



City of Cincinnati

Law & Public Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Christopher Smitherman
Vice Chair David Mann
Council Member Betsy Sundermann
Council Member Jan Michele Kearney
Council Member Greg Landsman
Council Member Steven Goodin
Council Member Liz Keating

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

9:00 AM

Council Chambers, Room 300

Present: Chairperson Smitherman
Vice Chair David Mann
Jan-Michele Kearney
Greg Landsman
Betsy Sundermann
Steve Goodin

Present: Chairperson Smitherman
Vice Chair David Mann
Jan-Michele Kearney
Greg Landsman
Betsy Sundermann
Steve Goodin

PRESENTATIONS

BARCODE UPDATE

Mark Manning, Law Department

AGENDA

1. MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Mann, I move that Council change the way development agreements are negotiated. We must separate the negotiations from the final decisions. Without political interference, our civil servants should negotiate with developers pursuant to written policies adopted by Council and the Mayor. Council would be involved only in reviewing and then approving, rejecting or modifying the proposed development. If our negotiators require guidance during negotiations, they would be expected to use a transparent process involving

[202002167](#)

all elected officials. New written Council policies should: 1. Clearly define the separate roles of the city's development and administrative officers and Members of Council; and 2. Establish clear boundaries separating those roles. (STATEMENT ATTACHED).

Referred to CM for a Report

2. MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Mann, I move that the City establish a Commission To Clean Up City Council, a small blue-ribbon panel of no more than nine members to study the city's development process, in particular negotiations with private developers, and develop recommendations to improve it and better insulate it from political influence and cronyism. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE) (STATEMENT ATTACHED).

[202002183](#)

Filed

3. MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Landsman, In an effort to restore public trust and confidence in City Hall, WE MOVE that the Administration prepare ordinances and a report on the following recommendations. Cincinnati Ethics Commission. In partnership with the Ohio Ethics Commission, the Administration will establish a local commission to improve oversight and transparency. This "Cincinnati Ethics Commission" will be supported by a Chief Ethics and Good Government Officer, and developed and designed by the Administration and not elected officials, particularly the number and qualifications of the commissioners. The commission should be in support of and in addition to the Ohio Ethics Commission. It should not supplant any of the work of the Ohio Ethics Commission. (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE).

[202002234](#)

Referred to CM for a Report

4. ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), submitted by Councilmember Sundermann, from Andrew W. Garth, Interim City Solicitor, MODIFYING the Administrative Code of the City of Cincinnati by amending Article XXVI, "Financial Disclosure Requirements," to require members of Council and the Mayor to disclose gifts, loans, or services totaling \$75 or more on the financial disclosure form filed with the City

[202002237](#)

Referred to CM for a Report

- Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman
Vice Chair Mann
Councilmember Kearney
Councilmember Landsman
Councilmember Goodin
- No:** Councilmember Sundermann
- Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman
Vice Chair Mann
Councilmember Kearney
Councilmember Landsman
Councilmember Goodin
- No:** Councilmember Sundermann

ADJOURNMENT