

**EXECUTIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 20, 2012**

Council President Holzheimer Gail called an Executive & Finance Committee Meeting for WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2012 at 6:30 in the Euclid Municipal Center Council Chamber.

AGENDA: INTERVIEW OF WARD ONE CANDIDATES

COUNCIL MAY, BY ROLL CALL VOTE, RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 121.22(G)(1) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND 125.05(A) OF THE EUCLID CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

Members Present: Gilliham Scarniench, Jones, Lynch, McLaughlin, O'Hare, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.

Others Present: Clerk of Council Cahill. Ward 1 Applicants: David T. Boylan; Stephana Childs-Caviness; Edward Dickson, Beverly Dixon; Roscoe Heath; Marsha Morrell-Curtis; Karen Murray; Janice M. Taylor; Charlotte Wells; Donald Whitmore.

President Holzheimer Gail – We are here tonight to interview candidates for the Ward 1 vacancy that will be coming up. June 30th is Councilman Gilliham's last day, July 1st.

I would like to start by thanking and acknowledging Councilman Gilliham for all his hard work and for being part of this process. We certainly value his input. He's done a great job serving his ward, representing the Ward and the City as a whole and really brought about some nice projects and interesting ideas to the Council. We will certainly miss him but understand that serving on Council is a commitment and it takes time and energy and the availability to do that and sometimes other obligations get in the way. We appreciate this was a very hard decision, we will miss you but we certainly thank you once again for your hard work.

The process that we will go through tonight, having 10 candidates we felt we really needed to stay toward a structured format. There's four questions that we've developed and I did provide them to each of you tonight at your table. We're going to have to limit the time to two minutes. We know that is not enough time to address many of those questions but we're hoping you can stay focused and hit the bullet points of what you want to say and we'll make sure we're fair with the time for everybody. Regina will keep time, there is a clock up there and when time is up, I will say time is up and you may very quickly finish you thought but we ask that you not go on after that in fairness to everybody.

As you're probably aware, but I will repeat just so everybody knows, this is an appointment only until the next municipal election because the Ward 1 seat, this last election, was a four year term. This position is to be appointed until the next municipal election. That will happen in November, 2013. The appointment will serve until the end of December 2013 and then whoever wins the election in November 2013 will serve the remaining two years of that four year term. This appointment will be good until the end of the year 2013.

Council has a score sheet in front of them that was emailed earlier, just so we can all use a consistent and fair format. Council did receive copies of your resumes and applications, the material you did provide to us last Friday so they have had the chance to review that. We will interview and go through this process tonight. It is our expectation that we will narrow it down, we will not come up with one choice tonight, but we'll probably narrow it down to the top 3-4 candidates and invite you back for a second interview tentatively next Monday June 25th here in Council Chamber again. From that point we would hopefully narrow it down to the top choice and they would be appointed at a special council meeting, again tentatively that week possibly Wednesday the 27th but we'll make sure that works with your schedules as well. Am I missing anything council members? Councilman Gilliham any words that you would like to start with?

Councilman Gilliham – I just want to say good evening, I know many of you for a few years now and I say welcome and I say thank you for stepping up your participation and asking to take the leadership of this role. I know all of you have taken a major step and I appreciate that to have ten people here this evening says a lot about our community and I wish you all the best. Good luck and once again thank you all for being here tonight.

President Holzheimer Gail – Any questions about process? Rather than just starting alphabetically, which typically everyone does, there's a basket with everyone's name. We'll pick one to start the first question, we'll start with that person and go alphabetically from that point. Second question I'll pick a new person to start, just so it is somewhat random and fair to everybody. Are we set? Any questions from Council? Very good.

The first question and the reason I provided the questions is so you have a little bit of time to look at them, so you have a sense with where we're going, you don't try to answer everything in the first question or the second question. I know two minutes is tough so do your best and we appreciate everyone being here.

First question we'll start with Ms. Janice Taylor. The first question is tell us a little bit about yourself and why you want to serve as the Ward 1 Council person. After Ms. Taylor we'll go to Ms. Wells, Mr. Whitmore and then start with Mr. Boylan.

Ms. Taylor – Good evening to Council and President of Council. It is truly a pleasure to be here this evening. I am Janice Marie Taylor, I reside at 1775 Pontiac Dr., Euclid, Ohio 44117. I have resided in the City of Euclid since 1977. In 1985 I purchased my first home at 1775 Pontiac Dr. where I raised my daughter who attended City of Euclid school for education. For employment I have worked at University Hospital for 36 long years. I retired back in 2008 and took on another job with the Cleveland Municipal Court, Clerk of Courts office where I am auditor and bookkeeping in the Finance and Accounting Dept.

Also for organizational leadership skills, for the National Council of Negro Women working with the late Dr. Irene Height, I worked with the National NCNW of Washington D.C. for the past 22 years. I am on the Executive Board for Council and I am past-president from 2004-2008 here in the Cuyahoga County section for Cleveland. What we have is over 4 million women nationwide. What we do is try very hard to depict a picture of safety, better education, higher education. For now we house young woman off the streets, right off 152nd and Kinsman area, teaching them values, teaching them morals and standards.

President Holzheimer Gail – That's two minutes. Thank you very much. I hate to interrupt but I'll try to be as consistent when it hits two, to stop. Ms. Wells.

