

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014**

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, MENCINI, BURGIO, POWERS, HIGGINS

Also in attendance were Finance Director Cingle, Mayor Coyne, Safety Director Byrnes, Service Director Cayet, Recreation Director Fields, Engineer Piatak and Law Director Jamison.

Council President Patten excused Councilman Salvatore from tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

Mr. Patten stated that H-4 on the Council agenda 'The Clippers' will be removed and placed on the June 3rd Council agenda.

DISCUSSION:

1. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITY OF OLMSTED FALLS, OLMSTED TOWNSHIP AND SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH CENTER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER, INCLUDING THE CREATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE SOUTHWEST DISPATCH ('SWD') REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Coyne and Council Members Troyer, Mencini, Powers, Higgins, D'Amico, Burgio. Salvatore and Council President Patten.

Mayor Coyne stated that the City of Olmsted Falls; Olmsted Township and City of Brook Park received a \$900,000 grant to move forward with the formulation of the Council of Governments and this is the next step. The agreed formula would be a flat 10% shared fee equally and then based on a 45% allocation of valuation of property and 45% population allocation; this formula has nothing to do with runs. There are also provisions in this legislation that if a city and/or township join later what that payment will be and so forth. The City of Olmsted Falls passed their Ordinances to keep this moving forward so the grant is not lost. There has been an agreement with Southwest for a location for this dispatch center and right now there won't be any capital upfront costs. There will be a lease agreement so

Discussion: cont

whatever has to be put into the site above the \$900,000 would be paid by lease payments to the hospital.

Mr. Mencini asked Mayor Coyne if this is a time-sensitive matter.

Mayor Coyne responded yes.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Burgio, to place on the Council agenda immediately following.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Burgio, Powers, Higgins, D'Amico, Troyer.

Mr. Patten stated that will appear under M-1 as Ordinance No. 9913-2014.

2. HOME DAYS – COUNCILMAN MENCINI

Mr. Mencini stated that possibly a volunteer committee group could be used throughout the year for an assortment of activities that the city has such as Home Days; Parades and other types of things. Possibly a suggestion box could be placed at both the Recreation Center and Home Days to get suggestions for activities that are occurring in the city; like what is done for Citizen of the Year. This group would consist of people that can be counted on for ideas, suggestions and assisting with city functions.

Mr. D'Amico stated if there is going to be any committees myself personally would like to see Council as a Whole with a Chairperson. Most of this would be recreation and not to shun the Recreation Commission who always have good ideas but possibly could get more involved.

Mayor Coyne stated that there are enough Boards and Commissions and what are needed is true volunteers to help. Tony Nuzzo had a group that city personnel is trying to find out who they are that actually participated in being there while the city was running things. Recreation Director Fields is going to have a report this evening on where the city is with Home Days and there are a lot of people coming together by the Internet and things like that the city wasn't aware of. Mayor Coyne continued that hopefully the Recreation Commission will become more active not only in the suggestion area but in helping volunteer and be on the active part. The commission was part of the Easter Egg Hunt but more management was needed due to the large turnout of people.

Ms. Fields stated Home Days events will consist of Friday, Saturday and Sunday and the only thing being cut out is the carnival rides. Instead of the carnival food there

Discussion: cont.

will be food trucks coming in and some local vendors to sell food. So every event that the city had in the past such as Bocce Ball; Tennis; the co-ed games; the celebrity softball games and the Home Run hitting contest will be held. The city is working with Danny Mansell who does a Facebook page 'I grew up in Brook Park Ohio, 44142, that has 1200 followers, and Mr. Mansell is actually helping in the planning of Sunday's events where there will be three people coming in to entertain. Businesses are donating bouncy houses and more family friendly games instead of carnival games. Mr. Mansell also has local bands from Brook Park that are volunteering on different stages so that there is musical entertainment. The city is also working with the high school and alumni to get a big tailgate for the kids to watch the fireworks on the football field. Currently the plan of events are currently being tweaked and on Saturday there will be a car and bike show held all day. Since this is the city's 100th Anniversary the idea is to maybe give them a commemorative item about Brook Park for participating in the car and bike show for the city's 100th year.

Motion by Mr. Higgins, supported by Mr. Burgio, that item number two was discussed. Members of Council present voted AYE. The motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN, D'AMICO:

1. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INVESTMENT POLICY GOVERNING THE INVESTMENT OF THE FUNDS OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK AND ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH.
Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Mayor Coyne stated the city must have an investment policy for the Finance Director to deposit the monies collected from various sources and this upgrades that policy.

