoke to the author who said Southgate's median cost of a home is

\$183,000. Council Member Anderson requested that the community center purchase a new cart/dolly because the old one doesn't work well. It was agreed that the money is in the budget for a purchase.

Finance and Administration: Finance Director/Treasurer Franklin spoke about the American Relief Plan (ARPA) and the meeting she and the Mayor attended. There have been changes in the rulings of expenditures allowed which is less restrictive than previously stated. The funds need to be spent by 2026 and the commitment of funds submitted by 2024. The City has received the first of two payments of \$519,601. No expenditures have been made. Mayor Hamberg and staff met to discuss items that are priorities in the City and suggestions on how to spend the funds. After a plan has been formed, it will come to Council to be reviewed and approved by resolution.

City Clerk Barton had no report. Council Member Robisch commented on the Animal Control reports which shows that the problem with stray cats in the City are being taken care of. Assistant City Attorney Rhoades had no report, but read the following:

Ordinance 22-01 Adopt the supplement to the Code of Ordinances (second reading). Motion/Second: Melville/Anderson. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.

Old Business: none.

New Business: none.

Payment of Vouchers: Check vouchers #32194-32227 were presented for Council's review.

Mayor & Council Comments: Mayor Hamberg said KLC representatives will be coming on Feb. 19 to do a training for the newly elected officials on Council.

Announcements: none.

Adjournment: There being no further business, **Motion/Second: Anderson/Messmer. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.**

James Hamberg, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Brandi Barton, City Clerk