Ms. Wells – My name is Charlotte Wells, I live at 1920 Grand Blvd. I've lived there for almost 22 years. I was born and raised in Cleveland. I am the oldest of eight. I like to read, travel. I can tell you about my community involvement. I've been involved with EDCOR since 2002 as Treasurer on the loan committee. I'm involved with Euclid Villa Homeowners Association which is now in hiatus, we're trying to get it started again. That's about it for right now, we'll get into the rest later.

Mr. Whitmore – Good evening Council. Thank you for this opportunity, I'm excited to be here. My name is Donald Whitmore, I reside at 19601 Seminole Rd., Euclid, Ohio Ward 1. I've lived there since 1998. I have two children, six grandchildren and have been married for 30 years. I currently am employed with AT&T Advertising and Marketing. I am a sales executive. I've been there going on seven years. Prior to that I've owned my own business, DonBoy Inc. I still do some work with that from a consulting standpoint. I'm losing my train of thought here.

I am very active with my grandchildren and wife. I have a Master's Degree obtained from the University of Phoenix. I have a Bachelor's Degree obtained from Cleveland State University, Sociology. My Master's is in Business with a focus among organizational management. I want to serve in Ward 1 to learn, to grow, to experience and serve the community and that's why I'm here today.

Mr. Boylan – Thank you Council members for having us here tonight to hear us out. My name is David Boylan, I'm a Cleveland native. I've been living in Euclid for the last 20 years, up the hill at the Georgetown of the Highlands Complex. I am originally trained in physics, math and engineering at Case Institute. From there I went on to own by own business and from there I went to technological and business consulting at companies which I'm sure you recognize, Fortune 100 names familiar to us all.

Less you think that I'm only steeped in technology though, I'd like to add that my off hours are spent with classical music, art, literature and philosophy. Thank you.

Ms. Childs-Caviness – Good evening Council members, Council President and respective applicants. I am Stephana Caviness, Childs-Caviness and I reside at 19871 Upper Valley Dr. I am a divorced mom of three. I moved into Euclid in 2005 after my divorce. My youngest child, a girl, I have two boys and a girl and she just recently graduated from high school. My focus was mainly getting her through High School, she was a Class President.

I moved here in looking for a home and in many areas on the east-side, I found Euclid was a place that had a wonderful blend of cultures, tradition and it does possess a very rich history. I am a family life educator with Beach Brook and I teach comprehensive sex education including that particular topic at Forest Park Middle School for the last four years. I thank you very much for having me here this evening.

Mr. Dickson – Good evening Council and all others. My name is Ed Dickson, Edward Dickson as my Mother said, and I reside at 2142 Waynoka. I'm married probably longer than most of you are old. But nevertheless I have one daughter, two grand-daughters and two great grandsons. We've lived in Euclid because we chose it because of the uniqueness of the place. I live in the Indian Hills area, very delighted about it.

The idea of my being here for this job is service to others. As we go along I think you'll see that we try to perform a service to Euclid and service to others is quite important to me. Again, I like to respond to a need for city duty and responsibility so that's why I'm a candidate this evening.

Ms. Dixon – My name is Beverly Dixon, I reside at 1806 Karen Dr. in Euclid. I am a mother and wife of two. One daughter graduated from Euclid High School back in 2009, she is presently at Akron University attending school. I have another child who goes to school in the City of Euclid.

I am here tonight because I chose to, I'm getting a little nervous sorry, chose to and get involved in the community, Ward 1. I'm sorry. I chose to come out and become a member of Ward 1 because I help out in the community now with my neighbors and other people around the neighborhood. Working and helping other people in the neighborhood. So I thought it might be a great idea to be part of Council here in the City of Euclid, bring our community closer together and try to build up our neighborhood a little better than what we are now so everyone can continue to live in Euclid and enjoy living here.

Pastor Roscoe Heath – I reside at 1805 Pontiac Dr. My wife and I have been there for about three years but we've lived in Euclid for 29 years. I have three children, two girls and one boy, actually they're all married with their own children. I have six grandchildren and one on the way. I am Pastor of New Praise Ministries here in Euclid, this is our eighth year now. I wanted to part of the City Council because I have a servant's heart, mentality, that's what I do as a pastor. I love this city, I love this community. We moved here in Euclid because of the diversity and my children went to school here and we love this community and I want to serve it.

Ms. Morrell-Curtis – Good evening, my name is Marsha Curtis and I live at 19670 Seminole Rd. I have lived in Euclid for 39 years and I've been a Ward 1 resident for over 25 years. Have a daughter who attended the fine Euclid Schools from Kindergarten and graduated from Euclid Schools.

I'm a retired principal so I have plenty of time to address concerns in the neighborhood and I feel the skills that I learned, the leadership skills that I learned as a principal, a successful principal, I can transfer those over to a council seat.

I also would like to say that I would like to serve and continue in Ward 1 because I have been there for over 25 years. I know the concerns of the community and I would like to continue all of the projects and the initiatives that Councilman Gilliam has begun.

Ms. Murray – Good evening everyone. I am Karen Murray and I am a public servant. I believe in getting in where I can fit in, wherever there's a need, I don't have a problem of addressing or working individually or with a team to get the job done. Often times I've worked behind the scenes but I would like to spread my wings if you will, work on a larger capacity, being more helpful to a community at large.

