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**SAFETY/UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2015**

Present: Chairman Michael O'Donnell and committee members Lynda Appel and Nick Nunnari.

Also present: Mayor Dennis Clough; Councilmembers Dennis Sullivan, Ken Brady, Mark Getsay; Director of Public Service Paul Quinn; Police Chief Kevin Bielozer; Law Director John Wheeler; and Carol Winter from the Westlake School Board.

Purpose: The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the draft Ordinance 2015-121 regarding a deer management program.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Wheeler began the meeting with a brief synopsis from the April Safety committee meeting and the reasons for creating the draft ordinance.

Mayor Clough shared information about other communities that have adopted deer management ordinances in Solon, Brecksville and Avon Lake where sharpshooters are used for their culling programs. He suggested that the Westlake safety forces could be used for controlling the deer population and adding sharpshooters if each event has a shortage of participants. Further discussion suggested a deer management program that involved culling on city-owned public land, had service workers address the disposition of the deer and coordination with butchers to prepare the meat for hunger centers and local charities. The suggestions included certification by the police chief to address qualified participants, planning times of year to conduct the culling and tracking the statistics of herd reductions in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

In discussing the ordinance, Mr. Nunnari expressed his support of a program that was limited to culling on city-owned land and prevented culling on private property or by private citizens. Mrs. Appel was in favor of the use of safety forces and qualified sharpshooters to control the deer population. The city-owned land would include parcels like our parks and golf course, but would not include the library, school property or the U.S. post office. Mrs. Appel suggested that all of subsection section (c) in the ordinance pertaining to private hunting, on private property and use of cross bows be removed from the ordinance. Mr. Getsay suggested that the ordinance include large acre property owners limited to Lakewood Country Club and Westwood Country Club in accordance with their permission. Mr. Brady agreed with the use of our safety forces before getting

outside sharpshooters and had no objection to having the city pay for the cost to process the venison for use at hunger centers.

Mr. Sullivan suggested that we look at bringing back the ordinance to prevent feeding deer in the city. He has changed his position and is now against private residents feeding the deer. After some discussion with Mr. Brady and other members of council, it was decided not to include the prevention of feeding in the ordinance and that Mr. Sullivan could introduce that ordinance in the future for council review.

Mrs. Appel made a motion to have the law department update Ordinance 2015-121 with the following recommendations:

The removal of 505.11 subsection (c), removing private culling on private property, with modifications to section (d) (2) to include Westlake safety personnel, have the administration develop a deer management program that would include the disposition of culled deer, the granting of permits in accordance with the ODNR and the police chief, that included sharpshooting qualifications and adding criteria for large acre parcels to allow Lakewood Country Club and Westwood Country Club to qualify for the culling program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nunnari, and the motion passed 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Donnell, Chairman