Mr. Jamison stated based on conversations that the Finance Director had with various investment banks over the past couple of years the city's investment policy needed to be upgraded and that is what is in front of Council this evening. So that this doesn't differ from the existing Chapter 136 of the codes it is very limited in terms of direction compared to Exhibit A of this legislation. There will be legislation introduced tonight that repeals several sections that that conflict with what is being proposed.

Mrs. Powers stated with the city's financial situation are there enough monies to make this worthwhile and with the short term investments and with the banks not paying anything in return percentage wise. Why is the city doing this and what is the cost going to have someone manage this fund?

Finance Committee – Chairman, D’Amico: cont.

Mr. Cingle stated the city currently has an investment policy and this will replace that policy. The legislation in front of you has more depth and will allow the department to explore other investment alternatives that may yield a higher return on investments than what is currently allowed to invest the city’s monies in. There are monies that are held in reserve and those dollars are invested in either a form of certificates of deposit; treasury bills and/or agencies; so there are monies that are invested currently. So it would be worth the city’s while to update the policy to allow for more flexibility and the number one goal is to protect the principal of each investment. The city won’t be investing in Ford or General Motors stocks or other directives; the city will be investing in safe securities one in particular is Star Ohio Plus that the city is not currently able to invest in which is an investment option offered by the Ohio Treasurer of State. To answer Mrs. Powers question there is no cost to the community and both I and Mr. Healy will be managing the investments and hire a third person broker to provide professional services in investing the community’s monies.

Mrs. Powers stated the legislation states that there is more risk involved; how much risk is involved compared to the way monies are invested now.

Mr. Healy stated this policy is in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 135 and the first page of the policy reads that the main purpose is the preservation of capital. This policy will give the city the ability to look at notes of other communities, for example, the City of Avon is going to do a one year note on a water and/or sewer project. The City of Avon has either an AA plus or AAA plus which allows for a higher yield; currently for the city to get a 2% yield that would mean going out for five years in a federal agency, five or six years ago the city was seeing 5.25% or 5.5% on agencies that are not being seen today.

Mr. Higgins stated most cities have investment policies and the city is governed by the Ohio Revised Code and they don’t allow cities or communities to go the Rocksino or facilities like that.

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

RECREATION COMMISSION – CHAIRMAN, BURGIO:

- 1. A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JULY AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH IN THE CITY OF BROOK PARK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Burgio and Council Members Troyer, Mencini, Powers, Higgins, D’Amico, Salvatore, Council President Patten and Mayor Coyne

Mr. Burgio stated this has been done the past several years and ties in with the discussions tonight about volunteerism and recreation ideas. This legislation will hopefully encourage people to take advantage of the different programs in the city.

Motion by Mr. Higgins, supported by Mr. D’Amico, to place on the next Council agenda. Members of Council present voted AYE. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. D’Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to go to the Addendum. Members of Council present voted AYE. The motion carried.

ADDENDUM

- 1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO PROVIDE ADJUSTMENTS IN COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY, OTHER THAN ELECTED OFFICIALS OR THOSE COVERED UNDER NEGOTIATED LABOR CONTRACTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Mayor Coyne stated that court costs and fees have been raised to provide for needed revenues and during Budget discussions the position of ‘Mediator’ came up to handle all tax and property maintenance complaints. This would be separate from the traffic court and hopefully will have a better resolution of getting the violations corrected rather than people facing fines. I

Mr. Mencini asked if residents are in violation when would the fines be issued after the fourth or fifth time?

Mayor Coyne responded that would be up to the Mediator, when I was allowed to be Magistrate these issues were conducted separately for that very reason. A resident will still be cited to come before the Mediator to hopefully resolve the issue in a more meaningful way than to fine the resident for exterior improvements and instead of fining the person those monies could be used to correct the issue because if a fine is incurred then the improvements will not take place. This will also be good with tax issues that come about and the mediator would try to resolve the tax issues short of the resident being fined or penalized.

Addendum: cont.

Mr. Mencini stated if a resident has a long history of property maintenance violations will that be handled by the mediator?

Mayor Coyne responded those claims will still come before the law department depending upon the situation and still go before the court. Many of these issues are residents who have fallen on hard times and can't address the issue. Since most of these cases are city residents when appearing before the Mediator the issue could be handled in a more genteel fashion that the residents would be more comfortable with and hopefully get better results.

Mr. Jamison stated this was developed to handle tax department cases for people that have not filed returns. In addition this will include city properties that are having potential maintenance issues. If a resident is a repeat offender and the Building Department deems that mediation will not be the appropriate forum then the Mediation process would be bypassed and the repeat offender would be summoned through the court process; this will be on a case by case basis as it relates to property maintenance issues.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to place on the next Council agenda. Members of Council present voted AYE. The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before this meeting Council President Patten declared this meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED Michelle Blazak
Michelle Blazak
Clerk of Council

APPROVED June 17, 2014

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