My reason for wanting to be a council person is two-fold. I like to be an asset to the city, as well as a viable resource piece to the community. Thank you.

President Holzheimer Gail – That completes question one and thank you all for not taking all of the time. I was a little nervous, I thought two minutes is hardly enough time. That was meant to be an icebreaker, hopefully put you a little bit at ease. We certainly don't mean this to be an intimidating or nervous setting. Please feel free, I know it is warm today so we provided some water, I took my jacket off already.

The second question is describe your involvement or experience with community activities, city government and leadership roles and tell us why that makes you a good fit for the council position. We will start with Pastor Heath.

Pastor Heath – A couple of years ago I worked with the Weed & Seed group, subdivision of Weed & Seed and we had a collaboration between the youth in the community and the seniors in the community, just to try to break the ice and establish some communication between the youth and the rest of the community. Sometimes we see the children walking down the streets, and just to get an understanding between the two, so we did that.

We established a Mayor's Round Table that we did for several months where the young people in the community had the opportunity to not only meet with the Mayor at our church and voice some concerns and to get some understanding, but also several other city officials, as the Judge, at the time the Police Chief and the Chairman of the School Board. Sorry I was trying to think of his name but it escapes me now.

We've done things like that and just with our church, we've been very involved in many activities in the community to try to touch the community in a way that would bring us all together. There has been many other things that two minutes won't allot me the time to say what we've been involved with. Six or seven boards that I've been on and programs that we worked in the community that bring some unity here. Thank you.

Ms. Curtis – One of the things that I have to while I was thinking about that question, I've always been involved in since I've been in Euclid and prior to Euclid, I've always been involved in civic and social issues. When I was a teacher I was honored by the Governor for involving my students and I received an award, one of ten people to receive an award from the State for keeping the Flame Alive.

When I came to Euclid I started with other people, Euclid Black Caucus which our main goal was to get the residents involved in voter registration. I also became a board member of Euclid Community Concerns, ECC, which was a diverse group. Also served on the Library Board and then Mayor Lynch appointed me the first African-American person to the Record Board and then the first African-American person to serve on Planning & Zoning. Now I am so honored to be on Planning & Zoning again for a second time.

I've always been involved, I love serving and I believe that my leadership roles, again as I've said as a principal will transfer over. The Planning & Zoning since a lot of those ordinances end up in Council, it will be a perfect transition for me to move from Planning & Zoning to Council. Thank you.

Ms. Murray – I enjoy getting involved. I have many interests and many irons in the fire. I was active with Weed & Seed when they first got started and that spirit me on to do other things. I'm active with Autism Speaks, Heritage Park Community Association and also in the East Cleveland community where I'm active in doing voter registration. I've been on the EPIC community, Euclid Public Involvement Committee for the City of Euclid and we did some voting registration during that.

My leadership role and my skills, I'm very resourceful. I'm ready to work and I am flexible. I think I'll stop there.

Ms. Taylor – For the involvement, for the past 35 years I have truly seen a significant change within the Ward 1 and the City of Euclid. For the past 35 years as well I've been a member of the PTA of Indian Hills, Thomas Jefferson, Euclid Central and Euclid High School. My involvement there was always to help train and nurture our children. We've always made Easter baskets for the community and have given out. Each Thanksgiving for the past 30 years, we have given out Thanksgiving Baskets within our community.

Also my church, Antioch Baptist Church to be a part of helping out with the Easter Baskets and Thanksgiving baskets.

Every year for NCNW we get together and even for the children in Ward 1, I take some of the kids to our skating event and we fund 100 children for enjoyment. That is really a treat that they look to. This past Christmas we had a Christmas Gala for the children, passing out gifts and bringing joy to those that did not have. Thank you.

Ms. Wells – As I said before, I am involved with EDCOR since 2002 and Euclid Villa Homeowner's Association since January 1999. I was treasurer on both organizations and I've been through the Euclid Police Academy. I also have 14 years in organization of successful fundraising events for non-profits in the Greater Cleveland community. I've been Vice-President for the LGBT community service center for probably eight years and also on the Human Rights campaign in Cleveland on the dinner committee raising close to \$100,000 for both of the dinners that we chaired. I was on that for five years. I think that's about it. Thank you.

Mr. Whitmore – My involvement in city government is null and void. My involvement in government overall is on the executive level. I've assisted and worked on Presidential campaigns since President Bill Clinton and that consisted of phone banks, phone centers, door-to-door campaigning for those individuals, recruiting for voter registration and things of that nature is where my city government, or my executive government experience is and involvement is.

My community involvement and activity is a lot more significant in that I am extremely involved with my church, Community Baptist Church on Shaw Ave. We are extremely involved in our community because that's my pastor's vision. We work directly with the Food Bank. We have a food program that we provide to the community every Tuesday, every third Sunday. We assist our community in developing gardens, to grow their own means within the local community of the church. My Master's program, I worked directly with the Cleveland City School systems, the City of Cleveland, Cleveland MetroParks and Zoo in helping them to address diversity issues, that was my thesis with Cleveland MetroParks Zoo and I conducted forums, interviews that worked specifically with South High School, where the students there were able to obtain work.

