

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Patten at 7:30 p.m., the clerk called the roll and the following Members of Council answered:

D'AMICO, TROYER, SALVATORE, MENCINI, BURGIO, POWERS HIGGINS

Also in attendance were Finance Director Cingle, Service Director Cayet, Mayor Coyne, Building Commissioner Hurst, Safety Director Byrnes, and Engineer Piatak

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. Regular Caucus meeting held on March 3, 2015.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve as printed. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

2. Regular Caucus meeting held on March 18, 2015.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve as printed. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION:

1. THRIVING COMMUNITIES INSTITUTE – Councilman D'Amico – PER COUNCIL PRESIDENT PATTEN. **In attendance: Mr. Jim Rokakis, Director**

Mr. Patten removed item number one and placed the topic on the April 21st Caucus meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN, D'AMICO:

1. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSING COUNCIL ON THE CITY OF BROOK PARK'S COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) AGREEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Mayor Coyne stated this is a procedural issue submitted to Council for approval.

Mrs. Powers stated with the properties listed is the city going to be investing any monies in these properties.

Finance Committee – Chairman, D'Amico: cont.

Mayor Coyne responded these properties qualify for tax credits as long as maintenance is kept up on the properties listed; the city will not be investing any monies.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to place on the next Council agenda. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN, TROYER:

1. A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 60, 'DICK GODDARD'S ACT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Burgio

Mr. Burgio provided a little history about this matter. Mr. Burgio introduced a resolution similar to this in 2013 in support of HB 274, the first Dick Goddard's Animal Abuse bill introduced by Cleveland Representative, Bill Patmon, and working with Cleveland Weatherman, Dick Goddard. City Council passed the resolution and the state legislature passed the bill by 84 to 8 unfortunately, it languished in the Senate and failed to come before a vote and expired in December. The bill has now been reintroduced as HB 60 currently most animal abuse cases are a first degree misdemeanor punishable with little or no jail time. If HB 60 passes it will be considered a 5th degree felony charge with 6 to 12 months in jail and up to \$2500.00 fine. In 45 stated it is a felony to abuse companion animals and have heard and seen the stories about animal abuse in Ohio. These laws need to be reshaped to deal effectively with the huge problem of animal abuse in the state. Representative Patmon sponsored the bill working with Dick Goddard for a number of years and both are hopeful with the bill's passage. Representative Patmon stated to take care of animals and become a good, friendly animal stated and that is what will happen if this bill is passed.

Motion by Mr. Higgins, supported by Mr. D'Amico, to amend Section 2 by deleting Mike Foley, and inserting Martin J. Sweeney. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

Mr. Salvatore asked if co-sponsors are being taken. Members of Council and Mayor Coyne would like to co-sponsor.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to place on the Council agenda immediately following. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

Mr. Patten stated this will appear under M-2 as Resolution No. 8-2015.

Council Remarks:

Mr. Salvatore stated that legislation has been introduced by City Council honoring the Berea-Midpark Academic Challenge Team and would like to poll Council for suspension at the April 21st meeting; so that an invitation can be sent to the team.

The clerk polled Council by name and all Members of Council stated yes.

There being no further business to come before this meeting Council President Patten declared this meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Michelle Blazak
Clerk of Council

APPROVED



THESE MEETING MINUTES APPROVED BY BROOK PARK CITY COUNCIL ARE A SYNOPSIS, NOT TRANSCRIBED IN THEIR ENTIRETY, ALTHOUGH ACCURATE.