President Holzheimer Gail – That's two minutes. Thank you very much.

Mr. Boylan – My involvement with the community has been primarily through Georgetown of the Highlands. Georgetown of the Highlands is a community of six hundred residents, predominately minority and I am currently serving as their President and I like to think they elected me to that position because I get things done. I'm a doer and I make things happen.

Referring back to question 1, that is partly why you want to serve is to carry your abilities into the community and to see the community develop because of that. In that capacity with the Georgetown Board, I've worked with the Mayor of this City and with the City of Cleveland to reach productive solutions to a number of problems facing us.

Again this goes back to my business experience which I cited in question one. When you do consulting at that level, you learn to solve problems and you learn that people are a big part of the issue. I'd like to point out that I've always been a teacher and vocationally, I love to teach and I love to develop people. That's a great part of doing business consulting. That's the kind of energy and development that I hope to bring to the community. Thank you.

Ms. Childs-Caviness – My involvement with the City of Euclid has been minimal over the few years that I have been here but I have worked directly with our Block Captain, I've worked in our area working with some of the residents in making sure there are certain safety issues that we're dealing with and taking care of in a proper manner and working and speaking directly with our council person.

My involvement with city government expands my experience with assisting with mayoral campaigns with the City of Cleveland. Performing as a city council liaison for the City of Cleveland during one of our former mayor's and also conducting and supervising his complaint department as well.

My membership is with the Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church and we have a youth ministry there where we help the youth in that area to deal with certain issues that they're dealing with at this time. We also have a food bank that I am involved with as well.

I also have an active membership with the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the National Action Network, where we work with people.

My experiences with the community, just as the other applicants, I have a strong passion for youth and for seniors and for assisting people in need. My experiences within the community is teaching anger management to youth through the Juvenile Court system, the City Mission, the Probation and Parole departments. I see that my experience, as well as my passion for people will assist me in my position as Ward 1 Council person. Thank you.

Mr. Dickson – My experience in the leadership role stems from my work. I retired from the postal service after 42 years as a Director of Customer Service for Northeastern Ohio that had under the auspices of a lot of people, equipment and commodities.

As far as Euclid is concerned, I came to Euclid in 1987, I joined immediately the Indian Hills Association where I served later as President. I joined the Euclid Community Concern and was a member of the Board there. I was appointed to community relation liaison for fair housing. After that I went to, my careers mirror Ms. Curtis, I went to Planning & Zoning, served on the board and also chaired that organization. I was on the Library board, I was the President during the inception of the new building and the initial construction of the new building. I now work constantly, yearly for the Block Grant program which I have been on for 15 years or more. Now I'm with the Hunger Center as a trustee and volunteer.

I think these things tie in with what Euclid is all about and my leadership role would automatically fit in with the city council seat.

Ms. Dixon – Beverly Dixon again, I'm active in my church community as far as food banks and helping children, doing giving trees. I actually worked in Euclid School system at Euclid Middle School. Forest Park the ALC program, when children are suspended from school, they come to me to be helped educated. I worked in that program.

My leadership roles would be an asset for the Ward 1. I'm very active in my community with my street and other parts of the neighborhood. I work with the elderly and with the children in my neighborhood. I just feel my assets would be great for Ward 1, helping out with our community and making it a better place to live.

President Holzheimer Gail – Halfway through. We'll move now to question #3, what do you believe are the top issues facing Ward 1. Please share a specific idea for how to address them. The first response will be Mr. Dickson.

Mr. Dickson – My thoughts I believe that public safety and housing. I'd like to see the safety, I don't know the statistics and what not, but certainly we're all concerned with crime rising, not proportionally but still there. House break-ins and various things of that sort.

We need not more police protection but we need the service of our police and safety department. We need those established and kept current in our city budget. That's the one thing I'd like to see in our city budget maintained because that makes people feel at ease.

The idea of people looking for service and safety. Service is another thing. Leaf pick up and I know that is an incidental thing, but that bothers those of us in Indian Hills when it is stacking up and the city says they're picking up, they don't pick up and we'd like to see service that here this city is made for service, we'd like to see that maintained at a cost the residents can afford.

Safety and service are the two things I would advocate.

Ms. Dixon – I feel a tough issue in our community would be safety. Safety is a big issue in our neighborhood as far as robberies and everything like that and safety for the children who play out in the neighborhood in the cul-de-sacs. I just feel if we can get together as a community, speaking with one another more, being parents in our neighborhoods, look out for each other and just keep everything together and keep everyone involved. Lack of communication amongst some of your neighbors that you really don't speak to, we are to get out more and do events together and learn who all live in our neighborhoods and how we can get together and keep our neighborhoods safe.

Pastor Heath – I don't know if I'm thinking about the number one issue, but one issue that I feel needs to be addressed or maybe addressed better is we have a growing population. The population is changing dramatically in Euclid and we have a lot of young people in the community. We have a program in our church, an escape program and my wife runs a vision program. Escape program is for the young men, young fellas from 11-19 and my wife's program is the same for young women.

We need to do something, maybe have a community center. I've got a bunch of young people together and over 90% of our population at our church lives in Euclid. So one concern, one thing the majority of the young people said is they'd like some kind of community center. We do have different centers within the City of Euclid. A lot the young people don't know about or they don't have any interest in. I'd like to create some sort of collab with the young people and the city to ascertain and determine what would be a good community project center, something the young people could get involved in and get them off the streets.

Ms. Morrell-Curtis – I think one of the top issues in Ward 1 is safety. As I think about over the last 25 years, what the concerns are, I think the number one concern is safety and communication. One of the things that I do notice is that Indian Hills is somewhat isolated from what is going on on 219th Street. I believe developing a Block Watch for each precinct and bringing the Block Watch captains together and bring all of the homeowners association presidents together quarterly for meetings and being able to address the concerns of the wards. And to maybe even go through training to help us to become better with what we need to do in the neighborhood. The best line of defense is being together as a neighborhood and not just one pocket to work together to say this is what is going on, these are the concerns and this is what we need to do about it.

The communication also, I only know what is going on in Indian Hills. I think it would help if we all knew what was going on in all of Ward 1 so we could if something is going on here, we know it is affecting the whole city or it may affect Indian Hills soon. Communication and just being able to increase the safety and improve on the safety is one of the things we need to do for our Ward 1 residents.

Ms. Murray – Based on my research and census, the population in Euclid is going down. For me, this is a three-fold answer. One of the top issues I feel is facing Ward 1 is sustainability. We need to find ways, the individuals that are fortunate to have homes and still be employed, we need to find ways to keep them in their homes in formative ways.

The second one is the housing crisis. Develop additional programs and keep the residents informed of the present programs that we currently have to assist them. Thirdly is budget cuts. My answer, please share specific idea on how to address them is forecasting. The best we can do is forecast so we can come up with preferably viable solutions to brace ourselves for these three issues. Thank you.

Ms. Taylor – Ward 1 is a great ward. We all believe that and we all know that. What we need to do is help funds, monies, to strengthen and lift the legacy of the City of Euclid. Living in Ward 1 for so many, many years, I see vacancies. I see homes in our neighborhood. I have two right next me, one across from me, down the street from me, beside me, where I've had to cut hedges all this month, cut grass, pick up paper. I see destruction with some of our children. Tearing down a fence. In 35-40 years, you never ever saw children running tearing down a neighbor's fence. Therefore we need to work with parents, we need to work with grandparents that are raising some of the children.

We need to retain and maintain a good budget and wellness for Ward 1 for our neighborhood. Most importantly to improve on the communication collectively. Thank you.

Ms. Wells – I believe that the top issues facing Ward 1 are, I'll give you my personal one first, it is the speeders on Grand and Glenridge. Somebody once mentioned in Council meeting, we put those strips across the road and I thought it was a great idea.

Anyway, the main issue I think we're facing is communication. Communicating with our neighbors and communicating with City Hall. I recently ran across a program, it is called NextDoor.com, it is based in California. I read about a network that started in Cleveland Heights and I've talked to those people. It is a private network for just your neighborhood and then you could expand it to other neighborhoods of the city. It is a way to let people know what is going on, let people know if there's a safety issue, if there is break-ins. If somebody needs a babysitter, somebody needs help cutting grass. It sounds like an exciting proposition.

The other thing I think is safety and break ins. I think beefing up our block watch programs and beefing up our neighborhood organizations will hopefully help to break that down. Thank you.

Mr. Whitmore – There are many issue facing Ward 1 as well as all wards in the City of Euclid. I think one of the primary issues that need to be addressed, particularly since the community of Euclid as a whole is becoming an older community, where there are a lot of retirees and people's incomes are becoming very limited. That's due to a lot of reasons. Not all in their control as citizens of the community.

That's a main issue. Fees, taxes, anything that's hitting your wallet is always a main issue among every community, not just the community of Ward 1 or community of Euclid but all of them. I think these issues need to be addressed and I think the best way to address them is business development and growth. To minimize fees, to minimize taxes, also helps the school system within the community. Business development is critical to every community. Strategies need to be put forth in an effort of how to address that and bring business within the community, how to grow existing businesses within a community.

That is what I do in my current position is I help businesses to grow. It requires a lot of high energy and very enterprising efforts in terms of how you attack that and address that. That's a primary issue with Ward 1 and all the wards and I think as a Council if we're able to come up with those strategies to help our businesses grow, become stronger, that would minimize fees for each and everyone of us as part of the community.

Mr. Boylan – I'd like to turn this question around a little bit and ask what are the top issues facing the City of Euclid as a whole and then how do those reflect down or apply to Ward 1. I would argue the number one issue facing Euclid is prosperity. Once you create a prosperous, sustainable community, all the rest will fall into place. The safety issues, the taxation, the physical maintenance, all of that will come about.

As I argued in my application, I see that we need innovation, we need initiative and we need industry, industry meaning hard work not big industry. I would second what Mr. Whitmore said that we need to develop small business and we need to focus on creating jobs and on economic development and that need not be bringing giant companies in, we can grow our own locally.

Along those lines, one of the things I would want to do is to form a business incubator, which can also be a personnel incubator. It need not start businesses, it can start people just as well and it need not cost a million dollars. These things can be done very inexpensively if the proper planning is done. What it takes is will and organization and planning.

I would like to close by saying even if I'm not the successful candidate, I would look forward to working with the council to achieve these goals. Thank you.

Ms. Childs-Caviness – I have to piggyback on everyone, I would say who is present this evening in terms of what is necessary at what is the top issues for Ward 1. Naturally we know safety is one of our biggest issues. The lack of communication right now between people in the ward is one that we know that we have to improve on. We have to create an atmosphere of trust among everyone. We know it takes a village to raise a child. We know it takes a village to even make us work.

We know there are amenities that need to be created such as the Indian Hills pool that is not working now. It would be great to have a splash park there as opposed to having it just sit there creating an environment that is welcoming to our children, welcoming to our seniors who cannot help themselves in cutting their grass, creating a list of people who can volunteer to assist our seniors and our needs. Opening the door and creating more communication between our police department and our ward itself.

I would also like to piggyback on the sustainability. I know that we have Memorial Park Gardens, we are growing there. I know about aqua-ponics, hydroponics, that can be added to that to help our city itself be more prosperous to allow for the people who are in need, to be able to come to that area and get the produce they need without paying a large amount of money for it.

Going Green. I know the City Hall and the Library already have the solar panels and including homes in that area as well.

President Holzheimer Gail – We're moving through this quicker than I thought. Thank you very much for working with us on the time. Time has not been much of an issue.

This brings us to the last question that we have tonight. I'm going to be a little flexible because if you don't take the whole two minutes to answer this question, if you'd like to share some final thoughts, what makes you unique, what are your strengths, please feel free to do that.

The question is, being a council person requires being available. Please describe or discuss your ability to attend meetings, neighborhood and community events, respond to phone calls, emails, etc. Council meets twice a month on Monday nights. Each Council person is the chairperson of one committee and is a member of four other committees. Most of you it sounds like have been involved with your neighborhood or condo association at some level, so you know there is regular neighborhood, tenant and condo association meetings, as well as other community events, faith based events and that's part of

your role as a council person. If you could talk a little bit about your availability to serve in that role and to be accessible to folks and if you want to add anything else in closing, please feel free to do that. Our first respondent will be Mr. Whitmore.

Mr. Whitmore – Being available is a very simple task in today's world. Technology allows you to be available at any time, any where, any moment. My availability and accessibility is something that would be required as a council person. My phone lines will always be open, cellular lines would be open, there's email. The availability and being able to attend meeting is another requirement, you be there. That's what you're asked to do, representing your ward, representing your city. There are no questions. It is understandable that things do come up but there are many ways to work around that if there is a time that you're not able to be available.

Community events, living in the community allows you to be more readily available for any community events that are necessary and required. That should be a part of what you do and a part of your life as being a residence in the community anyway. That's a given. The requirements of myself being available, there's no issue there whatsoever. You do what you have to do because that's what the responsibility asks of you and requires of you.

In closing I would like to say that I think any individual here that lives within my community is quite capable and competent of representing the community. Whatever the decision is, I think it will be a good decision based on the faces that I see here. I think all of us are willing recipients and want to work with council to address all of the issues of the entire community. Thank you.

Mr. Boylan – I am fully available since I am semi-retired and I have no focus other than the work I've been doing at Georgetown and some part-time consulting. I am, as you might expect, having worked for IBM fully technology enabled so reaching me will not be a problem whether it be email, blackberry, text, what have you.

If the talks about attending neighborhood community events, I see that as very important. I think it is very important to be seen by people, but it is also important what you do when you are not seen. We need accomplishments. It is not enough to be glad-hander, I recognize that's an important part of the job but we need to get the work done behind the scenes just as well.

I'd like to point out that my background spans a number of areas that we need work in. I think I'm unique in that respect that I am both a technologist. I have a long deep history in business, both start ups all the way up to Fortune 100 companies. I have always been involved in education as a part-time teacher and I've always been involved in community service, most recently at Georgetown. I thank you for your attention to my presentation here tonight.

Ms. Childs-Caviness – My availability is whenever needed. As I mentioned for the first question, my youngest child recently graduated high school. My focus when I moved into the city was to make sure my children receive their education that they needed to get. She has done that, she's going onto Cleveland State University, staying within the city. I am now very open, very available to do what is necessary to bring about and to continue the work our present council person has started and to establish new procedures and work along with other council to help Ward 1 be that ward that we want to say welcome to people when they come in. I see Ward 1 as that entrance into Euclid on Euclid Ave. We want to create an atmosphere that says you are welcome when you come into our city.

I agree with and am very willing, I guess I have to get back to what I need to say with this one question and that is I am available on email, text message, phone calls. I understand that and I don't think any of us think it is going to be an easy task to do, but we all have and I know we all have, I've heard it, we all have a passion for people and for our ward and to see it grow and to see the children nurtured and our seniors nurtured as well. I would like to say again thank you very much for having us here and considering us for this position.

Mr. Dickson – What you have listed here, neighborhood meetings, community events, phone calls, all that's a busy schedule. I'm accustomed to busy schedules. That's been standard. I have to say I have a weakness in the technology deficient because I've enjoyed a wonderful retirement and that means I've been isolated from all this with the exception of my passion which is golf. There again, there's a learning curve and I'm able to do that.

This has been a wonderful meeting. You have good candidates here, so all you have to do is pick one. Thank you very much.

President Holzheimer Gail – You make that sound like an easy task. But I can assure you it will not be that easy. Thank you.

Ms. Dixon – I'm Beverly Dixon and my availability is very flexible. You can reach me telephone, email, via phone, in person, text me, call me, I'm available at any time. I'm very flexible with my schedule.

As far as doing community events within our ward, we can always set up things and I'm always available to be there at present, talking speaking, helping others. I'm very flexible and available.

Pastor Heath – Being a Pastor and the one who established our church and all that business, I make my own schedule. My availability is very flexible. In respect to phone calls, I have two separate telephone lines in my home and a cell phone. I have two separate emails. In terms of being able to reach me, that should never ever be an issue.

One thing I'd like to say is about myself and how I could fit this position as well as it looks like everyone here. The last few years of my life have been dedicated to helping people which by extension helps the community. My wife and I are very creative people. Establishing a church takes a lot of creativity, a lot of patience, a lot of work and we've never shied from work. Most of the time that we built this ministry that we now enjoy, I've worked as a manager for Toshiba, every position in the last 15 years has always revolved around leadership, creating and helping people. That's where our passion is, that's where heart is and that's what would make me, as well as the rest of these folks a good candidate for this position. Thank you very much.

Ms. Morrell-Curtis – As I look over all these requirements, these are things that I have really done throughout my whole career. One of the good things about it, I will not be overwhelmed with this commitment because I have always had to attend and hold meetings. I've also had to attend and hold neighborhood and community events. The big thing with our system was customer service, so we always had to return, which I know is very, very important, returning phone calls and emails in a timely manner in at least a 24-48 hours that you must return a phone call.

Also it is just one of the things being in the customer service business, you have to know one of the important things is how to deal with irate people. You can't go up to that point with them, as you know. There's a skill that you have to have as a council person, when you are dealing with people who are yelling and screaming at you on the phone and I've had to deal with that all my life as a principal. I do know that it is not something that would be overwhelming to me.

One of the other things we didn't talk about was campaigning. You have to be committed. I will say I was committed 150% to my job and I will be 150% or more as a council person. But you also have to be committed to running and that's one part that we also have to deal with. I have chaired campaigns. I ran for the Euclid Board of Education. I have been on quite a few campaigns, so I do know what the commitment is when it comes to running and the time that it takes and the sacrifice. I am an empty nester, I'm retired and I do feel that this is the time when I can truly say that I can give of myself.

President Holzheimer Gail – Thank you. I get busy listening and I forget to watch the clock.

Ms. Murray – I would do my best to be able to attend meetings, neighborhood and community events. I would answer telephone calls and emails in a timely fashion. It would be very helpful if I had the information in advance in regards to special meetings, that way I could prioritize my current schedule. I still believe in the city and I believe involvement is a mandatory step in helping to keep a community thriving. Please consider me, well you already have, please continue to consider me for this position. I'm a great candidate, thank you for the opportunity.

Ms. Taylor – Availability, the first word I wrote down was technology, knowing that emails and phone calls and communication is such a big part of making Ward 1 solid, to grow and strengthen it. The meetings, I would be able to attend our meetings, the neighborhood and community events. As we all know in case of emergencies I would be able to adjust my schedule to be able to be there for the community.

Most importantly what I wrote down was willingly to be an honest. Willingly to be a loyalty worker and a trustworthy worker. That is something that I plead and beg for everyday of my life for Ward 1. Thank you.

Ms. Wells – I am retired from retail banking. The last ten years I spent at Euclid 260th office of Huntington bank. I worked in banking forty-plus years, half of that as a manager, as an assistant manager dealing with clients, dealing with staff, managing staff. I have a lot of experience in that.

I have the time, I have the energy, I have the desire to serve. I have excellent customer service skills and I look at this as an exciting new challenge. I certainly don't envy council picking somebody from this group. It is a wonderful group. Thank you very much.

President Holzheimer Gail – That completes our questions. Anything burning that people want to ask that we didn't get to ask, since that went a little quicker?

Councilman McLaughlin – I think we got a pretty good taste of the people in front of us and I just want to say that I'm very impressed with the level of commitment that came from these ten candidates. This is going to be arbitrary to what Mr. Dickson says, it is going to be a really tough pick and I thank you all for coming tonight.

President Holzheimer Gail – The one thing I do want to make sure is Council will be going into Executive Session which is something we're allowed to do when we're considering an appointment. I am planning to contact each of you tomorrow to let you know one way or the other who the candidates are that are called back. I want to make sure I have the best way to contact each of you tomorrow, probably during the day if that is possible. If you prefer me to wait until the evening, just let me know that. Regina, could you make sure you get that.

Any questions from any of the candidates about the position or about the process?

Ms. Murray – What are your expectations for the candidate?

Councilwoman Scarniench – This is something that I've been saying all along since David has decided to step down. This job is really a two-fold job. It is what goes on right here in one job. The other job is what goes on in your neighborhood and that's really what I'm looking for. We can teach you what goes on up here, you're all educated people, it can get a little difficult at times, but you learn and there are people that will help you to learn. It is what you do in the neighborhood that is so important to me. That's what I was looking at tonight. You've all done very well. I'm so pleased. The other day when I'm sitting in the office and one right after the other is coming in and dropping off applications, yes. We had extended this and I think most of you probably didn't even know it but when you got that phone call that this was available, then all of a sudden people understood. Our Blackboard Connect is doing its job because it brought out ten very well qualified people and it is going to be difficult. Thank you all for being here.

Councilman Gilliam – First of all I expect you to do a better job than me, whichever one is chosen. I say that because I had some successes and some failures, personal failures and I don't necessarily mean they adversely affected the city. One of the things that is going to be a difficult challenge for this individual is, and it was kind of spoken to by a few of the candidates, unifying the whole ward.

There has been some history of people kind of operating what I call isolation within Ward 1. They have different needs and different concerns and sometimes that has been an impediment to moving things forward. There was times when I was successful and there were times when I was not. I like to say that I did get many people to become more energized, involved, whether they went to Police Auxiliary, neighborhood associations, putting themselves forward to take this position.

I think what best fits our ward is the one selected can speak to all different faces, all different genders and all ages. One of the things that I realized in the ward was I had a larger senior population and an ever growing younger population. Sometimes I couldn't get those two at the table. I don't consider it a failure, it is just part of the change and part of moving things over so we can come to those common areas. That's one thing I think you have to be mindful of. You have a strong group of older individuals and I don't mean old in age, just long term residents and new residents who don't know each other and there's some frustration in the communication.

The second thing I think the person selected here should realize is that you have to advocate for your ward strongly but at the same time be mindful of what the city needs are. In many cases people will say because we have eight wards we're operating in silos, no we're not. Each piece is significant. Defend your piece as well as be mindful of what the city needs as well. You're going to have to make decisions that sometimes are going to benefit Ward 3, but don't benefit Ward 1, but it will eventually benefit Ward 1 if those particular things are coming to fruition. You have to be mindful of that.

The third thing I want you to be mindful of is make sure you understand the residents needs. As I said before we have long term residents and short term residents. They don't always have the same thing. Some people are strong on children, some people are strong on maintaining housing and you have to have a balance of all that. I think that's important that you understand each demographic, black, white, male, female, young or older are going to have different needs. You're not going to be able to fulfill all of them but be mindful that sometimes you can get short sighted because you may have more ammunition or more support in one area and lose track of what is really important to others.

The last thing I would say is vote on your convictions. Don't look for a consensus, build one. Unfortunately at times and I'm not saying anybody at this table or in the city, but you will deal with situations where you have civic leaders, social leaders, who want to hear what is the best thing to do and then they get in front and say we're going to do this. Be innovative as Mr. Boylan has said before. Think of those things. If you're really strong and confident of those things, bring forth people that understand what you're trying to do and bring forth how it is going to benefit the ward.

I think those four things are going to be challenges but I think they're feasible. We're moving from the changes in 2000-2010 to really understanding that our particular ward is already established as far as a ward but we haven't established our new identity yet. It is imperative that all of you understand that. Those are my comments. I think they're all feasible. Understand this is a work in progress. It is not going to happen instantly and you're not going to appeal to everybody but you appeal to the common good and I think all of you have that in mind. Those are my comments this evening.

Councilman Langman – I just want to tell the applicants that at one time we were all down there like you were. You're all intelligent and capable and if we can learn it, you can learn it. I have every confidence that whoever makes the final cut will do a fantastic job for Ward 1 and the City of Euclid. Don't sell yourself short because again, one time we were down there. Thank you.

President Holzheimer Gail – I did receive a question about training and what happens once somebody is appointed because it is an odd cycle. We don't have a formal training process but we will develop an orientation and training process for you. You'll have eight other wonderful mentors who are happy to work and are only a phone call or happy to sit down and talk through any issue. The good thing is you'll get a little bit of a slower start, so we don't have council meetings, we do go on recess July & August so you'll have some time to get up to speed and we will all work with you to make sure you get orientated and trained on how to do your job.

Thank you. The question that Ms. Murray asked, what we were looking for, I think was very well answered by both Councilwoman Scarniench and Councilman Gilliam. The reason we started with these four questions get to that a little bit too, why do you want to serve, where is your passion, why do you want to do this. Your level of experience in community involvement is important to council. Your understanding of the community issues and your availability and willingness to be out there and do what it takes to do a good job. Those are some starting points. We have some follow up and deeper questions for the second round but this gives us a good sense to start. I wish we could bring all ten of you on board because I am confident you each have contributions to make. I would encourage each of you whether you are chosen or not, well if you're chosen you will continue to be involved, but there's always avenues to be involved in the community, whether it is through the city, whether it is through your neighborhood association, please continue to do that because we do need that and that is what helps strengthen our community.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to go into Executive Session. Councilwoman Jones seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Gilliam, Scarniench, Jones, Lynch, McLaughlin, O'Hare, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.

Moved into Executive Session in the Law Dept. Library.

President Holzheimer Gail – If you would please make sure Regina has the best way to contact you tomorrow. If you prefer email, that's fine, I would prefer to talk with each of you. If evening is better, just let me know as well.

Committee reconvened in open session.

Councilwoman Scarniench moved to adjourn. Councilman Van Ho seconded.

Roll Call: Yeas: Gilliam, Scarniench, Jones, Lynch, McLaughlin, O'Hare, Langman, Van Ho, Holzheimer Gail.

Meeting adjourned.